

Summary of creative thinking techniques

Mind mapping

- Start with a coloured image in the centre of your sheet of paper.
- Use plenty of images throughout your mind map.
- Words should be printed in capital letters.
- Printed words should be on lines, and each line should be connected to other lines. This will give structure to your mind map.
- Words should be printed one word per line.
- Use colours as they help memory recall and stimulate creativity.
- Be as free as possible. Don't pause or think about it, just explode on to the paper.

Brainstorming

- Start with a single word or concept connected to your research topic.
- Record (write down, tape, video) anything and everything that you associate with this word or concept.
- Do not hesitate or spend too long on any one aspect and try to think as creatively and widely as possible.
- Do not censor yourself, even if an idea seems foolish.
- When you have run out of ideas, try to create a relationship diagram for the subject.