

Mind Mapping

Mind mapping is a creative means of note-taking that gets your ideas out of your mind and onto paper. Mind maps are useful because they provide a visual representation of connections between concepts and ideas that are related to your essay topic. It is recommended that you create your mind map on a piece of paper and longhand write your ideas and topic.

Why Should I Create a Mind Map?

- Mind maps provide understanding of key concepts surrounding your topic.
- They show connections between ideas.
- They structure ideas by making them visible and accessible on one page.

The following is a step-by-step guide that will demonstrate how to effectively create a mind map that is easy to follow and understand:

1. Brainstorming:

- This stage allows you to write everything you can about your topic
- Write your topic in the center of the page.
- Write your supporting ideas around your topic.
- It is recommended that you include key terms in your written ideas.

2. Organize the Information:

- Organize the information in the brainstorm by identifying the main categories and linking other information that relates the categories.
- Circle the main categories.
- Connect supporting points to the main categories using arrows.

3. Complete the Mind Map:

- Grab a new piece of paper.
- Since you have identified the main categories, you will write those out as your paragraph topics.
- You will write the supporting points under the main categories as the basis for your supporting sentences in each paragraph.
- This can also function as your paper's outline.
- After this, you are ready to begin your draft!