Mindmaps

Mindmaps are a pictorial and hierarchical representation of your thinking. They can be personalised with different colours, shapes, and line styles to enhance your engagement with the information and aid your recall of key information.

Uses: Recording notes from lectures or textbooks, presenting information to others, planning an assignment, generating new ideas, or studying for exams.

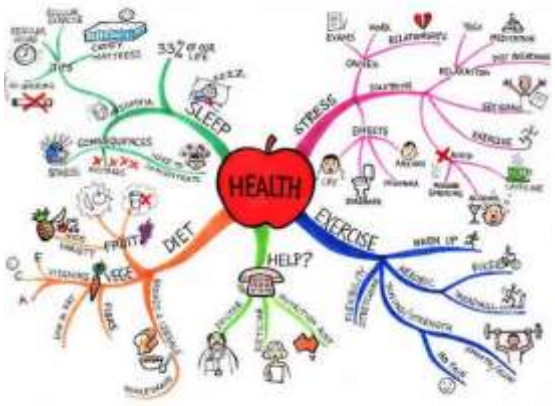

Figure 1. Mind map example (from Mind Map Gallery, n.d.)

Steps:

1. Start with the main idea in the middle of the page.
2. Write down ideas as they come to you (or use the main headings in your textbook or reading) using colour, diagrams, drawings, symbols, and words to personalise.
3. From each main idea, draw branches to represent the ideas (or subheadings) related to the main idea.
4. Continue creating branches as appropriate.

References

Eppler, M. (2006). A comparison between concept maps, mind maps, conceptual diagrams, and visual metaphors as complementary tools for knowledge construction and sharing. *Information Visualization*, 5, 202 –210. Doi:10.1057/palgrave.ivs.9500131.

Mind Map Gallery. (n.d.). Retrieved from http://www.tonybuzan.com/gallery/mind-maps/