What are Thinking Maps®?

Explanation of Thinking Maps®

Thinking Maps® are eight visual-verbal learning tools, each based on a fundamental thinking process and used together as a set of tools for showing relationships.

Thinking Maps® give you and your teachers a common language for meaningful learning.

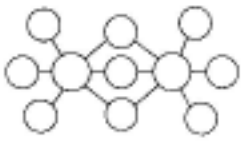
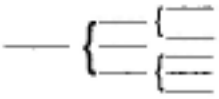
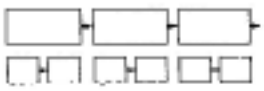
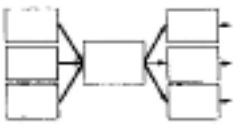
The consistency and flexibility of each of the Thinking Maps® promotes:

- student-centered and cooperative learning
- concept development, reflective thinking
- creativity
- clarity of communication
- continuous cognitive development

You will construct knowledge, much like carpenters working together using a common set of tools to build a new structure.

Thinking Maps®can help you become independent, reflective, life-long problem-solvers and learners.

On the next pages, the eight Thinking Maps® are shown with the description of the thinking process involved, and examples of when each would be used.

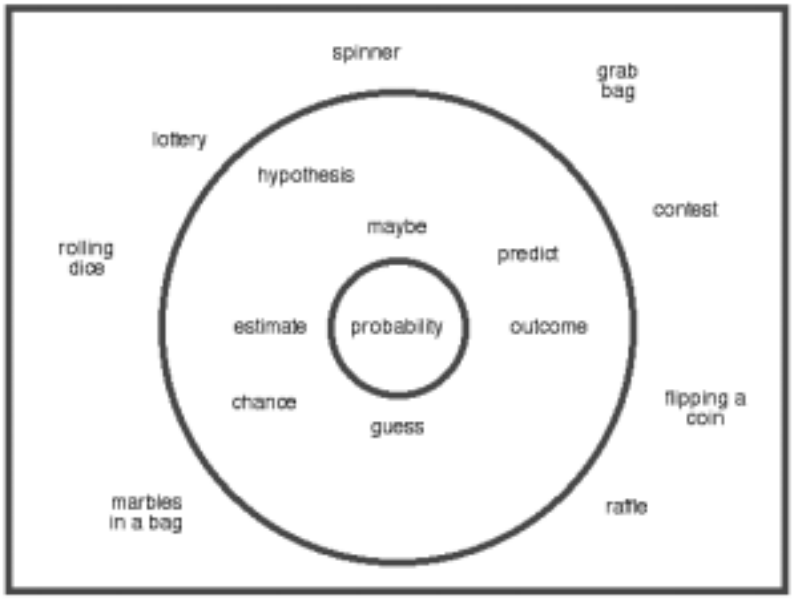
Questions from Texts, Teachers and Tests	Thinking Processes	Thinking Maps as Tools
How are you defining this thing or idea? What is the context? What is your frame of reference?	**DEFINING IN CONTEXT**	Circle Map 
How are you describing this thing? Which adjectives would best describe this thing?	**DESCRIBING QUALITIES**	Bubble Map 
What are the similar and different qualities of these things? Which qualities do you value most? Why?	**COMPARING and CONTRASTING**	Double Bubble Map 
What are the main ideas, supporting ideas, and details in this information?	**CLASSIFYING**	Tree Map 
What are the component parts and subparts of this whole physical object?	**PART-WHOLE**	Brace Map 
What happened? What is the sequence of events? What are the substages?	**SEQUENCING**	Flow Map 
What are the causes and effects of this event? What might happen next?	**CAUSE and EFFECT**	Multi-Flow Map 
What is the analogy being used? What is the guiding metaphor?	**SEEING ANALOGIES**	Bridge Map 

1-9

Examples of the 8 Thinking Maps® follow.

