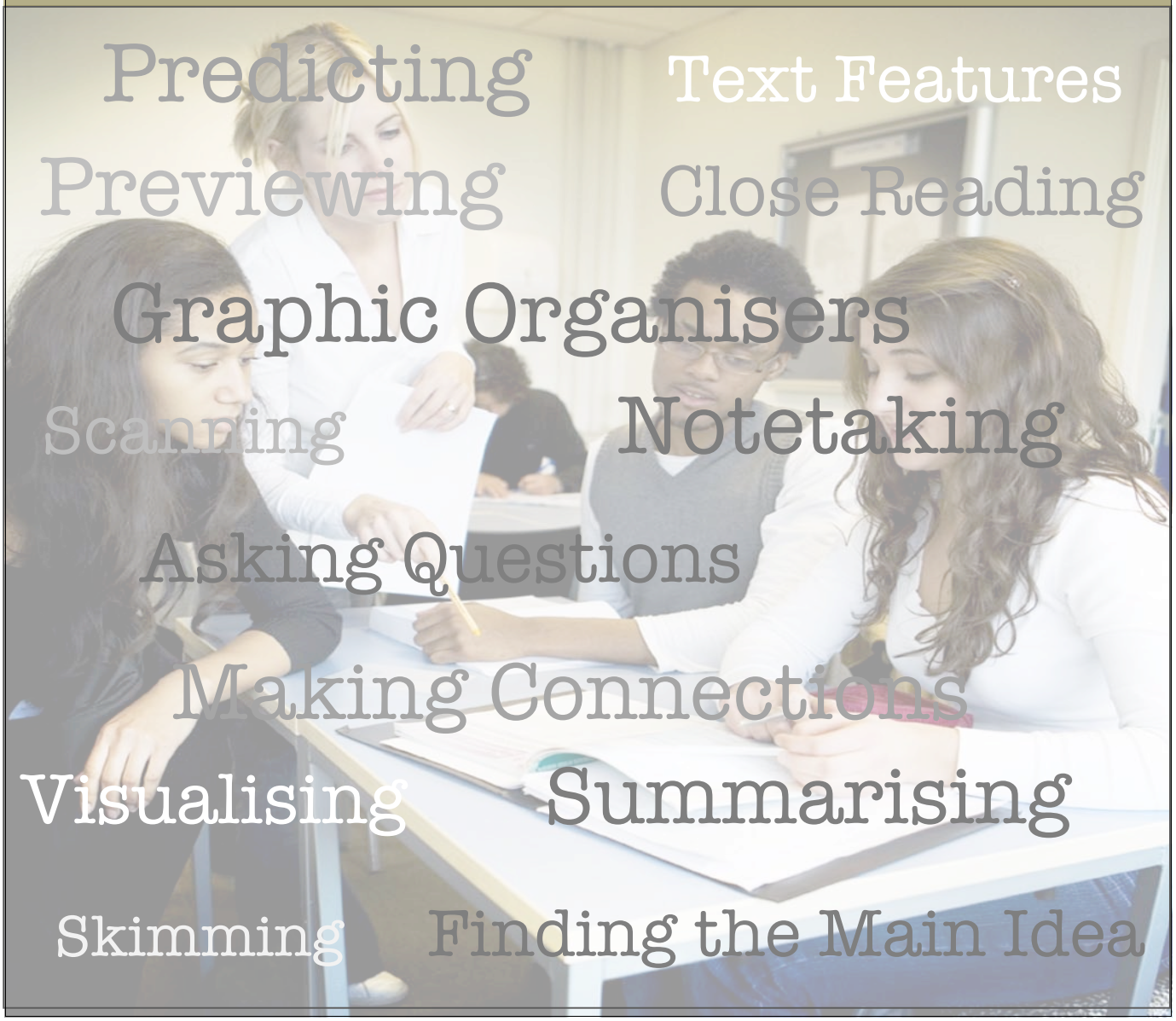
Study and Learning Skills: Strategies for Success

National Behaviour Support Service



Study and Learning Skills: Strategies for Success

Name: _____

School: _____

Class: _____

Predicting

Text Features

Previewing

Close Reading

Graphic Organisers

Scanning

Notetaking

Asking Questions

Making Connections

Visualising

Summarising

Skimming

Finding the Main Idea

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K W L Chart

- What do you already do that helps you to study and learn?
- What would you like to find out about studying and learning?

K What I KNOW	**W** What I WANT to know	**L** What I LEARNED

1. Textbook Features

How does the design and layout of textbooks help you find important information and aid studying?

Textbook Scavenger Hunt

Scavenger Hunt

How do we use the design features of books to find and understand information?

You and your partner are on a quest. Your job is to find examples of these text features in your books AND complete the chart on the next page.

This is a **TIMED** exercise!

Here are the features you will be looking for:

- Photographs
- pictures/drawings
- captions
- maps
- charts
- timelines
- chapter titles
- headings
- subheadings
- index
- glossary
- highlighted/bolded words
- contents
- diagrams
- coloured boxes
- icons

Now…

Use your textbooks with your partner and find at least ONE example of each text feature listed on the chart on the next page. As you do this, **THINK** about how these features help you decide what is important and what the main ideas are on a page or in a chapter.

TEXT FEATURES			
Print Features	**Graphic Aids**	**Informational Aids**	**Organisational Aids**
Bold print ☐ book: _____ page: _____ *Italics* print ☐ book: _____ page: _____ Coloured print ☐ book: _____ page: _____ Underlined print ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Font size/*type*** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Bold** print ☐ book: _____ page: _____	**Photos** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Drawings / Pictures** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Diagrams** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Tables/Charts** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Graphs** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Maps** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Cartoons** ☐ book: _____ page: _____	**Introductions** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Timelines** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Captions** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Bullet Points** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Boxed Text** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Numbered Steps** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Icons** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Summary** ☐ book: _____ page: _____	**Titles** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Chapter Titles** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Headings** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Subheadings** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Contents** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Numbered Steps** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Index** ☐ book: _____ page: _____ **Glossary** ☐ book: _____ page: _____
Print features help you **pay attention to important words.**	Graphic aids help you **visualise or make pictures in your mind**.	Informational aids help you **understand new or important information.**	Organisational aids help you **find information or connect the ideas.**

Main Idea Record

Main Idea Record

Name: _____ Date: _____

Chapter/Section Title: _____

Main idea of section, paragraph or page:

Quotation/sentence from text supporting your main idea:

What text features helped you get the 'gist' of what you skimmed and scanned?

