TAS-Exam tips and key terms transcript

(Duration: 5 minutes 3 seconds)

Hi, I'm Ms Rose and today I'll take you through some HSC examination preparation tips that will work well prior to your examinations. And we'll go through techniques for success. So things you can do prior to the exam, making use of the reading time, starting the examination, during the examination and NESA key terms.

So prior to the exam, you can pack your required equipment into a clear plastic sleeve, like pens, pencils, rulers and a calculator if required. It's a great tip to bring in bottle of water for hydration. To know your NESA key vocabulary terms and to make sure you get eight hours of sleep the night before. Have a decent breakfast if you have a morning exam, or lunch if you have an afternoon exam. Make use of the reading time. Generally, you'll have five minutes, some exams have 10 minutes. Read the paper thoroughly and decide whether you have enough knowledge to write for each particular question. Have a look at how marks are awarded for each section and make sure you know how and what the suggested times off each section. Look for keywords and examples in the multiple choice questions that may help you answer other questions.

At the start of the examination, there's a few things that can happen. Sometimes you have a challenge where you're finding it hard to start writing, so read the question again and circle highlight the verb, the doing word, and underline the abstract noun, the subject of the question. If your challenge is that you don't finish exams in time, well, you can write your planned finishing time above all the questions or sections to avoid over answering one question at the expense of another. Get confused about the response structure? You can plan your responses using dot points or keywords for short answers. Mind maps and scaffolds are great for extended responses.

During the exam. Sometimes things go wrong during the exam and maybe you end up landed stuck on a question. If so, move on and come back to it later. Be wary of wasting time just stuck on a question. Answer the questions you're most confident with first, this can help to build your confidence. Make sure you haven't left anything out of your responses from your planning. When you're finished, look back through the questions and your answers. Were there any tips or hints you've missed?

Here you can see in word cloud all the different key terms. Attached to this video is a handout which has a table with comprehensive explanation. And if you look at the most commonly used NESA key terms, you'll find that some of them are aligned to a mark. So identifies normally have one mark question, they have to name the concept. Outlines are two mark question where you have to sketch in general terms. Describe is generally a three mark question and you have to be out, take the concept and look at its characteristics and features. And normally before you describe, you will identify, outline and then describe. These other questions can be your three to five mark questions. So explaining, that is to relate cause and effect, to make the relationships between things evident and to provide the why and or how. And before you can explain, you must identify, outline, describe and explain. Keywords for explain are the effect of or the result of. Discuss. This is where you provide points for or against a topic. And before you can discuss, you need to identify, outline, describe, explain then discuss. Keywords for discuss are positive aspects, benefits, pros, negative aspects, against and cons. And you can look at this as a five step exam response approach. So step one is in any your extended responses or the long answer section, look at identifying. Then step two, outline, define. Step three, describe and compare. Step four, explain, analyse, discuss or evaluate. And then step five, critically analyse and critically evaluate. On the handout with the NESA key terms, you can now have a look at a prior exam question and unpack what is expected and write a sample response.

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