Concept Mapping

**Definition:** A concept map is a visual representation of one’s knowledge organized in a hierarchy.

**When To Use Concept Mapping:** While reading text to understand and organize the material, as prewriting activity to organize knowledge, and as a means of revision.

**Example**

- **Writing Groups**
  - Creative Writing
  - Honors Thesis
  - STEP Writing
  - Post-Doc Writing
  - Master’s Thesis
  - Graduate Open-Genre
- **In-Person Sessions**
- **Smith Lab**
  - Used to schedule an appointment
- **Veterans’ Sessions**
- **Thompson Library**
- **Online Sessions**
  - Online Consultation (Live Chat)
  - eTutoring (Drop-Off)
- **The Writing Center**
- **WCOnline**

**Guide**

- **Main Topic**
  - The “big ideas” branch off of the central topic. Think of them as categories to organize thoughts.
  - Ideas can also branch off of each other to add more complexity.
  - Color can be used to group ideas and connect them across different topics.

- **Idea**
  - Defined as
  - Includes
  - Connecting words along arrows explain the relationship between topics and ideas.

Arrows connect the central idea to main topics and the main topics to individual ideas. This arranges thoughts into an organized hierarchy.

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