

**What is a graphic organizer?**

A graphic organizer is a powerful visual tool to help students to develop ideas and concepts to facilitate and guide learning. They can be as simple as a Venn Diagram, or as complex as a flow chart.

Educators use graphic organizers to help students make connections between texts (identifying common themes from multiple sources), and within texts (making connections between the author and their own ideas).

Students can organize and synthesize information using graphic organizers online or on paper. The attached graphic organizer helps students parse their thesis statements into main ideas, with space for supporting details.

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**Note taking tips**

Developing an effective note taking strategy is different for everyone. Whether you use EverNote, a tablet, or EasyBib's Notebook feature, it is important to focus on key words and main ideas to make connections.

When organizing an outline for a research paper, the structure should break into:

1. Main ideas and arguments
  - a. Narrower topic/argument
    - i. Supporting details

*Example*

1. Social media's impact on digital information
  - a. Mobile-only apps are growing at a fast rate and contributing large amounts of data on a daily basis
    - i. Users on Tumblr publish 27,778 posts every minute\*
    - ii. Instagram has 3,600 new photos uploaded every minute\*

Don't forget to cite your sources!

\*Source: Tepper, Allegra. "How Much Data Is Created Every Minute?" *Mashable.com*. Mashable, 22 June 2012. Web. 17 Jan. 2013.

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**Free online graphic organizers:**

[bubbl.us](http://bubbl.us)

- No registration or account required, dynamic workspace

[draw.io](http://draw.io)

- No registration or account required, dynamic workspace

[Cacoo.com](http://Cacoo.com)

- Account is required, organizers can be save as .PNG file

[Popplet](http://Popplet)

- Account is required, available on iOS

If you need more space to group your ideas, use the back of this organizer!



Write your thesis statement here

Main idea #1

Main idea #2

Main idea #3

Supporting facts

Supporting facts

Supporting facts