

Read the text about mind maps and then do the exercises to practise and improve your reading skills.

Preparation

Match the words with the correct definition and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1..... kinds | a. sections |
| 2..... vocabulary | b. to think of lots of answers to the same question |
| 3..... the middle | c. the ocean |
| 4..... to brainstorm | d. words and phrases |
| 5..... the sea | e. types |
| 6..... parts | f. the centre |

Mind Maps

Mind maps are a great way of showing a picture of information that you need to learn. You can use mind maps for all kinds of learning. They work very well for vocabulary when you are learning a new language.

Brainstorm some word groups for 'transport' and think of headings for each one. For example:



sea transport

land transport

air transport

For each one, draw a short line from the centre circle outwards. Add another circle and write the new group word in the middle.

When you can't make any new groups, add a line for each word you know. Write the words along the lines or, if you have space, write them inside more circles.



As you learn new vocabulary, add it to the mind map.

To make the mind maps even better, use colour to show important ideas or parts of the map.

1

Draw a circle in the middle of the page and write the vocabulary subject in the middle. For example:



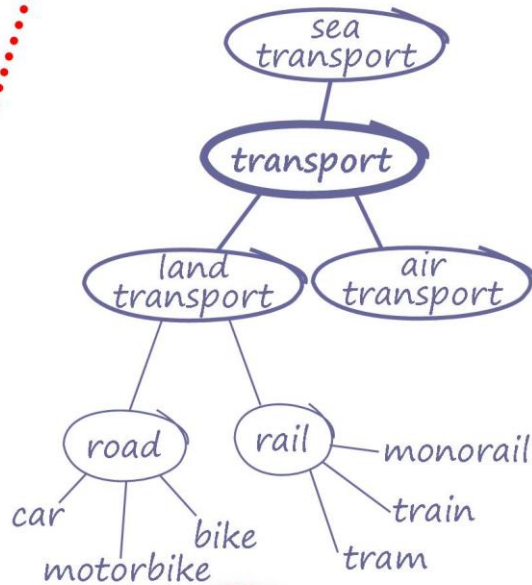
2

Look at each group and try to add more groups. For example, in 'land transport' there are two sub-groups:

- road
- rail

3

Draw two more lines, add two more circles and write the two new headings inside them.



4

5

6



1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

- | | | | |
|----|--|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | A mind map is a picture of useful information. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. | Mind maps are only for learning languages. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. | You start by drawing a circle. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. | Mind maps are so easy you don't have to think. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. | When you learn a new word, you should add it to your mind map. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. | It is better to make a simple mind map, with no colour. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your understanding: ordering

Write numbers (1–5) to put these instructions for making a mind map in order.

- | | |
|-------|--|
| | Draw a circle in the middle of the page. |
| | Add new circles and write the group words 'sea', 'road' and 'air' in them. |
| | Write 'transport' in the middle of the circle. |
| | Brainstorm some word groups for 'transport'. For example, 'sea', 'road' and 'air'. |
| | Add lines to the group words. For example, to the 'road' group, add 'car', 'bus' and 'bike'. |

3. Check your vocabulary: gap fill

Complete the sentences with a word from the box.

write	show	start	learn	add	brainstorm
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- Mind maps _____ information as a picture.
- They can help you _____ a new language.
- You _____ with a circle in the middle of the page.
- You _____ groups of words.
- You _____ the words on lines or inside circles.
- You can _____ more words to the mind map as you learn them.

Discussion

What do you do to remember new vocabulary?