

Studying Techniques

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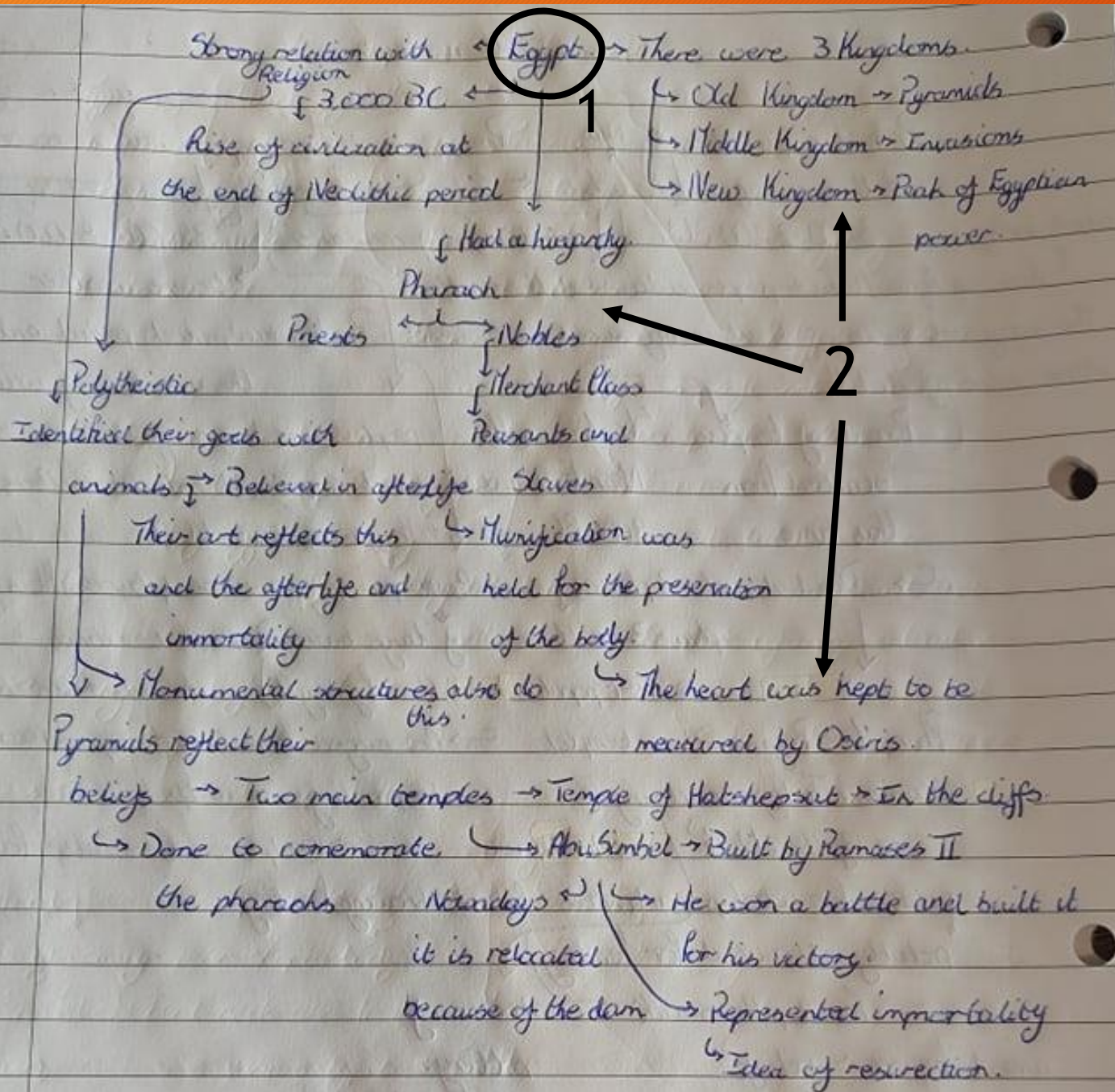
Class Notes

- I take down lecture notes in the form of mind maps. I found it to be faster and more efficient.
- I first write down the main topic/statement of the lesson (Ex. Egypt, What are the Characteristics of Science, etc...) as the centre of the mind map
- Then I start writing relevant notes to that topic/ statement by drawing arrows out of the starting point and place is somewhere around the page.
- When the topic/ statement changes, then I start a new mind map based on the new main point and repeat the same process.