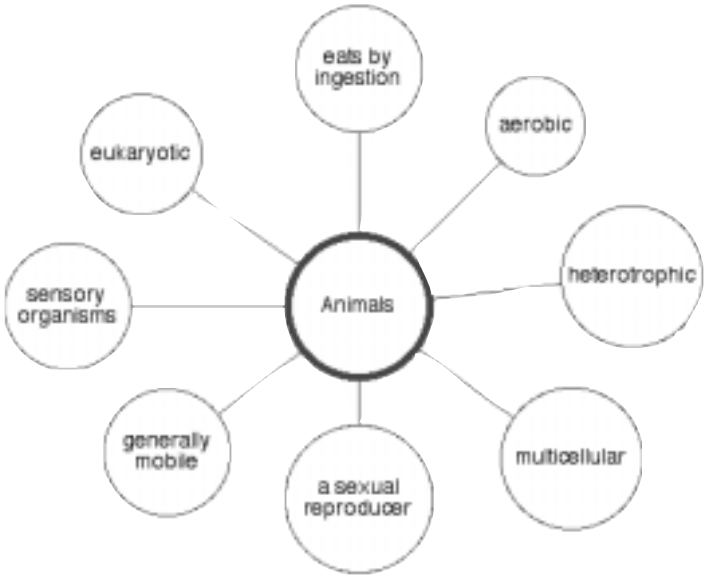
Circle Map

What if you wanted to brainstorm ideas about probability? What is your frame of reference about probability? In other words, what concrete examples do you know that reflect the concept of probability? The Circle Map can be used for this purpose.



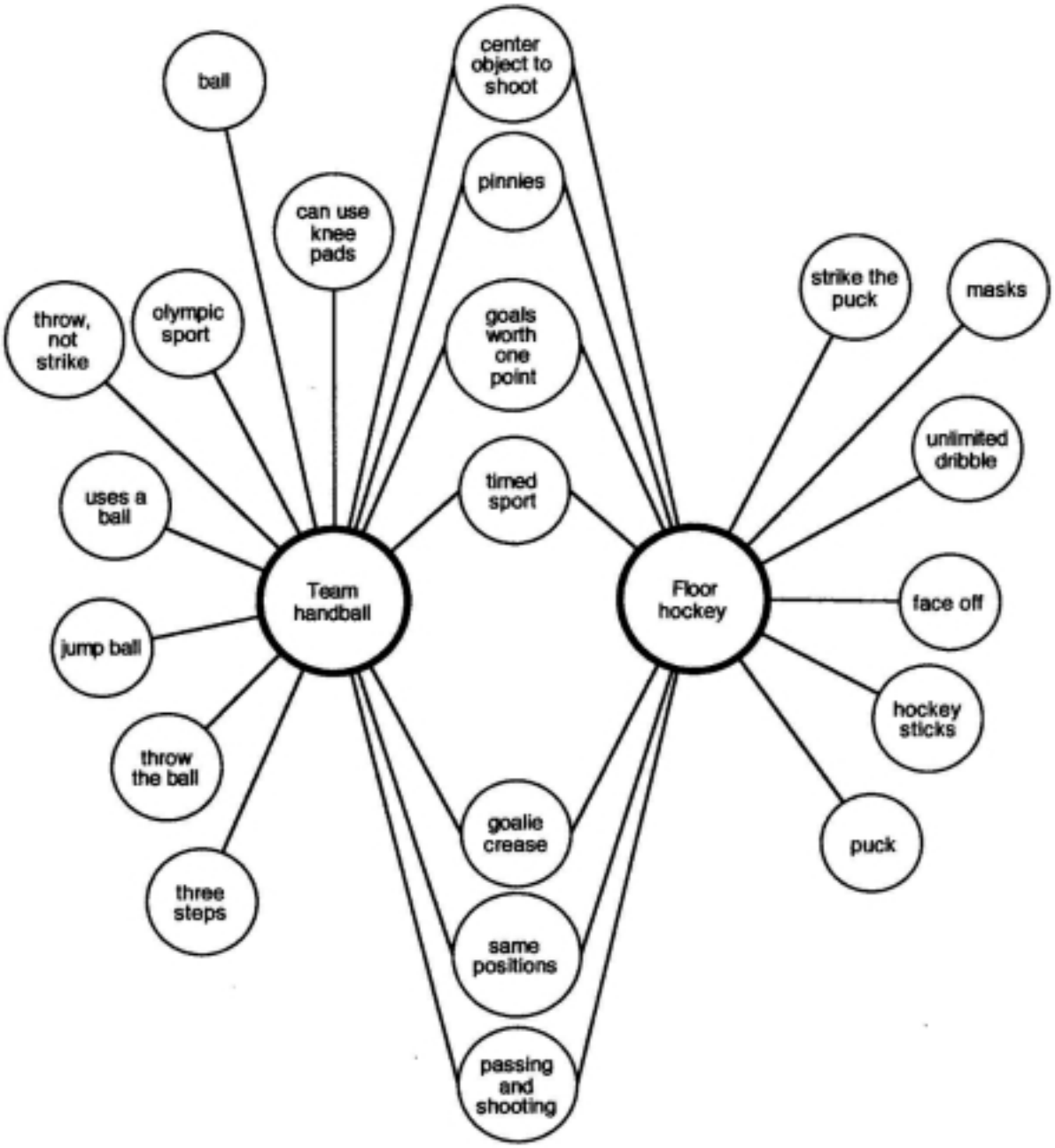
Bubble Map

What if you wanted to describe the qualities of animals? Use the Bubble Map for descriptions of qualities and characteristics.