Remember:

Use text features to predict and preview what it is you are about to study and learn.

Because:

This helps you make informed guesses about the text and allows you to use what you already know and clues from the text to make a judgement and predict the main ideas or what will happen next.

2. Questioning

What are the types or levels of questions you can ask or be asked? Do different types of questions require you to do different things to find the information and answer the question?

QAR

Question-Answer Relationship (QAR)

You need to know HOW to find the information that is important in your textbook and how to ask different types of questions, as well as find the answers to these different question types.

QAR

In the book

Right There

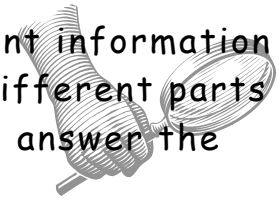
The answer is in one place in the text. You can put your finger on it! Words from the question and words that answer the question are often "right there" in the same sentence.

- Reread
- Scan
- Look for keywords.

Think and Search

The answer is in several places in the text. You put together (think and search) different parts of the text to find the answer.

- Skim or reread
- Look for important information
- Piece together different parts from the text to answer the question.



In my head

Author and You

The answer is not in the text.

- Think about how what you know and what's in the text fit together
- Reread
- Think about what you already know and what the text says
- Predict.

On My Own

The answer is not in the text.

- Think about what you already know
- Think about what you've read before
- Make connections.

Using QAR

After reading the text below work with a partner to decide the question-answer relationship for each question. Explain why it fits that QAR category.

Paris Whitney Hilton has packed in many different careers in her short life. She has been, or is, a model, actress, writer, singer and businesswoman. She is also a celebrity socialite and daughter of the Hilton Hotel family. Hilton has also spent time in prison for driving violations. Reports are she will appear in the book of Guinness World Records as the world's "Most Overrated Celebrity".

Hilton was born with a silver spoon in her mouth in New York City in 1981. She grew up moving between exclusive homes in the States and France. She attended elite schools but wasn't so strong academically. She was expelled from one school for violating its rules. She did not go to university but decided to be famous instead.

When she was 19, Paris signed with a leading modelling agency. She was immediately very successful. She appeared in numerous high-profile advertising campaigns for some of the world's top brands. She also developed a reputation for being New York's top "party girl". She used her fame to launch her own perfumes, which are all best sellers.

Hilton branched out into acting and has appeared in several movies and TV shows. Her biggest role was as a co-star in the reality series 'The Simple Life'. In 2004, she founded Heiress Records and released her debut album, which sold poorly. Hilton has also written two best-selling books. Her plans are to continue promoting herself to become even more famous.

1. Where was Paris Hilton born?
2. How has Paris Hilton been 'born with a sliver spoon in her mouth'?
3. Why do you think she is considered the world's "Most Overrated Celebrity"?
4. What do you think are the advantages and disadvantages of being a celebrity?

* If you were a teacher and there were 30 marks in total for this exercise, how would you divide the marks out between the questions above?

QAR in my Textbook

Look at the questions in your textbook chapters or exam paper and find examples of the different question types. Put examples of the different types of QAR questions in the chart below.

In the Book

Right There
Answer in the text in one place

Think and Search
Put it together

In my Head

Author and Me
Make connections.

On My Own
Don't even have to read the text.

Question the Text

Work with a partner and see can you find the **5Ws** of this news article.

1. **Who:** _____
2. **What:** _____
3. **When:** _____
4. **Where:** _____
5. **Why:** _____

Holy roller: Skateboarding priest in Hungary becomes an unlikely hit on the internet

A Hungarian Catholic priest has become an internet sensation for spreading the word of God - from his skateboard.

A video of Reverend Zoltan Lendavi showcasing his skateboarding skills has become a YouTube hit, with some versions having more than 170,000 views.

The video shows 45-year-old Lendavi, in full clerical dress, showcasing his moves for youngsters outside his church in a small village on Hungary's border with Slovenia.

Father Lendavi said, 'There are many ways skateboarding can help bring people closer to God'. He believes his skateboarding could help encourage more youngsters to go to church.

Father Lendavi learnt his skateboarding skills when he was a teenager, but it wasn't until he became a priest, he realised he could use his skills to help youngsters find God by spreading the word from his wheels.

He said he got the idea from Saint John Bosco, an Italian priest and educator in the 19th century who dedicated his life to improving the lives of youngsters and used games as part of their education.

And his skateboarding sermons seem to have paid off as three teenage boys who had never been to church have now started coming regularly after the priest shared some of his skateboarding skills with them.

(Daily Mail, 18th August 2010)

Question Matrix

Work with a partner and

- Use the chart below and create 3 questions about the news article you have read.
- Use the question matrix to design questions that go from easy to more difficult.
- Question one is worth 5 marks, question two 10 marks and question three 20 marks.

1	One question I have about the news article: 5 Mark Qt.
2	Another question I have about the news article: 10 Mark Qt
3	A final question I have is: 20 Mark Qt

Question Matrix

What is?	What did?	What can?	What would?	What will?	What might?
Where or when is?	Where or when did?	Where or when can?	Where or when would?	Where or when will?	Where or when might?
Which is?	Which did?	Which can?	Which would?	Which will?	Which might?
Who is?	Who did?	Who can?	Who would?	Who will?	Who might?
Why is?	Why did?	Why can?	Why would?	Why will?	Why might?
How is?	How did?	How can?	How would?	How will?	How might?

Remember to:

Ask yourself questions as you read and ask different types of questions.

Because:

When you ask yourself questions as you read and study it helps you get the meaning and understand the ideas in the text.

3.

