Concept Mapping

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Why Concept Mapping?

- Let us take one topic/concept of your choice
- Take 5 minutes and think of all the ideas that come to your mind
- Write it down/ Share through the chat window
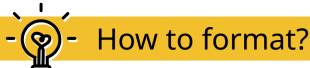
- **How can we organize these ideas meaningfully?**

Thinking

Concept mapping process can be used to build thinking skills - teachers and students can engage in individual and group thinking processes that include:

- Analytical thinking – breaking an idea into parts and seeing relationships
- Synthetical thinking – bring together (synthesize) ideas to understand or address an issue
- Creative thinking – making new connections between ideas
- Critical thinking – deep analyses of issues to identify causes of problem and arrive at possible solutions. Examine one's assumptions and logic for flaws.

How to create?

- Opening the Freeplane application (https://teacher-network.in/OER/index.php/Learn_Freeplane)
- Inserting nodes - child nodes (INSERT key) and sibling nodes (ENTER key)
- Typing text (concepts) in the nodes
- Connecting to external information sources by hyperlinking
- Embedding an image to a concept
- Adding notes to any node to give additional details
- Graphical linking of nodes (non hierarchical relationships)

How to format?

- Grouping nodes / categorizing
- Moving nodes for better clarity (CTRL - Arrow keys)
- Adding different icons to the node
- Colors, shapes, automatic layout
- Viewing the map (Zoom - Alt - Arrow)
- Save your concept map
- Exporting map as image, as text document, as pdf, html file

What to remember?

Focus on:
- Ideating – identifying ideas / concepts / sub concepts
- Categorizing – bringing ideas together in clusters for increased meaning making
- Ordering / sequencing ideas as required, and building hierarchies
- Elaborating – adding relevant information to each idea

Collaborative mapping

- Talk to friends on the topic for their ideas
- Search web for information
- Think of topic from different perspectives – sociological, economic, biological, physical, philosophical, geographic, historical, etc.
- Identify categories and then all sub nodes for a category
- Try to comprehensively identify sub nodes for each node

How it helps?

- Brainstorming on a topic in groups
- Listing concepts and sub concepts
- Making explicit, relationships between concepts
- Organize new concepts in relation to older concepts
- Presenting ideas graphically (arrange concepts from a text or lecture visually)
- Organize ideas in a logical and hierarchical manner
- Supports individual learning, collaboration, resource creation and assessment

Reflective practice

- Think about and review a class which you liked a lot and one which you were not at all happy with
- draw a concept map to document what happened, what you did, what others did, actions and responses, beliefs and behaviours, learnings, action possibilities
- Use all elements of analytical, synthetical, critical and creative thinking
- Reflective practice includes **elements from all forms of thinking**

THANK YOU

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