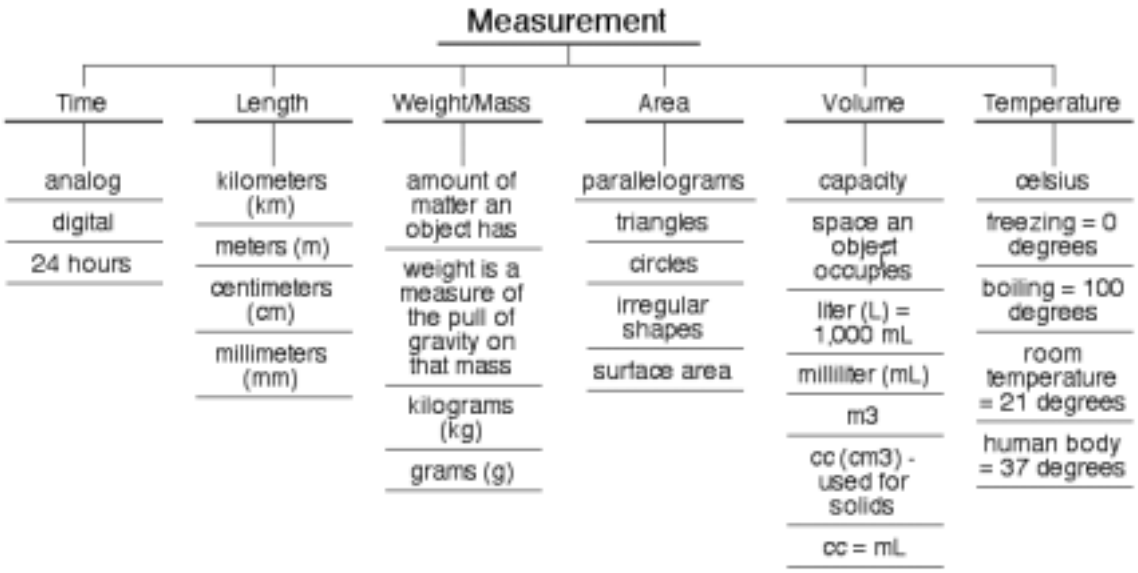
Double Bubble

Use a Double Bubble map to compare and contrast the games of team handball and floor hockey. The Double Bubble examines similar and different qualities.