Getting the Main Idea

What are the ways to find and remember the main points of a lesson or the main ideas when studying and learning from your textbooks?

CHATT Study Strategy

As you read a page or section of your textbook use CHATT to help you find and remember all the important pieces.

C = Circle

Circle Keywords.

H = Highlight

Highlight or underline main ideas.

A = Asterisk *

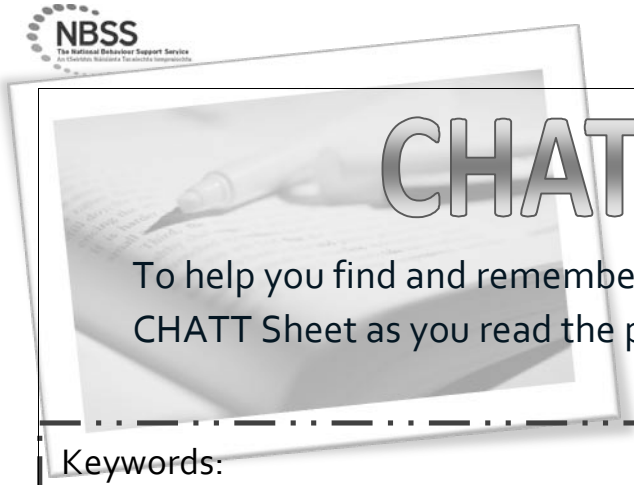
Put an asterisk* beside important supporting detail.

T = Transfer

Transfer or write the main ideas onto the CHATT sheet.

T = Tell

Tell and teach your summary.



CHATT Sheet

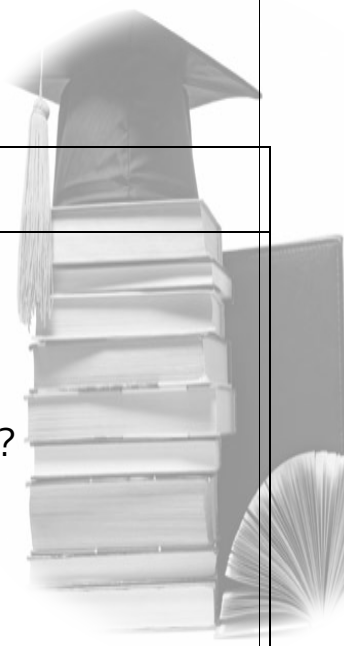
To help you find and remember the important information by filling in the CHATT Sheet as you read the paragraph or page in your textbook.

Keywords:	Definition in own words:
Words in pictures:	

Main Idea:	**Supporting Detail:**

Your Summary:

Get The Gist



Topic: Textbook Page:

1. Read the paragraph or page.

2. Can you answer the *Who*, *What*, *When*, *Where*, *Why* and *How* of topic from the paragraph or page you have read?

Who?

What?

When?

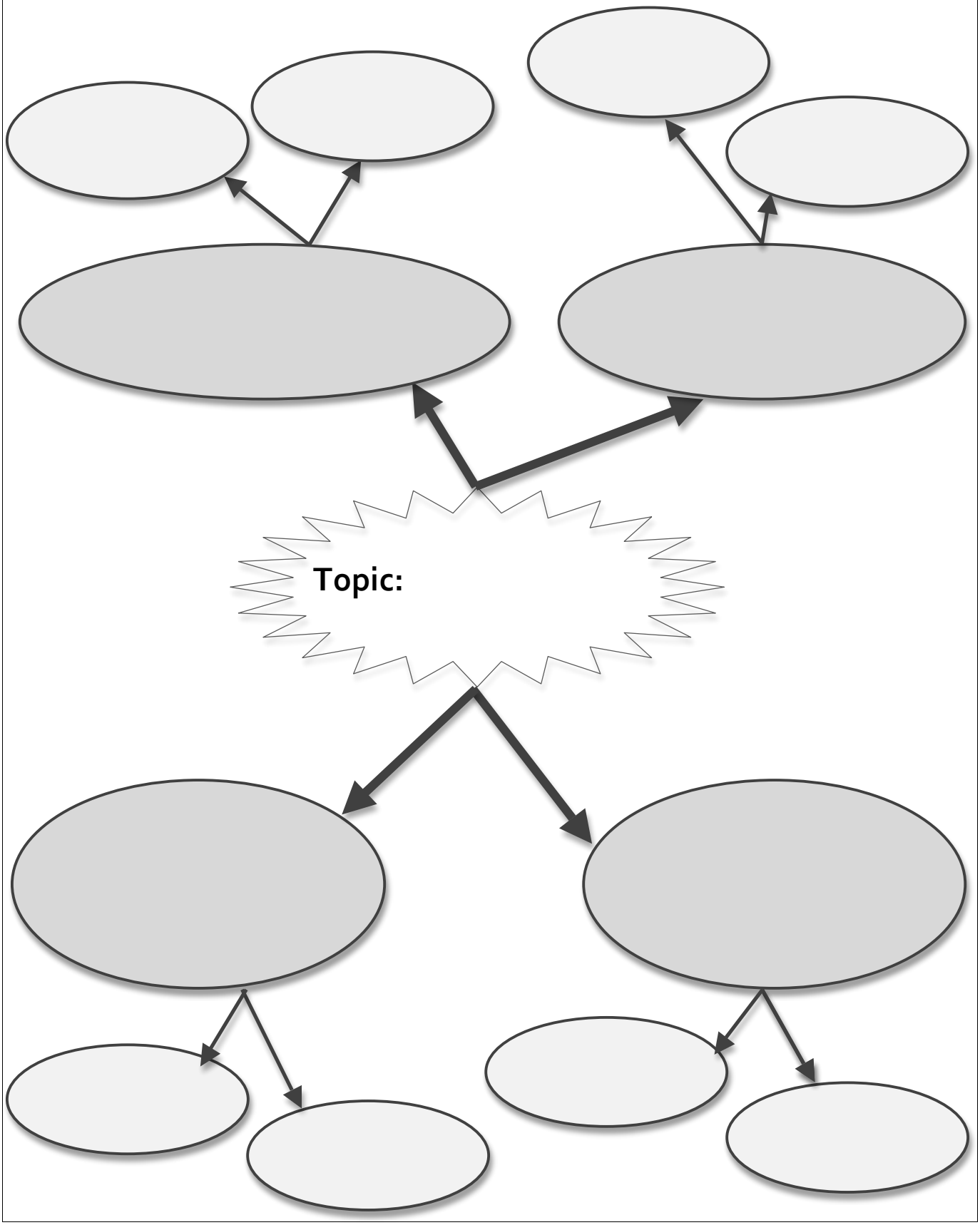
Where?

