



MIND-MAPPING CAN BE USED AT ANY POINT WITHIN YOUR STUDIES AND ARE EFFECTIVE FOR BOTH VISUAL AND KINAESTHETIC LEARNERS. WHETHER IT BE LEARNING INTRICATE DETAILS FOR EXAMS OR FIGURING OUT HOW TO STRUCTURE AN ESSAY, THE ACT OF DRAWING OUT A MIND-MAP ON AN A4 SHEET OF PAPER CAN HELP ORGANISE THE MIND INTO VISUAL SEGMENTS; IMPROVING BOTH FOCUS AND MEMORY RETENTION.

FOR ESSAYS:

Start by going through your lecture/study notes or a course text book, and think about what aspects of knowledge you want featuring in the essay.

Draw a circle with the essay question in the middle, then start drawing branches with the knowledge off of it. If you feel one point relates to another then draw a baby branch off the initial one to join them together.

Each initial large branch could represent an essay paragraph topic, with the baby branches coming off them as paragraph content. A good software to use (if you prefer your notes on a computer) is Inspire - this will convert your mind map into a word document to use as an essay plan.



FOR EXAMS:

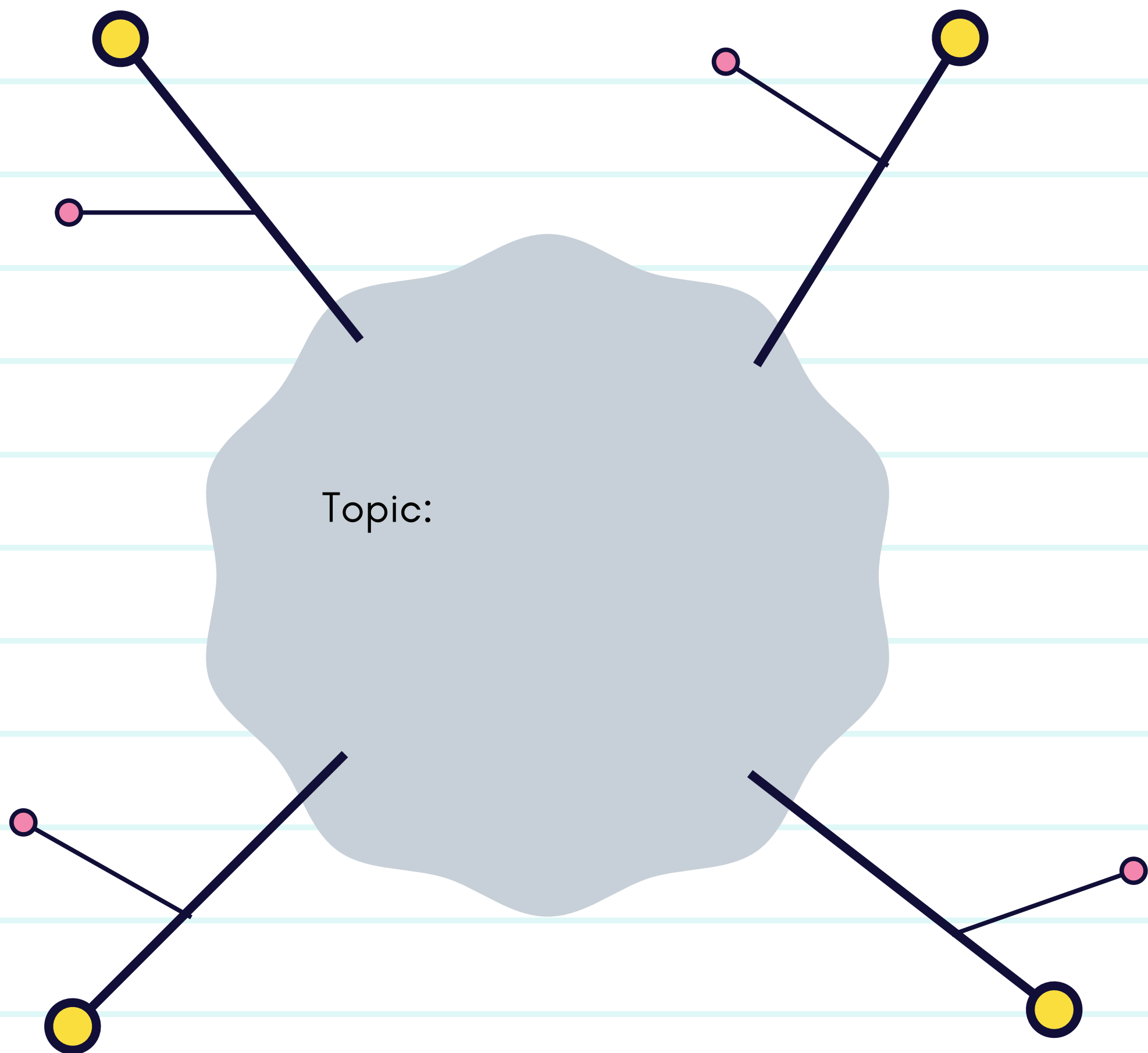
Whether you need to learn information for an exam by chapter, topic or question - you can use mind-maps for revision. Separate the section of the revision you need to learn into themes. These themes will represent the main branches coming off the topic in the centre, with baby branches being the detail.

This act of repetition by writing out your study notes in mind-map form will help with remembering, coupled with splitting large amounts of information into chunks. During your revision, keep your mind-map out of sight and try and replicate it on a new sheet of paper. Afterwards go back and see what information you missed from the original one you drew and add it to the replicate in a different colour (this helps identify your weaker areas).

If you keep repeating this technique by the end you will be able to perfectly replicate the mind-map with no additional colour on the page.



Have a go at mind-mapping yourself!



For more study tips visit:

[www.leicesterunion.com/support/transitionstoolkit/study skills/](http://www.leicesterunion.com/support/transitionstoolkit/study-skills/)