Examples

1. Main Title of Note

2. Points regarding the title



Examples

- Romanticism and 19th cen. Orchestral Music
- 1 **Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy** → Gave rise to ethnic music
→ Increased great interest of the Baroque
German → He was Jewish but converted to Protestant
 - 2 **Berlioz** → He was a guitarist
French → He was a composer and considered as a founder of modern conducting
→ brought inspiration for his works in literature.
 - 3 **Mendelssohn's Symphonies** → Italian (No. 4) and Scottish (No. 3)
↓ → Contains the impressions or ~~moods~~ he gained
Italian - celebrates the south → Scottish - evokes the north
Italian melodies are influenced by Italian Opera → The melodic content fits the regular Classic form.
↳ Scottish melodies are influenced by Scottish folk → Scottish ^{symphony} looks for unity between the 4 movements.
↓ → Constructed from pentatonic scales.
Interest in folk music became a hallmark for Romantic Composers.
 - 4 **Symphonie Pastorale** → Had an idée fixe → recurring theme representing the woman he admires
↳ Wrote an autobiographical programme to accompany the music → tries to convey extra musical ideas with the music.
↓ Only the first movement had a title.
In the finale he transforms the 4 movements and a finale.
idée fixe into a plainchant. He achieved unity in the symphony with the idée fixe by developing the dramatic idea similar to that proposed by Beethoven.
- ↳ Havel en Italie → 2nd symphony 4 movements
↳ Romeo et Juliette → 3rd 'dramatic' symphony. Inspired by Beethoven's 9th
↳ Requires an orchestra, soloist and choir → Used from beginning.

1. Main Title of Note.
2. Points regarding the title.
3. Different Main Titles.
4. Various points regarding the different titles.

Study Techniques

- When I get home, I open up the mind map to arrange and add on to my notes on a Word document.
- This way I'd be revising the lesson as well as studying the notes by re-writing them, sorting each note by sub header. The format of the notes would be similar to that of an essay form.

Examples

1st Persian War

History

The Persian War is also known as the Greco-Persian War and this took place between the Greeks and the Persians in the beginning of the 5th century BC. There was a total of 2 wars between the 2 civilizations. The 1st war took place in 490 BC and the 2nd war took place between 480- 479 BC. These wars resulted to be pivotal events in the Greek and European History, in which they were victorious in both.

Through the Greek victory, this showed that there was still hope in the face of adversity. This showed how powerful the Greeks were even if they were greatly outnumbered by the large Persian Army. If the Greeks had lost these wars and Greece fell into the hands of the Persians, Greek brilliance would have been shattered since during these times, they were developing their lifestyle to the fullest. The Greeks were striving to excel in all the diverse spheres including, art, theatre, music, and many others.

Greece Background- Democracy

During the 6th/7th century BC, democracy was just beginning to strive. Before this, the Greeks were familiar to other political systems. This included:

- Oligarchy- The rule by the few. These were a small number of noblemen who managed the rule of the city-state
- Monarchy- The rule by the One. This was when you had a king in power and the throne was passed down by bloodline
- Tyranny- Similar to monarchy. This is when the rule is in the hands of a tyrant and there would be a system of tyrants.

Democracy started in the hearth of the city of Athens. This system was instilled by the class of nobles. During this time, Athens was being ruled by a line of tyrants. This was a very strange period as they went from an oligarchy to a tyranny. It was only when the Greeks managed to dethrone the tyrant that the idea of a democracy started to form in the minds of some of the noblemen. Although this was an ideal way of governing, there were many attempts to abort this order by the nobles because with this type of rule, there would be a transfer of power from the nobles to the people.

Unlike nowadays, the Greeks used a direct democracy, in which the people voted for themselves and by themselves. This gave more power to the people but unfortunately at this point, it was only a vague dream.

Cleisthenes

He is considered to be the Father of Democracy. He tried to instill the wish to give the people more li way in what involves them. Unfortunately, the people did not understand the implications of this way of governing and they did not expect this. This was because they had a different lifestyle and view of the world.