Why?

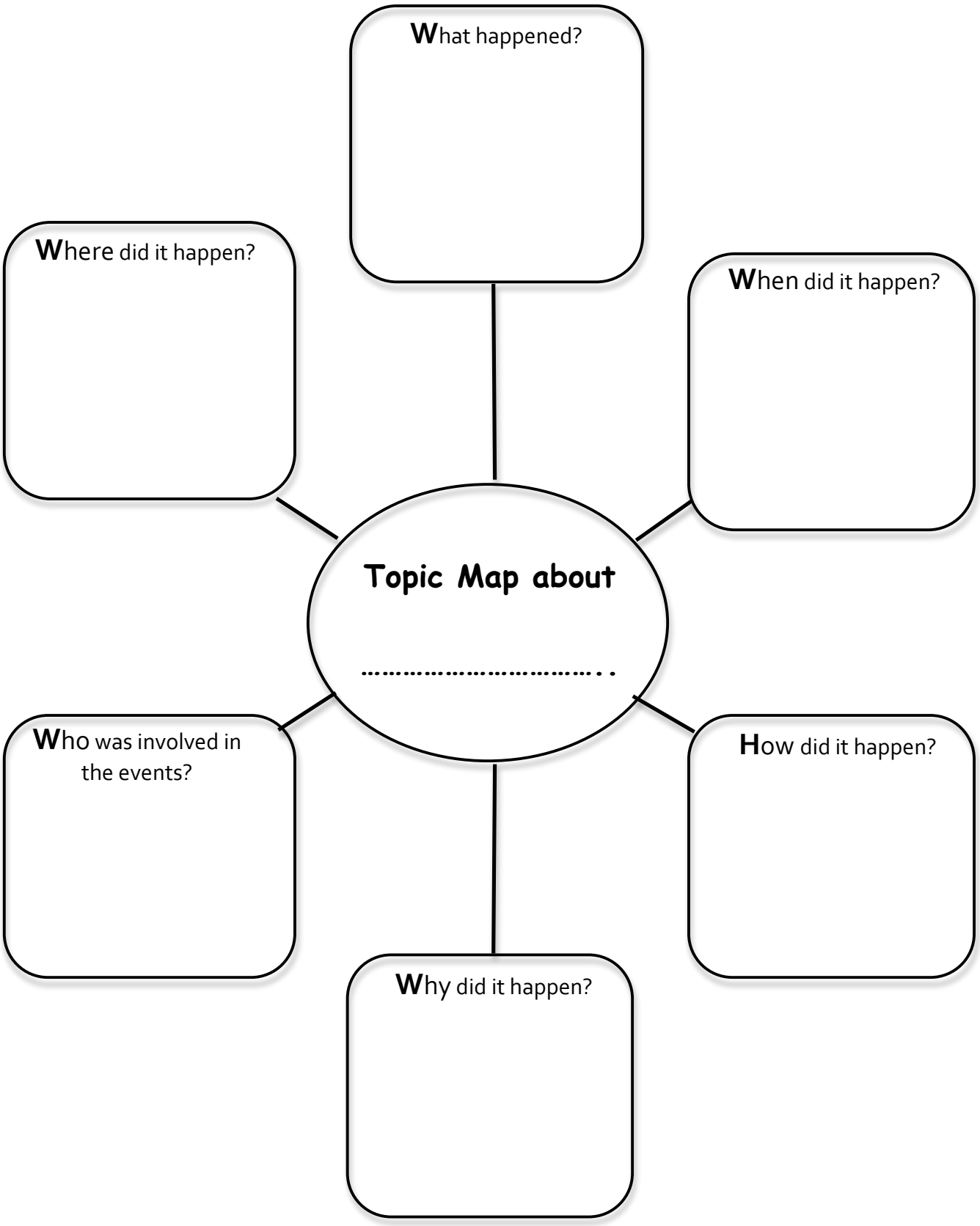
How?

