

Prewriting Strategies: Brainstorming with Mind Mapping

Prewriting is a set of steps that help you with the planning and outlining of your paper so that your writing process can be more productive and effective. If you aren't sure what to write about, this is a good place to start getting some ideas down. There are a variety of methods to help you start: writing a list, freewriting, brainstorming, talking it out with a friend or classmate, talking with a CLAS writing tutor, or making a cluster mind map. In this worksheet we will focus on creating a cluster or mind map of your ideas. Once you complete your cluster, you will be ready to build an outline. Let's get started!

Instructions: Start by placing your main topic/argument/question in the middle circle. Next, write four key points/sub topics/answers in the circles coming from the middle circle. Finally, write out your supporting ideas or pieces of evidence for each of the four key points.