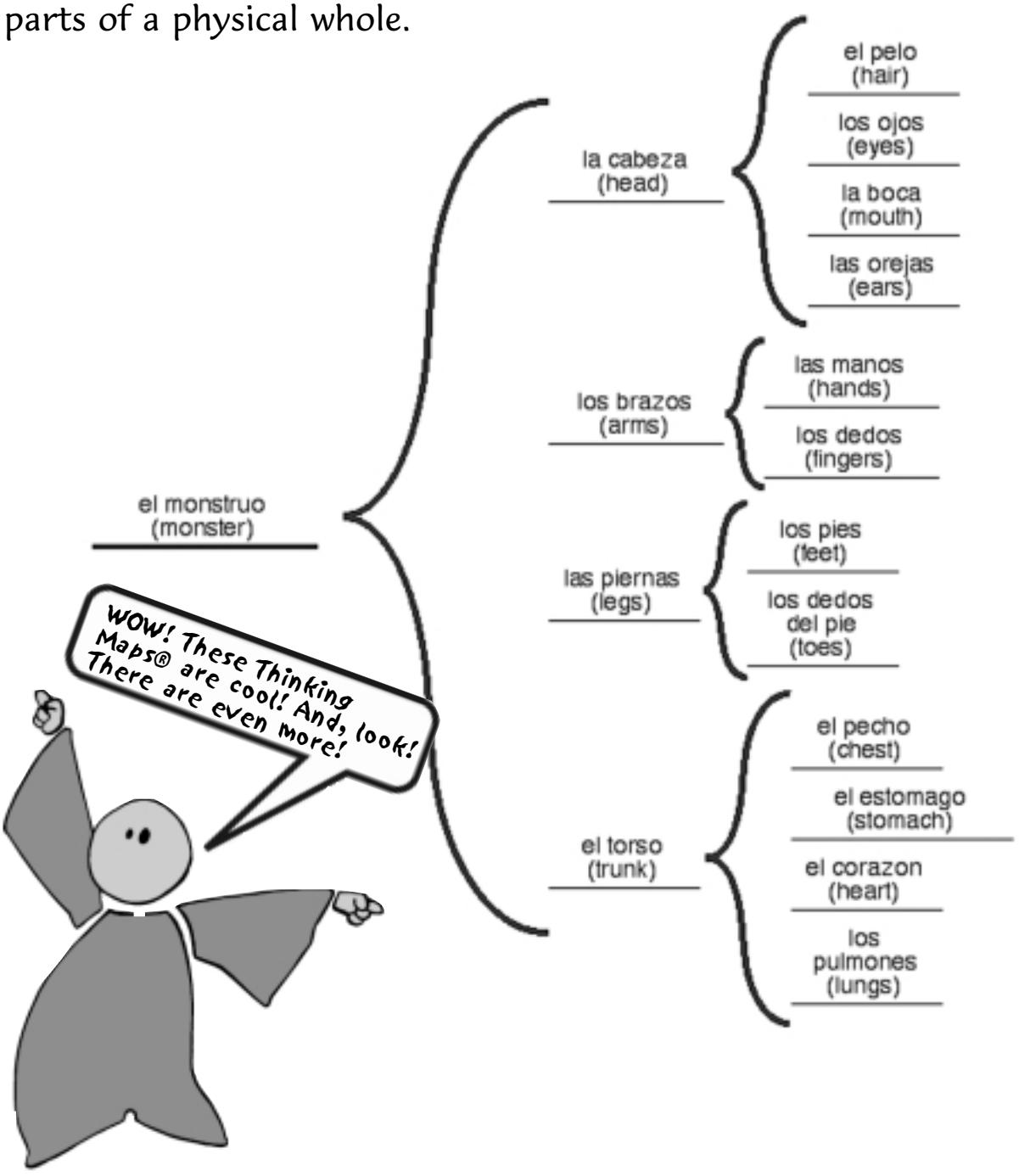
Tree Map

What if you wanted to examine and define the various types of measurements? The Tree Map can be used for classification.