4. Put It Together! - Tell the **main idea in 10 words** or less using the answers above.

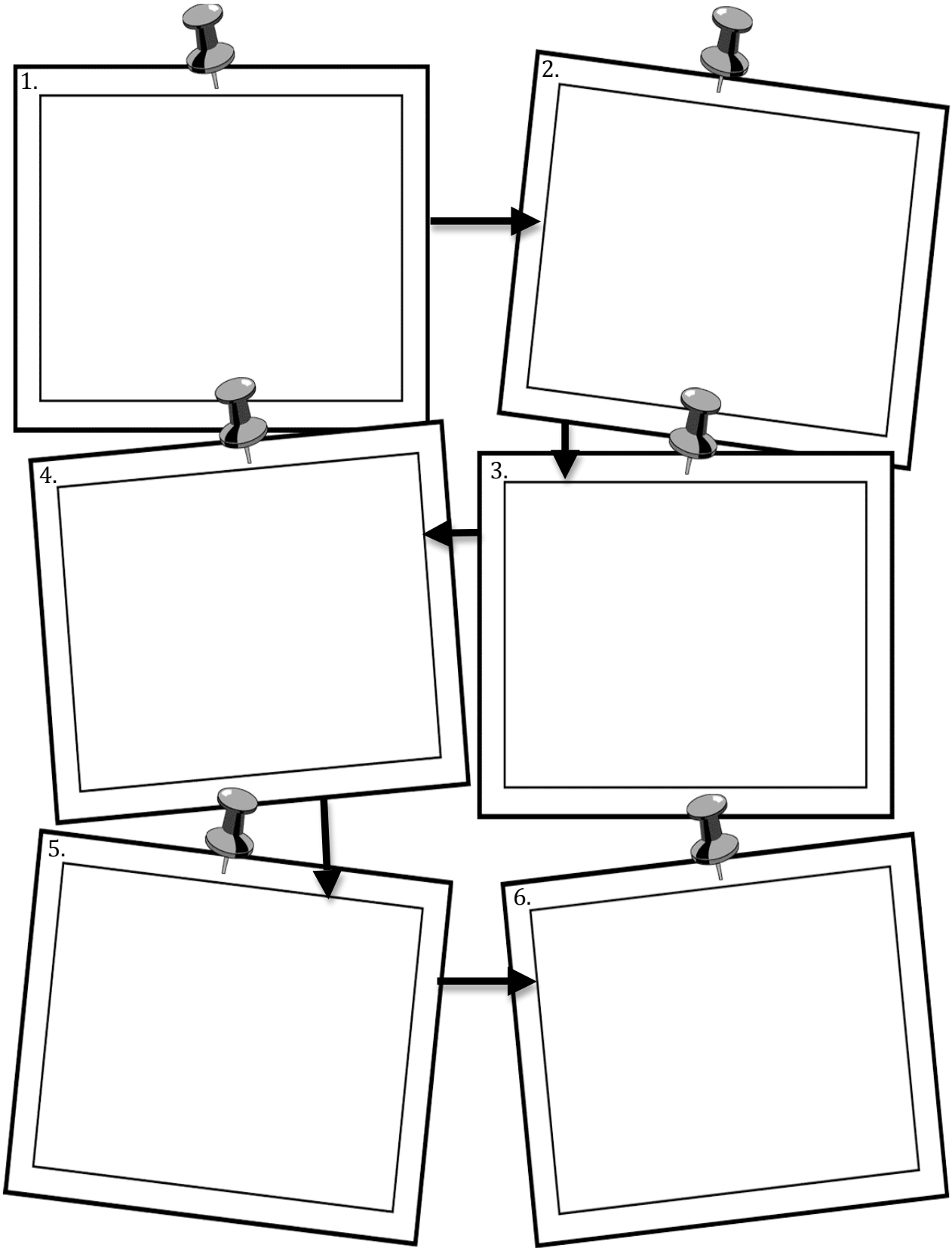
Mapping the Main Points



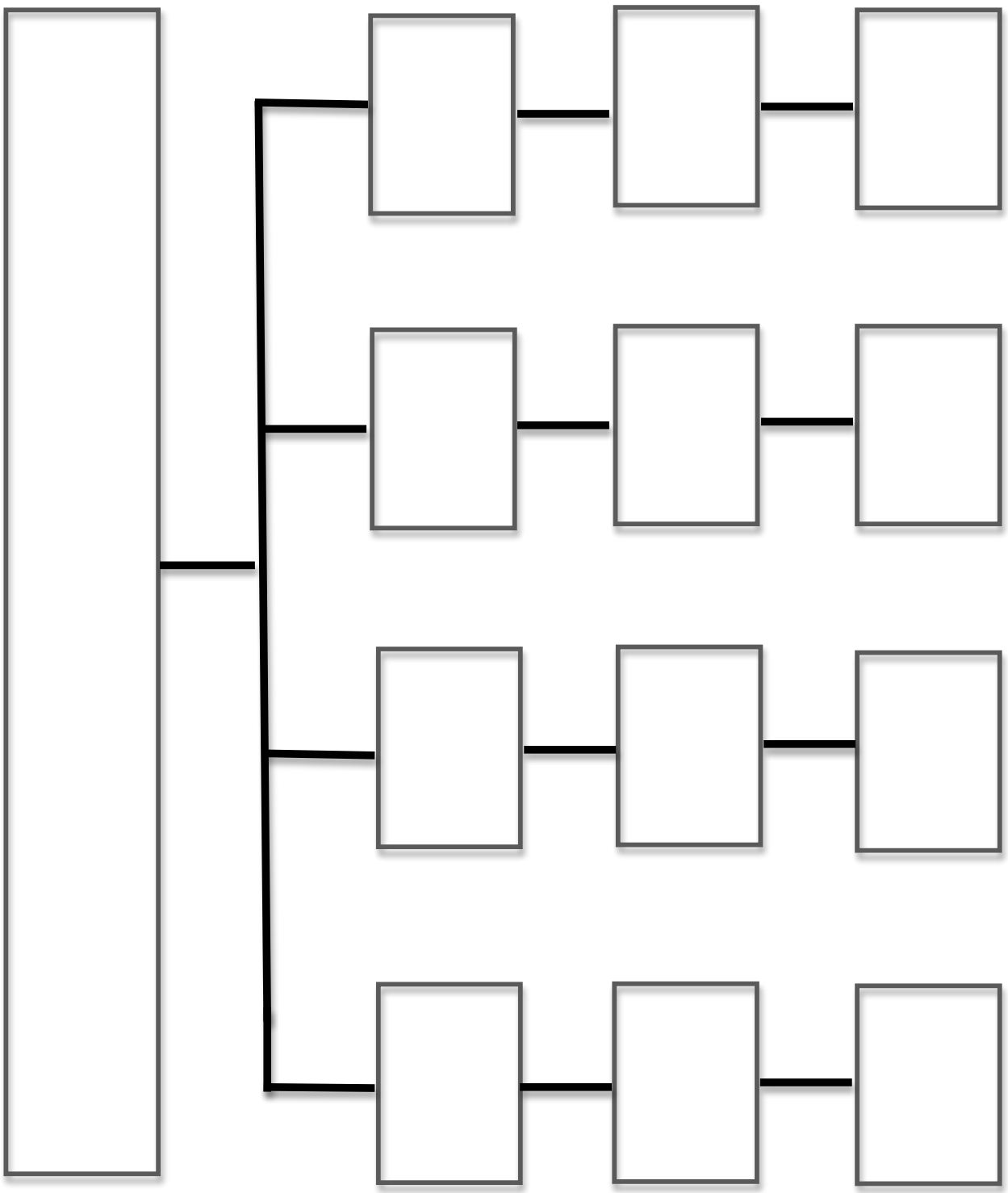
Main Ideas - 5Ws + 1H



