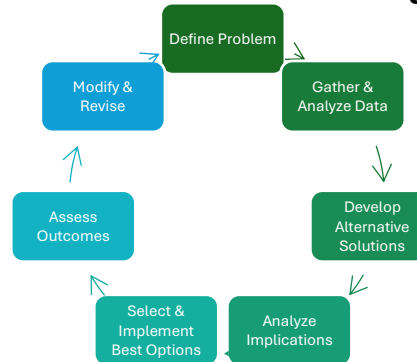


This Topic and Why

Court leaders continually face the need to solve problems. This series shares different problem-solving techniques. Models build from the traditional problem-solving pattern as depicted to the right and offer different approaches, and maybe inspiration, to use a process to resolve issues.

This issue offers a technique that invites creativity and use of visual idea portrayal – mind mapping.

Traditional Problem Solving



Focus in This Issue:

Mind Mapping

The Concept in Practice: Use a technique that invites creativity, displaying ideas in a non-linear manner. A mind map is a process:

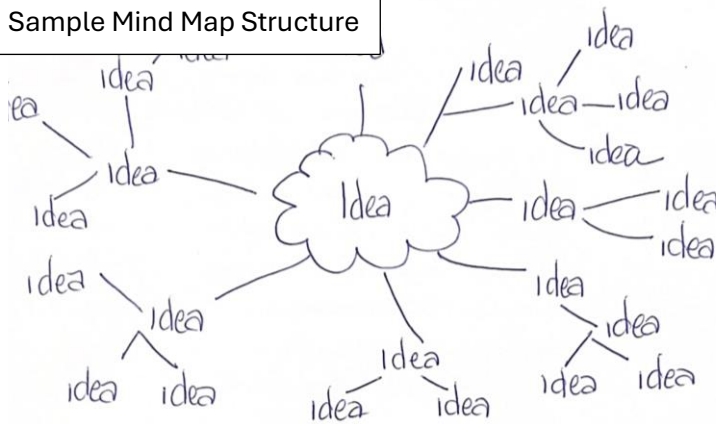
- To generate ideas
- To organize information
- Aimed as a thinking strategy
- As a note taking system
- To practice creativity
- For free thinking
- To mirror the way the brain works

Tips for Using Mind Mapping

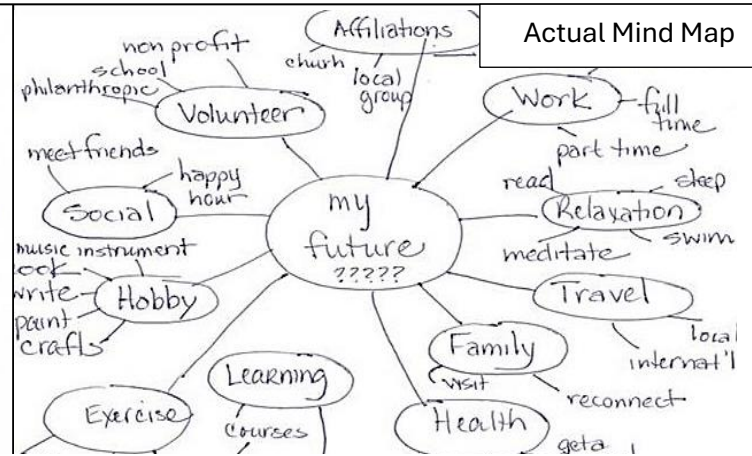
- Start with a blank paper or surface
- Put the central idea (challenge, goal) in the center
- Write ideas as branches from the center outwards
- Add subordinate branches with each idea
- Place ideas anywhere on the display
- Use mind mapping for problem solving
- Use mind mapping to organize ideas
- Try not to scrutinize or question ideas
- Enjoy the process and have fun with mind mapping

Sample and Actual Mind Maps

Sample Mind Map Structure



Actual Mind Map



Strategies

- ✓ Use this process as a creative and fun technique to get ideas out of your head and into a diagram
- ✓ Consider this process for any type of challenge
- ✓ Use colors and drawings
- ✓ Incorporate symbols

Contact:

www.courtleader.net
jcornellaz@cox.net
[linkedin.com/in/janet-g-cornell-consultant/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/janet-g-cornell-consultant/)

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Resources

T. Buzan, Brain Boot Camp, 2008
 M. Michalko, Thinkertoys, 2006