

5 strategies to help manage time effectively during maths GCSE exams

Practise answering exam-style questions in timed conditions before the exam to familiarise yourself with the structure and format of the exam.

If anxiety strikes during the exam, use these 5 strategies to help reduce it and regain your focus:

1. Read the number of marks

Look at the number of marks available for each question to gauge the expected level of response. If a question is only worth a couple of marks, it won't need a long or complicated response.

2. Spend less time on low-mark questions

If a question is only worth one mark, don't spend too much time on it. Spend longer on questions worth more marks that require a more detailed answer.

3. Move on

Don't waste time on tricky questions. If you're stuck and can't work out what the question is asking, move on. Return to incomplete questions at the end of the paper and try again.

4. Start with an easier question

Not all questions will have the same level of difficulty. If a particular question triggers anxiety or panic, start with an easier question and come back to this one later on.

5. Leave time to check your work

Always leave time to review your answers at the end of the exam to check for avoidable errors. This is a good time to ensure you have not missed any questions and try any that you previously skipped.

