SPECA RESIT CHECKLIST

The night before, and on the day

For GCSE English Language and Maths resits. Tick as you go.

AQA's November 2026 timetable, all mornings. English Language: Paper 1 Tue 3 Nov, Paper 2 Thu 5 Nov. Maths: Paper 1 Wed 4 Nov, Paper 2 Fri 6 Nov, Paper 3 Mon 9 Nov. Check with your exam centre.

The night before

Check

- [ ] The date, start time and room for each paper. Your exam centre confirms these.
- [ ] Your candidate number, if your college gave you one.
- [ ] Any extra time or other access arrangement is set up at this centre.

Pack

- [ ] Two or more black pens, a pencil, a ruler and a rubber.
- [ ] Maths: a calculator (charged), a protractor and compasses.
- [ ] A clear pencil case and a clear bottle of water.
- [ ] Your phone and any smartwatch stay out of the exam room.

Read, once

- [ ] English: your mistake card and your two Question 5 plan shapes.
- [ ] Maths: your habits card.
- [ ] No new topics tonight. You already know more than you think.

Rest

- [ ] Clothes out, bag by the door, two alarms set.
- [ ] Screens off half an hour before bed.

On the day

Before you go

- [ ] Eat breakfast, even something small.
- [ ] Leave so you arrive at least 20 minutes early.

In the first minute

- [ ] English: write the finish time for each question next to it.
- [ ] Maths: read each question twice and underline what it asks for.

While you write

- [ ] English: say the effect, not just the technique. Keep 45 minutes for Question 5.
- [ ] Maths: show every step and put units on measurement answers.
- [ ] Stuck? Move on and come back. A blank always scores nothing.

Last 5 minutes

- [ ] English: proofread your writing with your mistake card in mind.
- [ ] Maths: go back to any blanks, then check your answers make sense.

Afterwards

- [ ] Do not go through the paper with friends. Rest, then look at the next one.

If your mind goes blank: put the pen down, breathe out slowly three times, then reread the question and write the first thing you know.

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