

UOW College Hong Kong / Community College of City University
Student English Enhancement Unit (SEE U)
Daily English Practice

Week 7

#181 Essay Writing Tip – Using the Mind Map

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

Qt1: What is a mind map?

Qt2: How is a mind map different from brainstorming?

Qt3: What are three effective steps for creating a mind map?

The answers Qt1 to Qt3 will be provided in the next set of exercises.

Vocabulary

To help you understand the article easier, take a look at the following vocabulary items:

- brainstorming (n): a discussion to generate initial ideas about a topic
- from the outset (prep. phrase): from the beginning
- spontaneous (adj): happening naturally without planning
- engender (v): to cause something to come into being
- inhibit (v) : to prevent something from happening
- ironed out (v): to remove a difficulty completely
- elicit (v): to cause someone to give a response

PART 2: Article for Reading

Learn more about the way to use mind maps to help you write good assignment essays by reading the following article posted in the British Council website:

The use of mind maps to develop writing

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/using-mind-maps-develop-writing>

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

Listen to the following short video clips to learn more about this topic while practicing your listening skills at the same time:

How to use mind map in your essay?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZMmFtO9INhE>

PART 4: Writing Practice

“as opposed to” and “opposed to”

Can you tell the difference between the two items in usage?

When you say somebody is opposed to something, he/she very much dislikes that idea.

e.g., Queenie’s parents are very opposed to her getting married to the poor boy.

When you use “as opposed to”, you are comparing two things and giving preference to one. See the example below:

e.g., I would prefer swimming, as opposed to sitting in the cinema to watch this boring movie.

To make sure you have truly mastered the usage of the two items, write one sentence of your own on them each. Send your writing to see.u@cccu.edu.hk and make a booking to see one of our teachers to discuss your work. Remember! Your SEE U teachers are always ready to give you feedback.

opposed to _____

as opposed to _____
