

Graphic Organizers

A graphic organizer is a visual display that depicts the relationships between facts or ideas. Graphic organizers are also known as concept maps, mind maps, etc.

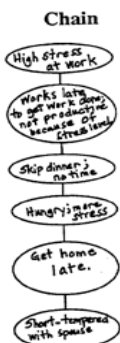
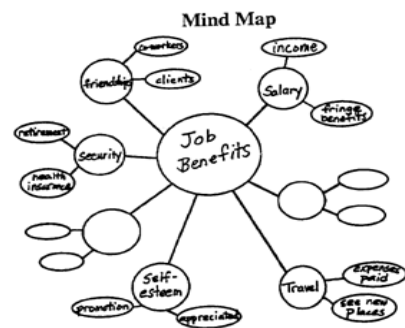
Graphic organizers come in many different forms, each one best suited to organizing a particular type of information.

Benefits of graphic organizers

- Show evidence of critical thinking by reformulating information into new structures.
- Encourage use of multiple resources.
- Avoids plagiarism since there is not enough room for a lot of copying.
- G.O.s visualize the strengths and weaknesses of your argument.
- Visual representation of whether you have sufficient information to answer the research question.

Practical Applications

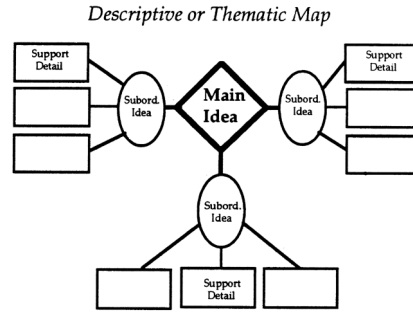
- **Brainstorming for creative writing**
- **Literary analysis and comprehension**
- **Research tool for essays**
- **Studying for tests**
- **Note-taking**



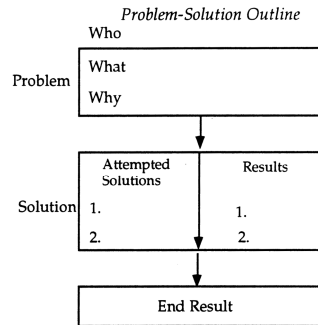
Types of Graphic Organizers

Graphic organizers come in many different forms, each one best suited to organizing a particular type of information. The following examples are merely a sampling of the different types and uses of graphic organizers.

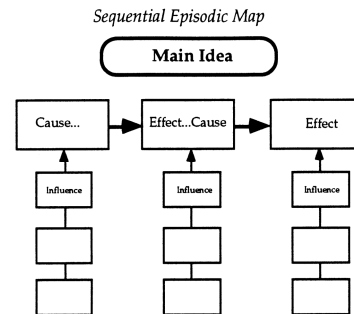
A **Descriptive or Thematic Map** works well for mapping generic information, but particularly well for mapping hierarchical relationships.



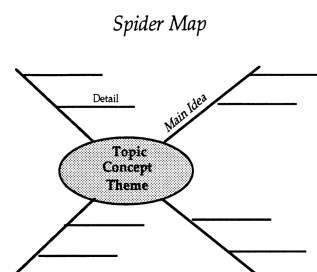
When information contains cause and effect problems and solutions, a **Problem and Solution Map** can be useful for organizing.



A **Sequential Episodic Map** is useful for mapping cause and effect.



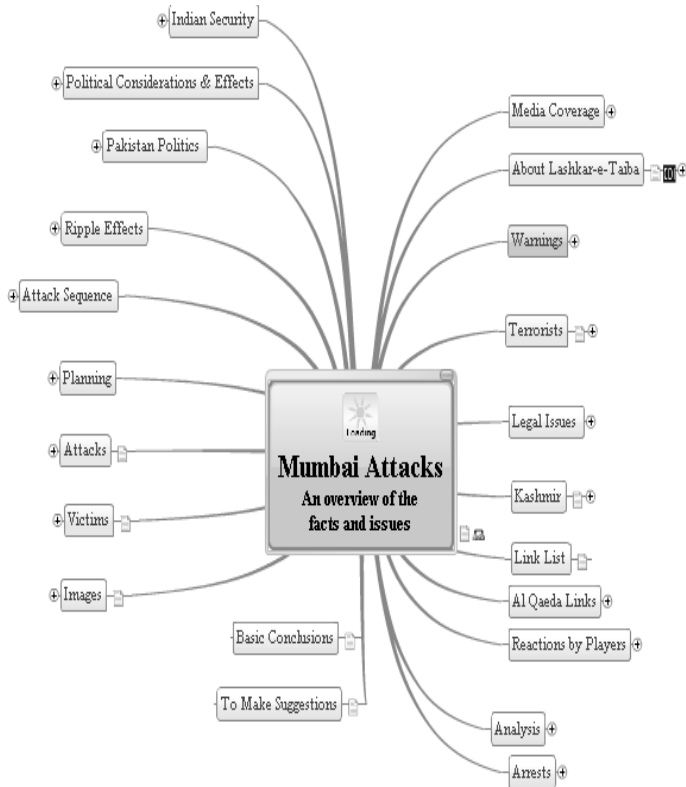
When the information relating to a main idea or theme does not fit into a hierarchy, a **Spider Map** can help with organization.



Web Based Mapping Tools

1. mindomo.com - A Free, visual way to :

- * Unblock your thinking
- * To understand
- * To discover
- * To communicate
- * To escape



**NWSS
LIBRARY**

2. Google Wonder Wheel

Google Wonder Wheel - An easy tool to help you

- * Narrow your research topic
- * Find ideas on what to write about,
- * Choose a good debate or presentation topic
- * Identify popular topics on the internet.

Don't attempt to plan your next school project without taking a look at other terms relevant to your task.

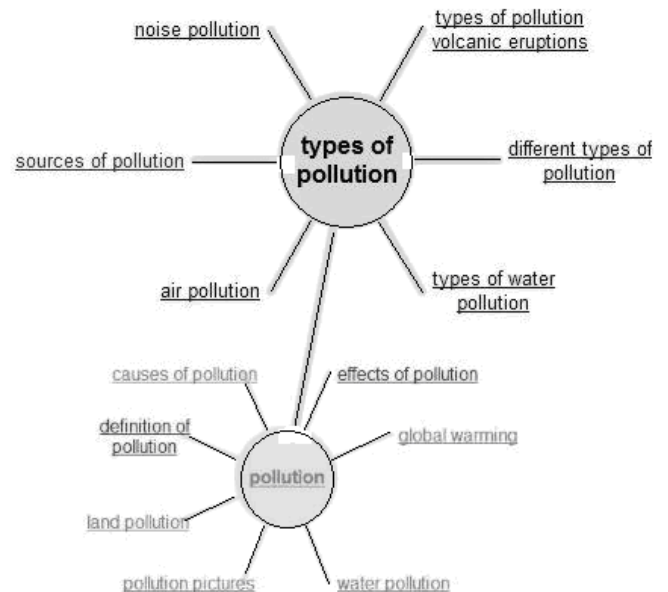
Go to google.ca

Type in your key term

Go to **Show Options**

Choose **Wonder Wheel**

Wonder Wheel will open up with your key word in the centre and related search terms around it.



Refs: Hall, Tracey and N. Strangman. *Graphic Organizers*. NCGO, 2002.