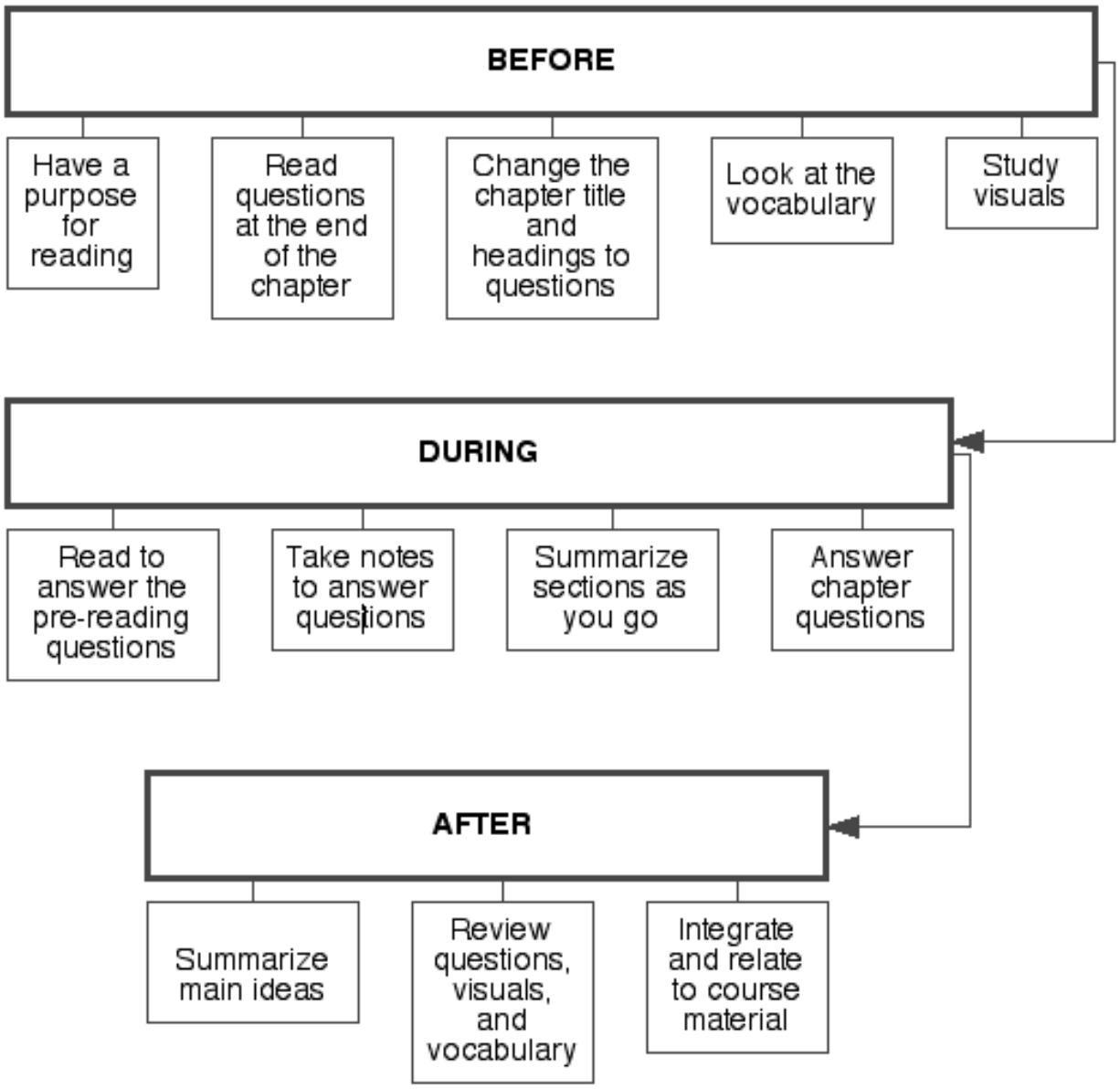
Brace Map

The parts of a 'monster' in Spanish can be identified by using the Brace Map. A Brace Map is used to show the component parts of a physical whole.



