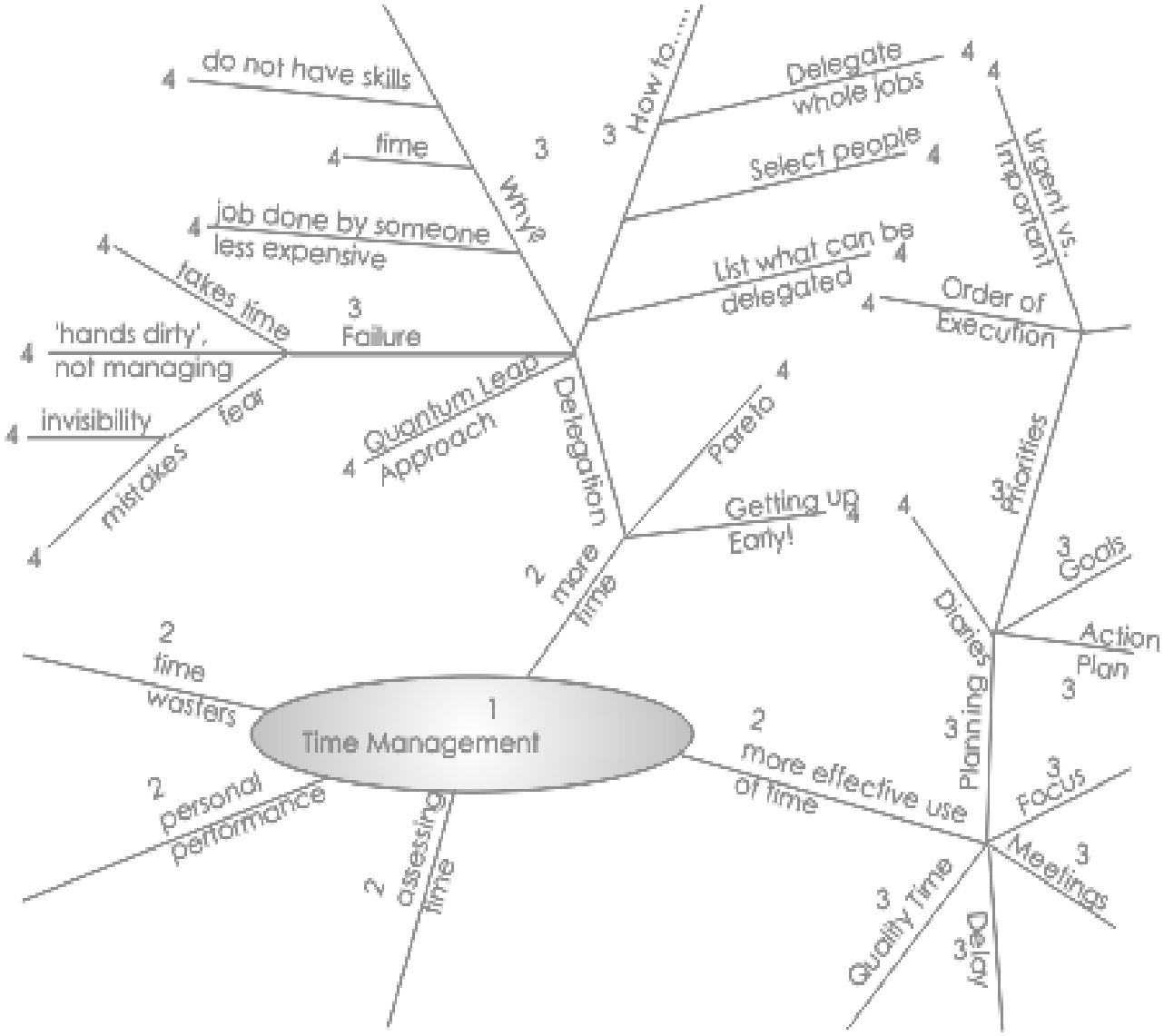
Mind Maps

Mind Maps are also useful for:

- Summarizing information.
- Consolidating information from different research sources.
- Thinking through complex problems.
- Presenting information in a format that shows the overall structure of your subject.

They are very quick to review as you can often refresh information in your mind just by glancing at one. And in the same way, they can be **effective mnemonics**: Remembering the **shape and structure** of a Mind Map can give you the cues you need to remember the information within it. As such, they engage much more of your brain in the process of assimilating and connecting facts, compared with conventional notes.



To make notes on a subject using a Mind Map, draw it in the following way:

1. Write the **title of the subject** you're exploring in the **center of the page,** and **draw a circle around it**. This is shown by the circle marked 1 in Figure 1, above.

2. As you come across **major subdivisions or subheadings** of the topic (or important facts that relate to the subject) **draw lines out from this circle**. Label these lines with these subdivisions or subheadings. These are shown by the lines marked 2 in Figure 1.

3. As you "burrow" into the subject and uncover another level of information (further subheadings, or individual facts) belonging to the subheadings above, draw these as lines linked to the subheading lines. **These are shown by the lines marked 3 in Figure 1**.