Mid- End of 6th Century BC

During this time in Athens, democracy was starting to take shape and gain popularity. Although this movement was initially thought by the nobles, not everyone agreed with this idea. Some nobles turned to Sparta and asked them to help them overrun democracy. At first, they agreed to this plan but later, the Spartans abandoned their noble colleagues as they were worried by the Athenians. This happened because the Athenians were tired of being ruled and decided to stand up for themselves and wanted to make their voices addressed. This led to a revolt as they knew that things had to change. The nobles ended up retreating politically and gave the rule of the city-state to the people at large (National Assemblies, Meetings, etc...)

From the Spartan's point of view, they disliked the idea of democracy. For them, this was a very dangerous phenomenon. The concept of democracy was that it was open for various interpretations and the Spartans feared this. The Spartans wanted to stick to their one mindset of war and army and did not want to change this.

Although there were many city-states and most of them disagreed among themselves, there was one concept that united them all together: their language. Their language gave them their identities and that was what made them Greek.

Direct Democracy

This was the type of democracy that the Athenians used to govern their city-state. Although this had various advantages, it also had its disadvantages and it was very discriminatory. With this way of governing, the Athenians voted for themselves and by themselves, but this method of governing is a very tricky

Examples

Earth Science

The Earth

Our Earth is made up of three or four layers. These layers are as follow:

- The Inner Core
- The Outer Core
- The Mantle (magma)
- The Crust

These layers within the Earth are determined by the different physical characteristics of where they are located. These would involve:

- Temperature- It is the hottest in the core. Gets hotter the deeper you go
- Pressure- the lower you go the higher the pressure
- Chemical composition- each layer is made up of different minerals

Composition

Inner/ Outer Core: Extremely heavy and dense. Forms 32% of the Earth's mass.

Mantle: 67% of the Earth's mass. It is the largest section of the Earth.

Crust: 0.4% of the Earth's mass. It is the smallest section of the Earth.

Core:

The core is made up of two sections: The Inner and the Outer Core.

The inner core is found at the centre of the Earth and it is a solid core of Iron because of the intense pressure it is under. The temperature in this part of the earth can reach up to 4,000- 5, 000°C (as hot as the surface of the sun). This is responsible for the Earth's magnetic field and it shields us from deadly cosmic waves like the UV rays. The outer core is thicker than the inner core and it appears to be a liquid.

Mantle:

The mantle forms the greater part of the composition of the Earth and is the thickest layer. (2900 km). This consists of various metals and minerals. This layer can be found in liquid state and is the driving force for plate movement and plate tectonics. Through the discovery of the mantle, two theories emerged; the Mohorovicic discontinuity and the Gutenberg discontinuity (still a zone of transition since it was man that created boundaries).

Crust:

The crust is the most important layer of the Earth as it is where we live. The crust is made up of two different types of crust. These are:

- Continental Crust- one mostly finds continents on this crust and the oldest rocks are found here. It is less dense than oceanic crust.
- Oceanic Crust- it is where we have oceans and not seas and they are never older than 200 million years old. The rocks would be very young compared to the continental crust. This is the denser crust.

When continental and oceanic crust meet, the oceanic crust sinks down into the mantle. This results in the rock melting and being recycled. The denser crust sinks below the less dense crust to create a subduction zone.

We know all this information about the Earth through various methods including geographical surveys as well as seismic activity and surveys. We also know this through geodesy and other natural happenings like gravity, magnetism, electrical methods.

Plate Tectonics

The Earth has a total of 7 continents, and these are Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, North America, South America and Antarctica. In previous times, these 7 continents were all connected to one another and created one supercontinent called Pangea.

After Pangea, this supercontinent split into 2 other continents and these are Laurasia and Gondwana. Through this one can see just how much Plate Tectonics shaped the world how we know it today and it will keep in changing and evolving. Malta forms part of the African plate and this is constantly slowly moving towards the Eurasian plate. From the movement of the plates, Malta would someday form part of a chain of mountains between the Eurasian and African plate.

Through this we could see that there was movement in the Earth's crust that moved them and positioned them how they are today. This movement in the Earth's crust and upper mantle is called plate tectonics. This movement could happen in various directions and sometimes these boundaries collide and form some form of collision. There are 3 main types of collisions/ movements are:

- Convergent- the plates move towards each other
- Divergent- the plates move away from each other
- Transformative/ Conservative- the plates slide past each other oppositely.

Study Techniques

- I only write down the most important notes and create my own system of notes which I can both understand and still know what is happening in class.
- Using this method I found out that I could also write down more notes and is a faster way of writing the important details without getting distracted during the lesson.

Thank you!