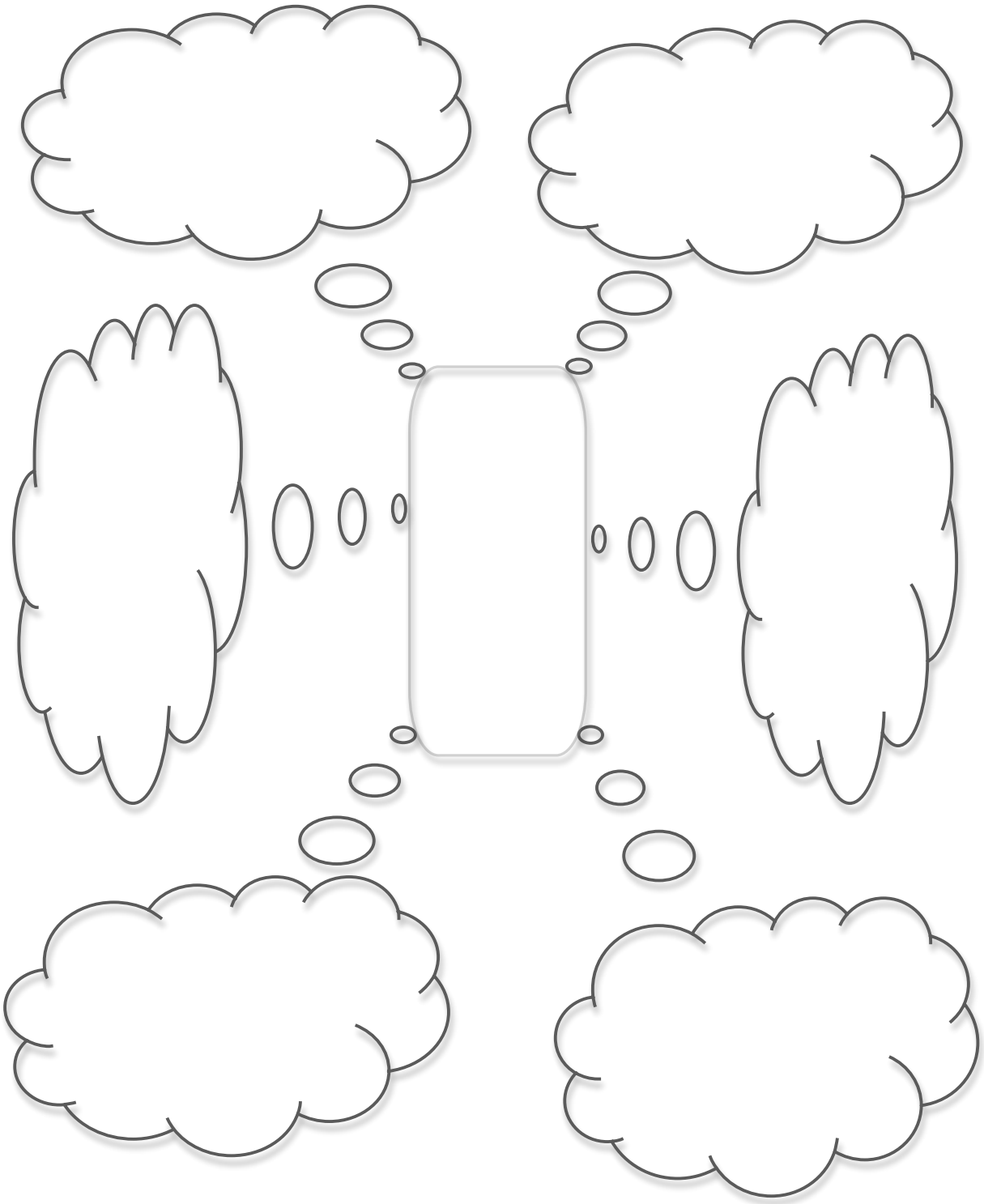
Sequence of Information



Tree Organiser



Brainstorm Map

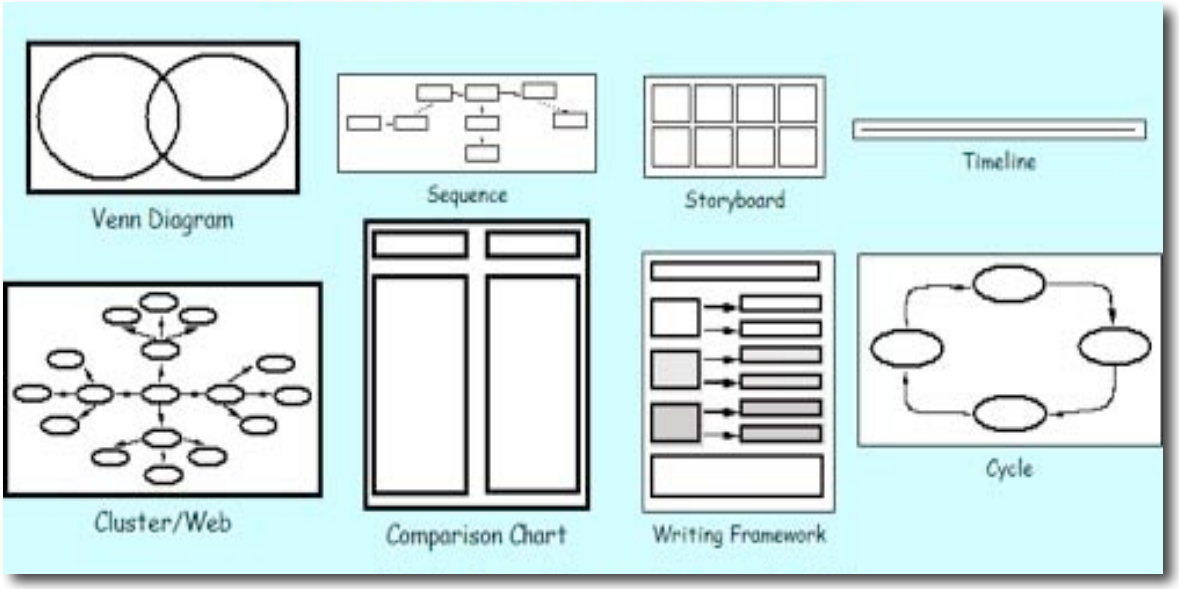


Remember to:

Use graphic organisers or thinking maps to help you find the main idea and supporting detail.