4. Finally, **for individual facts or ideas**, draw lines out from the appropriate heading line and label them. These are shown by the lines marked 4 in Figure 1.

The following criteria must be used for your Mind Maps

Your Mind Maps are your own property: once you understand how to make notes in the Mind Map format, you can develop your own conventions to take them further. The following suggestions may help to increase their effectiveness:

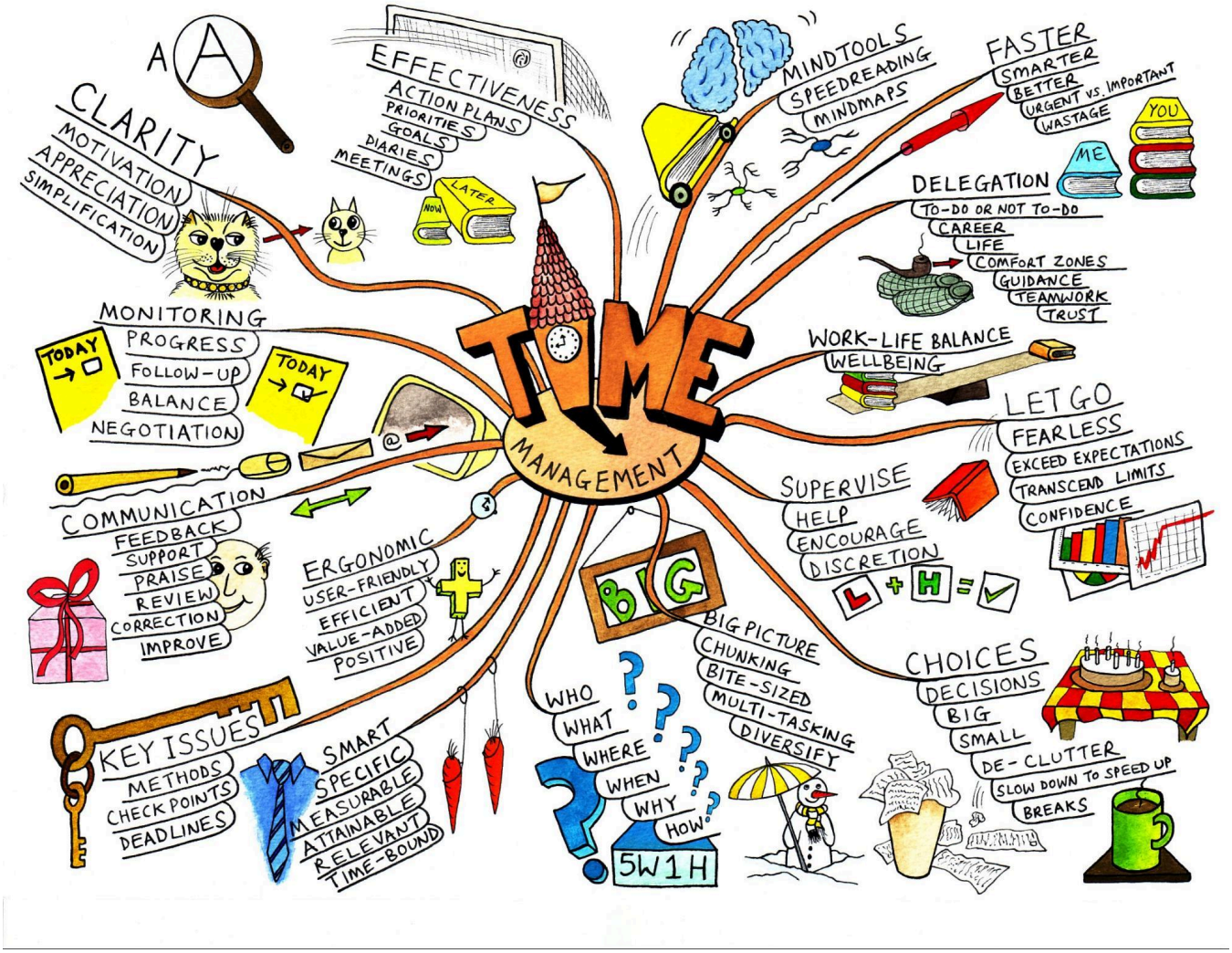
- **Use single words or simple phrases for information:** Most words in normal writing are padding, as they ensure that facts are conveyed in the correct context, and in a format that is pleasant to read. In your own Mind Maps, **single strong words and meaningful phrases** can convey the same meaning more potently. Excess words just clutter the Mind Map.

- **Print words:** Joined up or indistinct writing can be more difficult to read.

- **Use color to separate different ideas:** This will help you to separate ideas where necessary. It also helps you to visualize of the Mind Map for recall. Color also helps to show the organization of the subject.

- **Use symbols and images:** Where a symbol or picture means something to you, use it. Pictures can help you to remember information more effectively than words.

- **Using cross-linkages:** Information in one part of the Mind Map may relate to another part. Here you can draw in lines to show the cross-linkages. This helps you to see how one part of the subject affects another



You will create a mind map for the following….. enjoy…..