

Mind Mapping



Use mind maps for brainstorming for essay ideas, breaking down processes and relationships, and assessing what you already know about a particular topic.

Use the following template to help you draw a mind map.

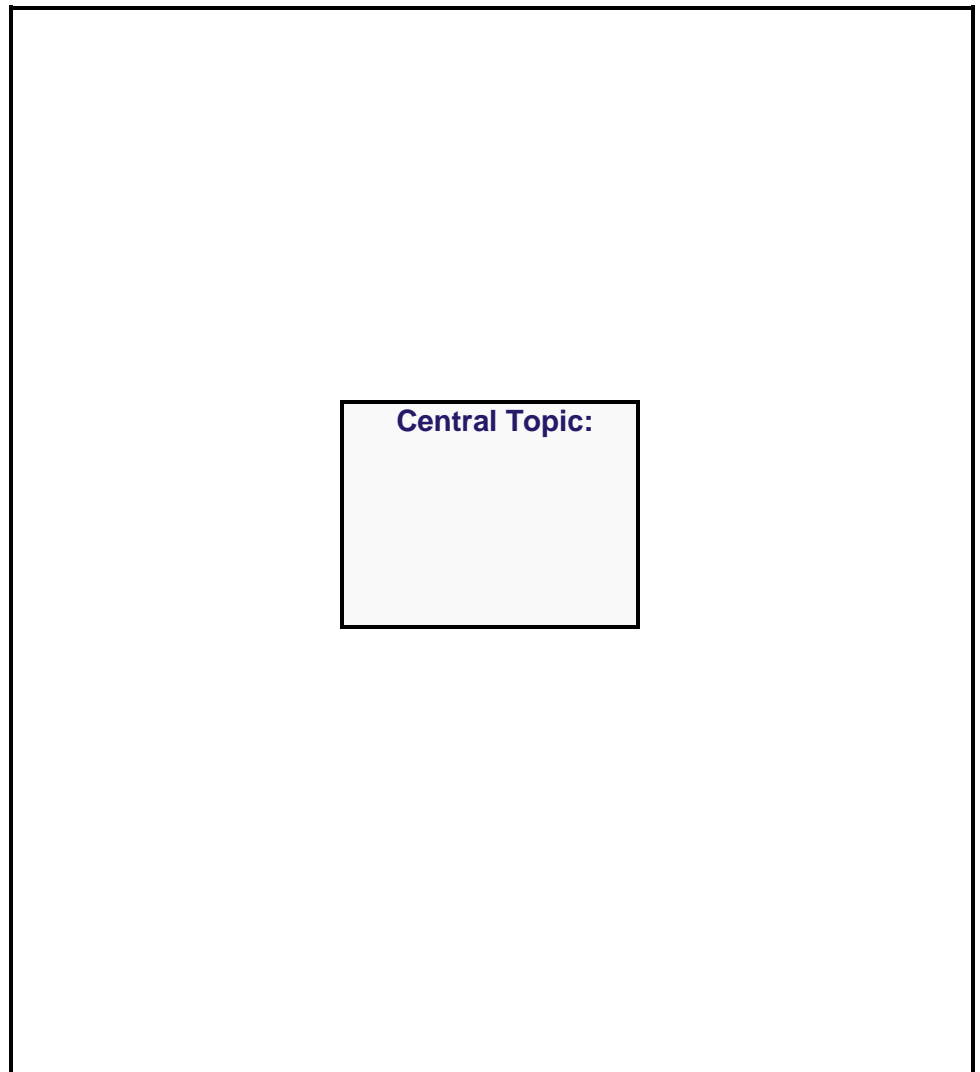


Image: Irani, K.R. *Plants in Your Landscape*, Parkland College

Elements of a Mind Map

1. Hierarchy: A mind map usually begins with a general topic in the middle, radiating out to different aspects of the central topic or related ideas.

2. Images or symbols: Images can be extremely helpful in generating ideas, making connections and recognizing associations with other concepts.

3. Lines and Arrows: Lines and arrows in a mind map assist you to imagine how concepts fit together. Lines and arrows can be any thickness or style. Usually thicker lines and arrows indicate more important relationships than thinner ones.

4. Colour: Just as regular maps use colours to represent different features more readily, colour in mind maps can indicate particular groupings and themes.