

Digital Mind Maps and Word Clouds—Upper-Intermediate

Let's discuss

A Read the text and answer the questions.

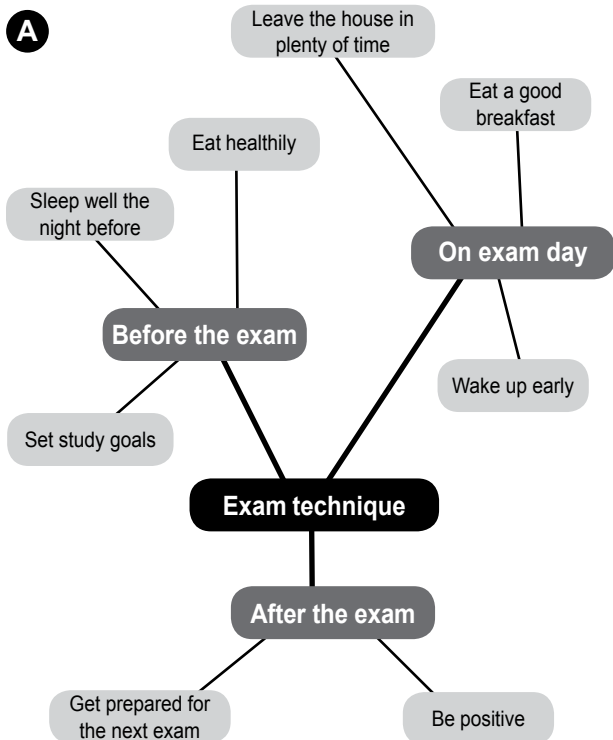
A **mind map** is a visual way to represent ideas and concepts. Instead of traditional note-taking, information is written down around key words, images or concepts. A clear mind map can help you study and remember what you have learnt.

Word clouds are also very useful to work with vocabulary and to brainstorm ideas. They are fun to make and can easily be used as an effective studying tool for remembering ideas, concepts and vocabulary. Both graphic organizers can be created and shared digitally by using online tools or apps. Some of these tools are compatible with collaborative platforms of video call app to make interaction more dynamic and interesting.

1. Think about how you study. Have you ever made outlines and diagrams to help you remember what you have learnt? If so, how does this technique help you?
2. How does a mind map differ from a word cloud?

Let's analyse

B Look at the example of a mind map and a word cloud. Answer the questions in groups.



1. In example A, what is the mind map about?
2. Which phrase is placed in the centre? What do the surrounding phrases represent?
3. In small groups, add a few more pieces of advice to each branch of this mind map.
4. In example B, what are the main topics in the word cloud?
5. What are the other words?
6. How could using a word cloud help you to study?
7. Can you imagine using both mind maps and word clouds? How would they be different?

Let's do it!

- Step 1** Think about a topic learnt recently. Create a mind map or word cloud for this topic using digital tools. Start with the main topic and branch out with other categories.
- Step 2** Go online and search for a digital graphic organizer creator.
- Step 3** Create your digital mind map or word cloud. Add any images that will help you to remember or visualize the information.
- Step 4** Once you have finished, share the link to your digital mind map or word cloud with your teacher and classmates.