



HOW TO GUIDE

Brainstorming: Mind mapping

Why mind map?

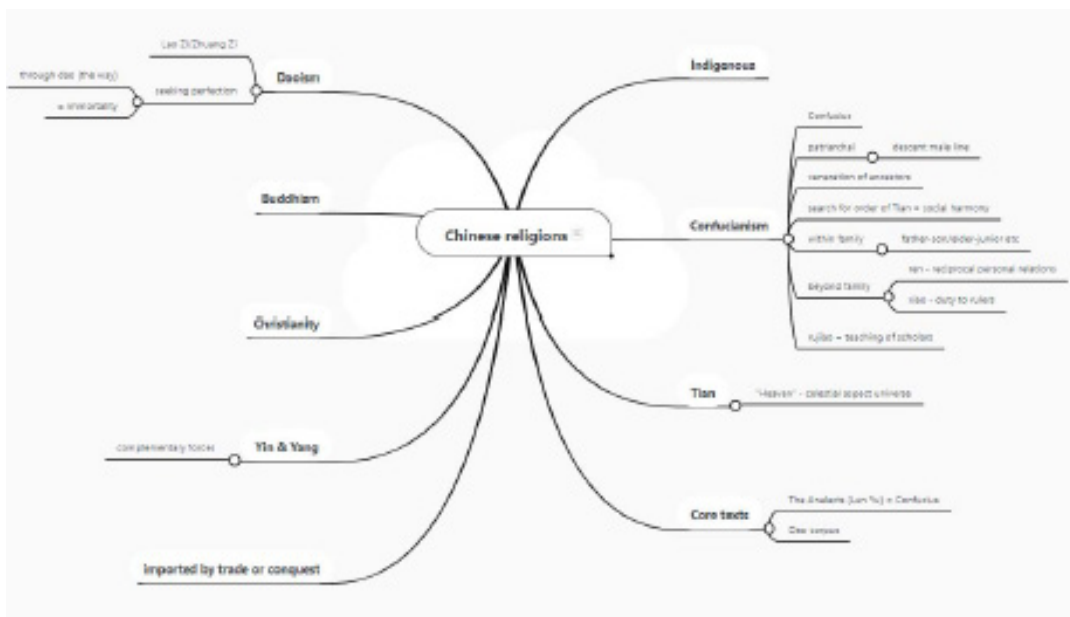
One effective form of brainstorming is mind mapping. A mind map is a visual representation of your ideas, consisting of words, images and colours, and can help you to:

- Focus on your research topic/question.
- Structure and plan your assignment.
- Combine one or more types of major thought relationships.
- Identify relationships between ideas/concepts.

Stage 1

You can create a mind map on paper, whiteboard or digitally, using visual mapping software such as **Freemind**. To begin:

- Write your topic in the centre of a blank page.
- Associate your ideas freely anywhere on the page and do not filter out ideas.





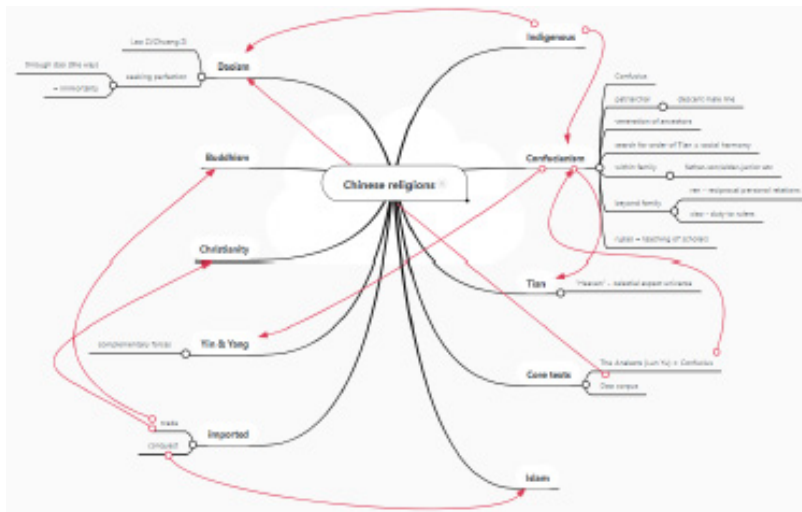
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Stage 2

When you have run out of ideas:

- Consider each item and determine how this point is related to other points and to your topic.
- Map relationships with lines, arrows, colours, images and bold type.



Stage 3

Use the relationships you have identified to reorganise your ideas.