Because:

When you create visual maps of your learning it is easier to remember and recall information.



4.

Ways of Reading

We use different reading strategies when we are learning and studying. But what are the different ways to read to succeed?

Reading Strategy Match

- With a partner look at the reading strategies pictured on pages 29 - 37.
- Then match the reading strategy 1-9 to the explanations A- I on pages 38 – 46, by completing the table below.

Reading Strategy	**Explanation** (Write in the letter of the matching definition)
1. Predicting	
2. Skimming	
3. Scanning	
4. Close Reading	
5. Questioning	
6. Reading Backwards and Forwards	
7. Making Connections	
8. Visualising	
9. Inferring	

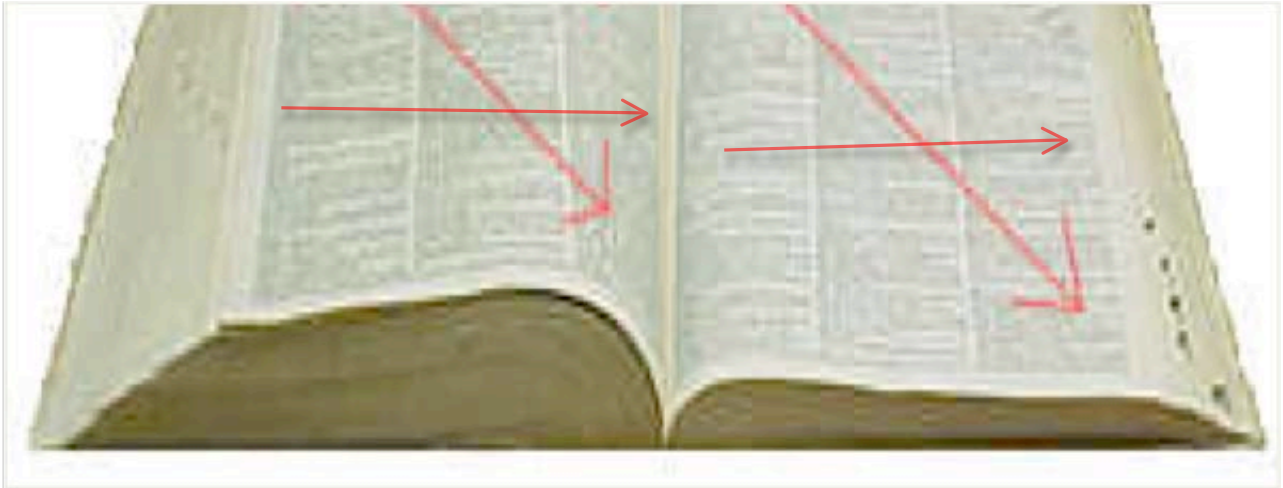
1.

Predicting

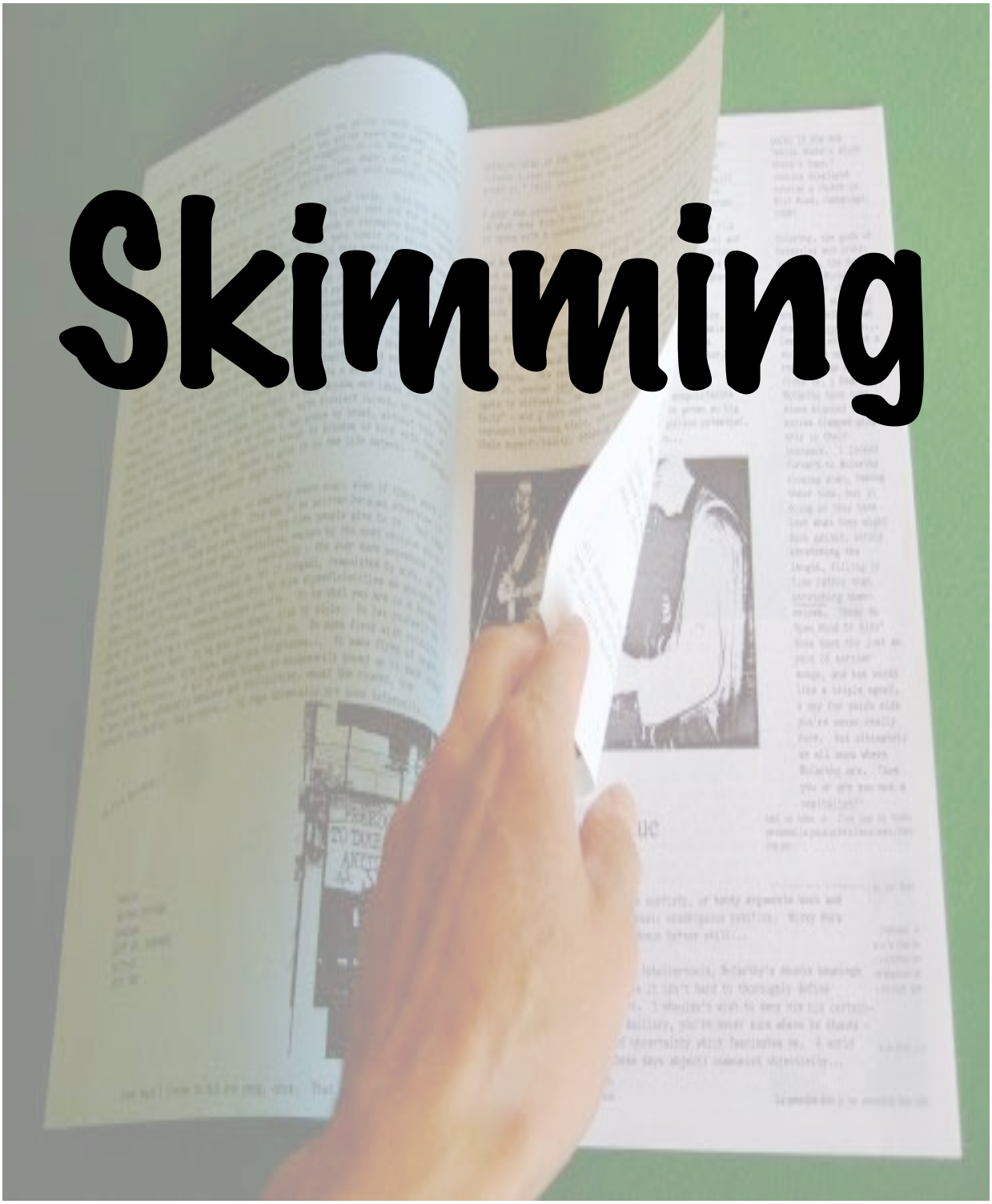
2.

