

Pre-Write Tools

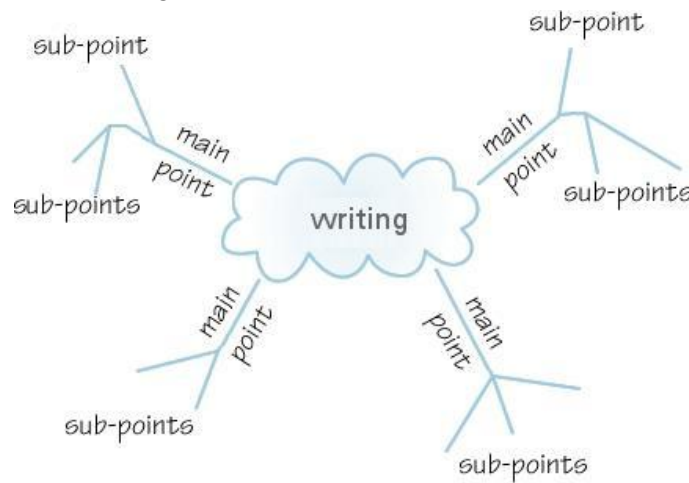
When writing an essay, it's important to take time to brainstorm and organize your thoughts and details **before** writing. The prewriting stage can also include any research necessary to make sure you have sufficient and accurate material to support your thesis. A pre-write can be a bulleted list, a mind map, or a formal outline. It should reflect the main ideas and details that you want to include in your paper and the order in which you want to include them.

NOTE: Put your Pre-Write on the other document.

PRE-WRITE OPTIONS

Mind Maps

A mind map is a graphic organizer that uses shapes and lines to indicate main topics, subtopics, and details. It can look something like this:



Online Mind-Mapping Tools

Note: Many of these allow you to sign in with Google. You can use your CHAT email or another gmail account.

- [MindMeister.com](https://www.mindmeister.com) -- You can sign up for this free tool that lets you digitally create a mind map. When you are done with your brainstorming and organizing, click on "Share" on the bottom left hand margin; then select "Link to Share" and "Copy Link" and put it in the space below.
- [Popplet.com](https://popplet.com) -- Another free, online mind-mapping tool, this site allows only one map, but you can delete an old one and make a new one. When you're finished, select "Share" on the bottom right margin. Then, select "Copy Link" and put it in the space below.
- [Bubble.us](https://bubble.us) -- Another free tool that is simple to use and allows you to save or download mind maps. To share your work, click on the share icon in the upper right margin. Select the link icon and then copy the link and put it in the space below.
- [GitMind](https://gitmind.com) -- This free, online mind-mapping tool also allows you to number the categories and then convert the mind map into an outline. When you're done, select "Share" from the upper right hand margin, copy the link, and put it in the space below.

Pre-Write Tools

Handwritten Mind Maps

- If you have drawn by hand your mind map, take a picture and insert it in the space below.
- You can also use Google Draw or another electronic drawing app to create a pre-write.

Outlines

- As mentioned above, [GitMind](#) also helps you to put together an outline.
- You can also use this template if you would like to write a more formal outline.

- I. Introduction
 - A. Hook
 - B. Thesis Statement
 - C. Road Map
- II. Supporting idea #1
 - A. Specifics
 1. Details
 2. More details
 - B. Specifics
 1. Details
 2. More details
- III. Supporting idea #2
 - A. Specifics
 1. Details
 2. More details
 - B. Specifics
 1. Details
 2. More details
- IV. Supporting idea #3
 - A. Specifics
 1. Details
 2. More details
 - B. Specifics
 1. Details
 2. More details
- V. Conclusion
 - A. Summary
 - B. Restate Thesis
 - C. Parting Thoughts