



VOCABULARY BANK

Education and School Life

Education and School Life | Bank 1: exams, homework and study routines | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0511

1. Quick confidence check

Before you study the topic, mark the column that best describes your confidence with each word or phrase.

Word or phrase	New to me	I recognise it	I can use it
revise for an exam	☐	☐	☐
exam pressure	☐	☐	☐
study routine	☐	☐	☐
hand in homework	☐	☐	☐
meet a deadline	☐	☐	☐
make progress	☐	☐	☐
receive feedback	☐	☐	☐
improve grades	☐	☐	☐
concentrate in class	☐	☐	☐
catch up on work	☐	☐	☐
fall behind	☐	☐	☐
look over notes	☐	☐	☐

2. Vocabulary bank

Here are some useful words, adjectives, verbs and chunks that can be reused in exam answers. If you are not sure of their meaning, check online or ask your teacher.

Category	Useful vocabulary
Study habits	revise for an exam, study routine, look over notes, concentrate in class, independent learning, learning style
Homework and progress	hand in homework, meet a deadline, make progress, receive feedback, improve grades, catch up on work
Pressure	exam pressure, fall behind, keep up with the class, ask for clarification, extra support, prepare for the future
Opinion chunks	It helps students to..., One challenge is..., Teachers can support students by..., A useful revision strategy is..., This can improve...

3. Match the meaning

Match each word or phrase with the correct meaning. Then choose four and write your own examples.

Word or phrase	Meaning
1. revise for an exam	a. finish work by the agreed time
2. hand in homework	b. make less progress than others or than expected
3. meet a deadline	c. study again before a test
4. receive feedback	d. ask someone to explain something more clearly
5. fall behind	e. give completed homework to a teacher
6. ask for clarification	f. get comments that help you improve

4. Build useful chunks

Choose useful chunks from the grid. Then write three natural sentences you could use in a speaking or writing answer.

revise for an exam	look over notes	concentrate in class
hand in homework	meet a deadline	receive feedback
catch up on work	fall behind	ask for clarification

- _____
- _____
- _____

5. Read in context

Read the text. The bold words are from the vocabulary bank.

Managing Exam Pressure

Many students feel **exam pressure** at some point. A clear **study routine** can help because it breaks revision into smaller tasks instead of leaving everything until the last week.

It is useful to **look over notes** regularly and ask for help when something is unclear. Students who **ask for clarification** early are less likely to misunderstand important topics.

Homework can also support learning. When students **hand in homework** on time, teachers can **give feedback** that helps them make progress. If students **fall behind**, they may need extra support.

Good study habits do not remove all stress, but they can make exams feel more manageable. Students who plan ahead, take breaks and learn from feedback often feel more confident.

6. Check your understanding

Answer the questions in your own words. Use the vocabulary bank where it fits naturally.

READING CHECK

1. How can a study routine help students?

2. Why should students ask for clarification early?

3. How can homework support learning?

4. What can make exams feel more manageable?

VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

What does 'fall behind' mean in the text?

- A. Make less progress than expected
- B. Finish work early
- C. Ask a teacher a question
- D. Improve very quickly

What is the writer's main advice?

- A. Leave revision until the last week.
- B. Plan ahead and learn from feedback.
- C. Avoid asking questions.
- D. Homework is not useful.

7. Use the vocabulary

Task	What to do
Speaking 1	Describe one revision strategy that works well for you.
Speaking 2	Discuss this question: Is homework useful or stressful?
Writing	Write a short paragraph giving advice to a student preparing for exams.
Review	Return to the confidence table. Choose one item you want to improve and write a clear example sentence.

8. Topic discussion questions

Use these for pair work, small-group discussion, or speaking-test warm-up practice.

- What causes exam pressure?
- How can students catch up if they fall behind?
- Should teachers give more feedback or fewer tests?
- What is the best place to study?
- How can students stay motivated during revision?

**ANSWER KEY**

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3. Match the meaning

1. c = study again before a test
2. e = give completed homework to a teacher
3. a = finish work by the agreed time
4. f = get comments that help you improve
5. b = make less progress than others or than expected
6. d = ask someone to explain something more clearly

6. Check your understanding

1. It breaks revision into smaller tasks and stops students leaving everything until the last week.
2. They are less likely to misunderstand important topics.
3. Teachers can give feedback that helps students make progress.
4. Planning ahead, taking breaks and learning from feedback can help.

MCQ 1: A. Make less progress than expected.

MCQ 2: B. Plan ahead and learn from feedback.