

Definitions and examples of prewriting steps of brainstorming, clustering, and questioning

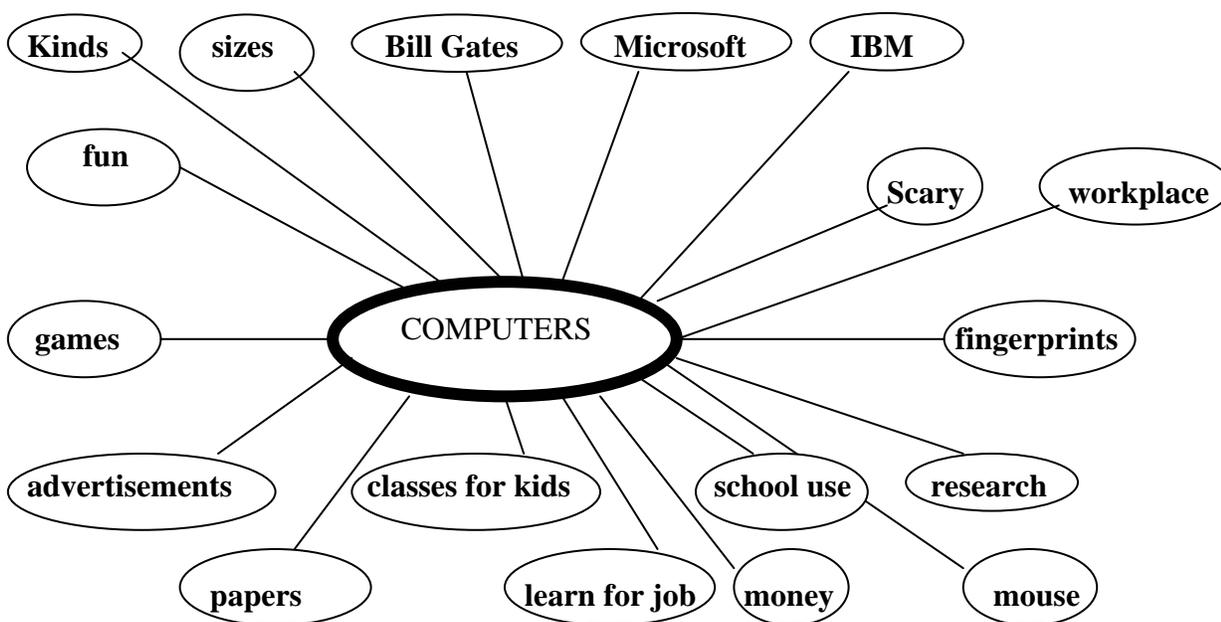
BRAINSTORMING – Prewriting technique of focusing on a particular subject or topic and freely jotting down any and all ideas which come to your mind without limiting or censoring information – if it comes to mind, write it down! Ideas may be single words, phrases, ideas, details, examples, descriptions, feelings, people, situations, etc. Do not write ideas in complete sentences. Topic is written and free associations are listed underneath.

EXAMPLE:

Computers
Kinds
Sizes
Uses
School
Games
Enjoy using
Bill Gates
Research papers
Internet access
Fun to work with
Computers scare me
Business use – hospitals, banks, police departments
Difficult language
Classes to learn how

CLUSTERING-Prewriting technique of focusing on a particular topic or subject and freely writing down ideas, words, phrases, details, examples, feelings, situations, descriptions, etc. Do not limit or censor ideas – if you think it, write it! Do not write in complete sentences. Write topic or subject in the center of your page; let your mind make free associations and write these associations around your topic branching out from the center. When finished with ideas, show cluster .

EXAMPLE:



-QUESTIONING- Prewriting technique of asking Who? What? Where? When? Why? How? in order to focus ideas on a particular subject or topic. Write topic or subject at top of page and list the questions down the left margin of page leaving room for responses. This technique may be done in two ways. Think of the questions as a reporter writing an article and give details, information, ideas, etc. that will answer the questions effectively. Don't limit responses; make associations complete. Or, ask your own questions about the topic or subject. Don't limit responses.

EXAMPLE one:

Computers

WHO? Bill Gates, engineers, word processors, technicians, programmers, hackers

WHAT? Build computers, program creators, hackers abilities to destroy programs, instruction time to learn

WHEN? College education, high school courses, internet games and chat rooms, career decisions, work,

WHERE? College, high school, work, IBM building, Microsoft, rest of my life

WHY? money, fun, games, access to data, military intelligence, wargames. Knowledge, career move, prestige

HOW? scholarship, money from family, inherited skills, need to realize potential, career upward mobility, enjoy computers

EXAMPLE two:

Computers

What do I know about computers?

What would I like to know?

When am I able to learn about them?

Where can I get more information?

Why do I want this information? Why do I need this information?

How will I use this information? How can I apply it? How will it benefit me?