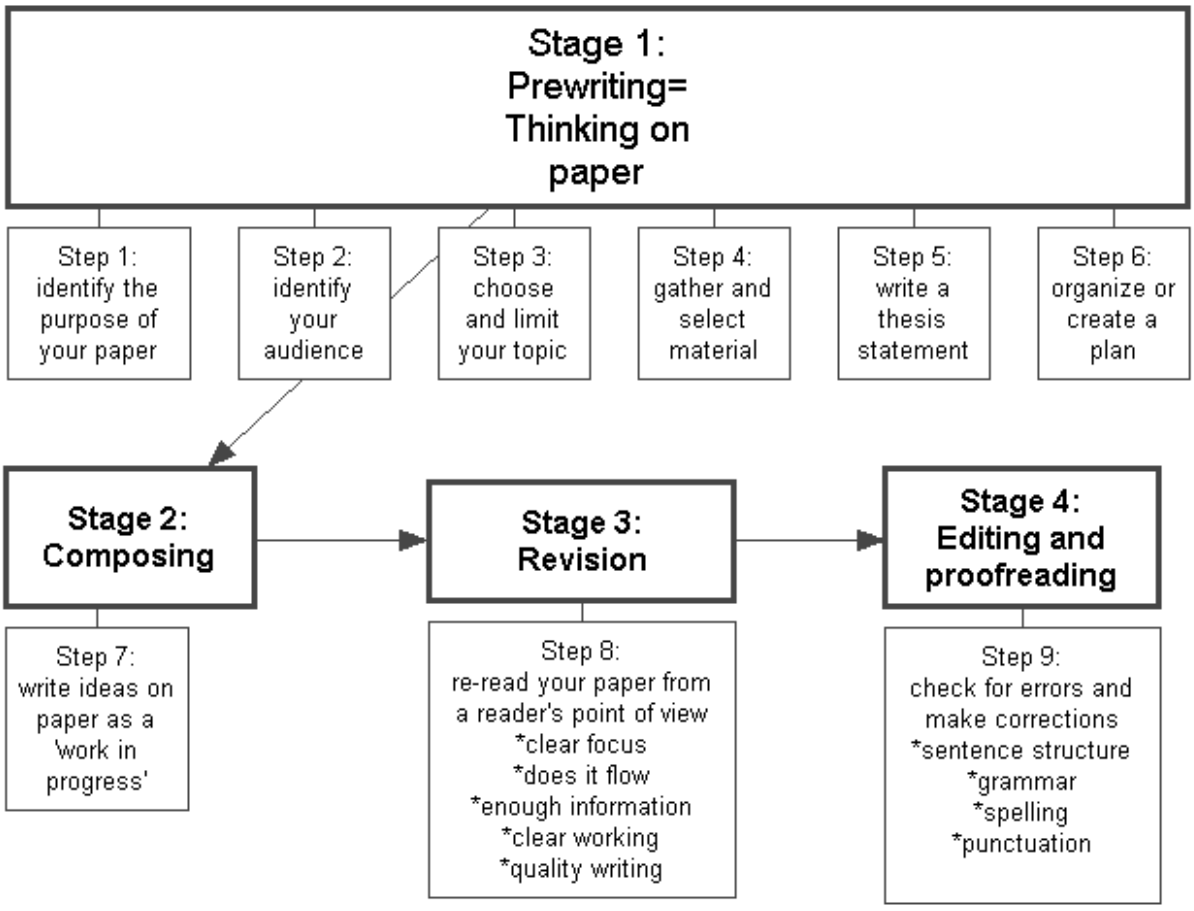
Flow Map

The Flow Map is used to show sequencing. Any process that can be described by steps such as 1st, 2nd, & 3rd could benefit from this type of map. For example, a Flow Map could show the correct process for reading a textbook.



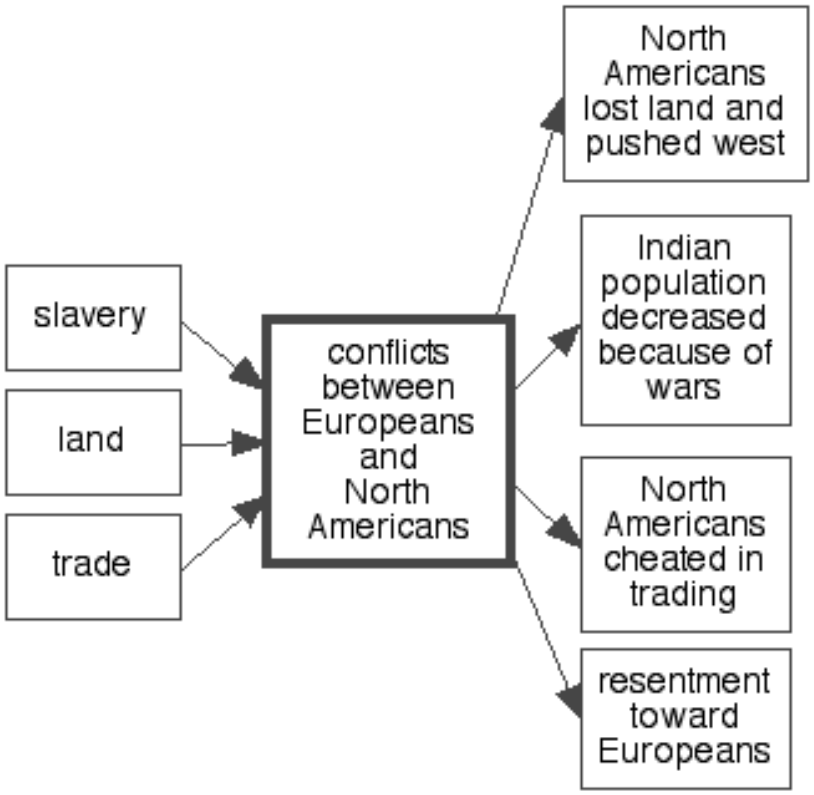
Flow Map

This is another example of a Flow Map which shows the steps and stages for planning a paper, a research project, a presentation, or Web site.



Multi-flow Map

A Multi-flow Map could be used to look at the causes and effects of conflicts between Europeans and North Americans.



Bridge Map

The Bridge Map illustrates analogies. The following map shows the major resources of various states.The analogies in this map would read as follows: Coal is to Illinois as oil is to Texas. Oil is to Texas as fertile soil is to Georgia. Can you "read" the rest of them?

is a major resource of									
Relating Factor	coal	as	oil	as	fertile soil	as	forest	as	uranium
	Illinois		Texas		Georgia		Virginia		New Mexico