Scanning

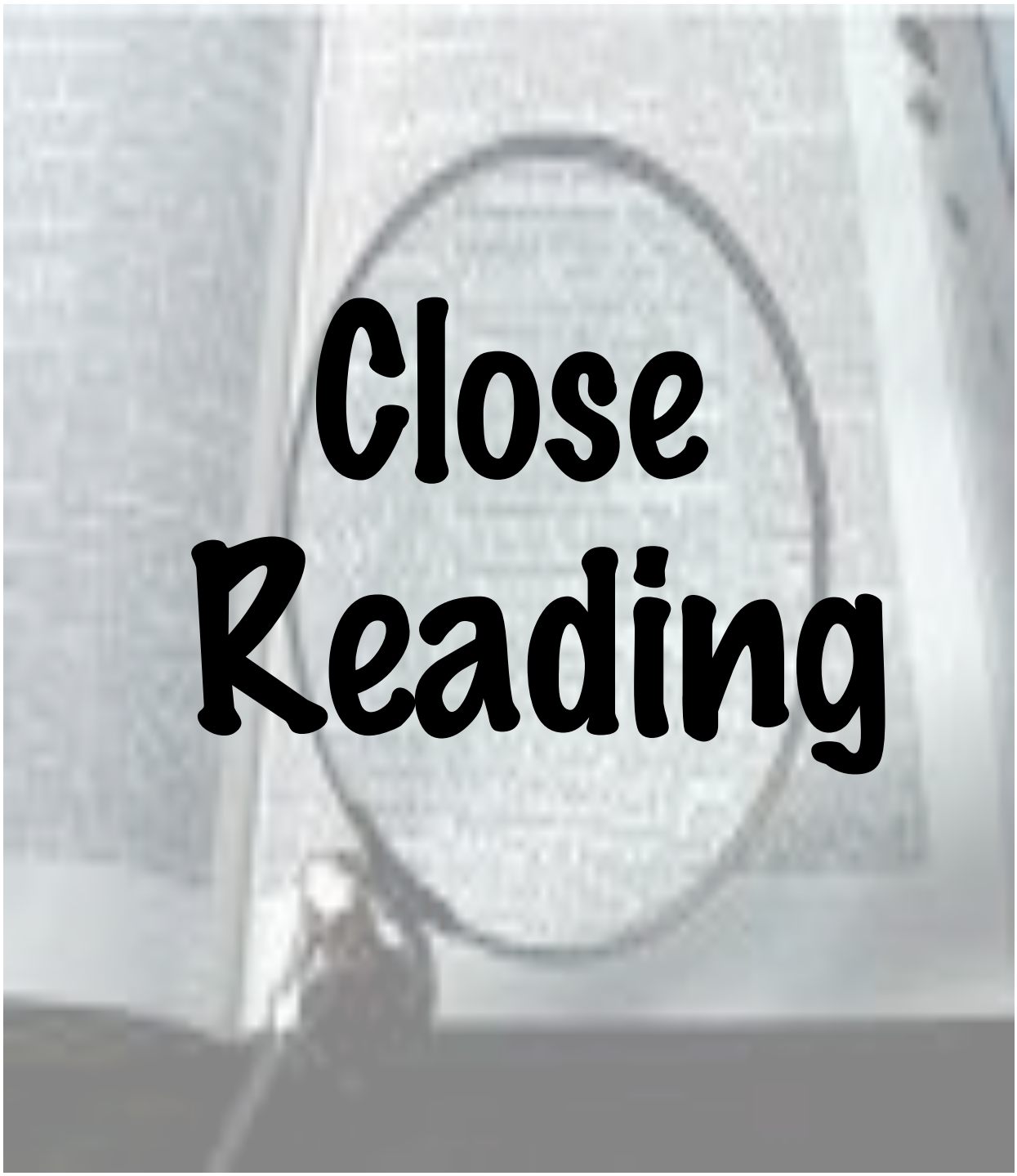
SCAN THE TEXT



3.



4.



5.

Questioning

6.

Reading backwards and forwards

7.

8.

9.

A.

You make informed guesses about the text. You use what you already know and clues from the text to make a judgement and predict what will happen next.

B.

You read quickly through the sentences getting the gist of what the text is about.

C.

Your eyes dart around a text searching for a specific word/phrase/number/ name, etc.

D.

You pay close attention to the meaning of each sentence.

E.

You read back in a text or read forward in order to make connections and check your understanding.

F.

When you have to read "between the lines" to find the meaning.

e.g. The famous actor was seen in a jewellery shop…
(Was he going to ask his girlfriend to marry him?!).

The boy's eyes filled with tears as he put down the phone.
(What do you infer from this?)

G.

You connect what you read to your own life and to what you already know. You use your prior knowledge to understand something new!

H.

You see a picture or movie in your mind to help gain a better impression or understanding of the text.

I.

You ask yourself questions as you read to help you get the meaning and understand the ideas in the text.

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