

Unit 2-Pre-Writing

Basic Pre-Writing techniques to help you start a paper

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Pre-Writing

What is it?

- It is a method of getting thoughts down in writing
- Grammar and spelling does not count
- A way to get past writer's block

Pre-Writing strategies

Types of strategies you can use:

- Brainstorming
- Mind Mapping (also called Clustering)
- Free Writing
- Outlining

The Brainstorming strategy for Pre-Writing

Brainstorming strategy

- Create a list of topics that can associate freely from one topic to another
- Write every topic that comes in your mind for a set period of time
- After time is up, read your list and pick the topic you want

Brain Storm for paper on sports

Teams

Lakers

Bears

Payton

Dikta

Coach

Chicago

Bulls

Jordan

Pippen

Blackhawks

NHL

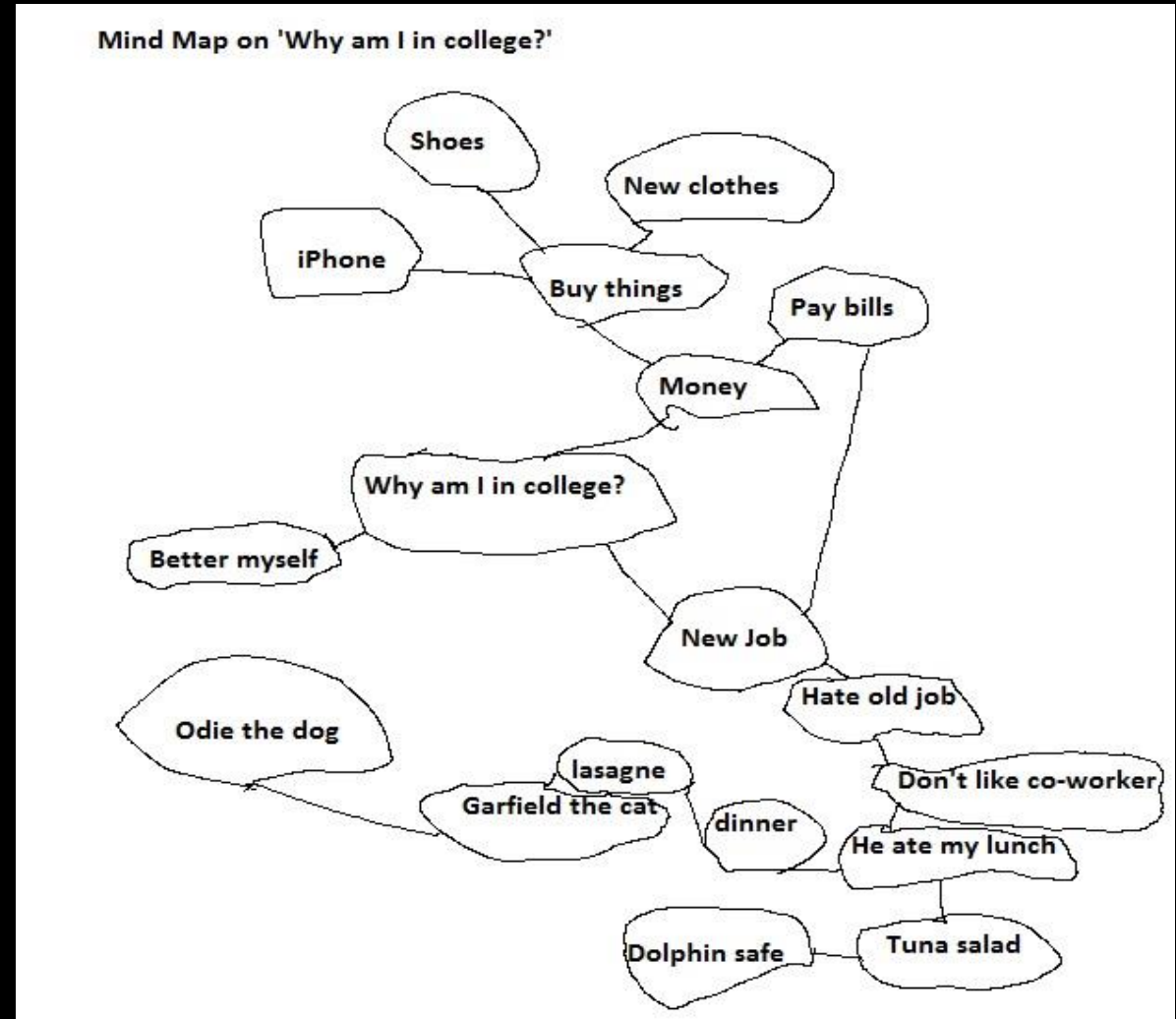
Hockey Sticks

pucks

The Mind Map strategy for Pre-Writing

Mind Map strategy

- Put a central topic in the middle of a sheet of paper and circle it
- Write any logical connection to it and circle them
- You can branch off at any connection you want
- When you are done, pick a topic that you like



The Free write strategy for Pre-Writing

Free write strategy

- Start writing anything at all
- Do not think when you write
- Just write
- Eventually, you might start on the topic you need but if you don't that's okay
- Great for breaking writer's block

Free writing on music

Have to write a paper about music and I am not sure what to write about so I am just typing when I type I can hear a rythm a bit but I don't know if it reminds me of a band or just something else like the slide whistle used by Mango Groove and their song I think called Special Star which I saw on the Freddie Mercury tribute that also had a lot of other bands but Queen was the host and God Save the Queen is a song they do and that song is also done in a different way by the Pistols

The Outlining strategy for Pre-Writing

Outlining strategy

- Start with a simple 'Intro/Body/Conclusion' outline
- Fill your thesis into the introduction
- Write out 2-3 body paragraph outlines
- Write a conclusion portion for the outline
- Use as little or as much detail as you want

Outline for paper on the Los Angeles Lakers

I. Introduction

A. The Los Angeles Lakers are the best team in sports history.

II. Body

A. The Lakers and their all-stars

B. The Championships

C. The fans and stadium draws

III. Conclusion

A. Relist the main points briefly but don't just repeat yourself

Which to use?

Which one is best for you?

- Try each style out and see what works best
- Visual learners might get a lot of use from the Map strategy
- People who form free associations might get use from the brainstorm
- For a more structured person maybe an outline works best
- Free writing works well for many