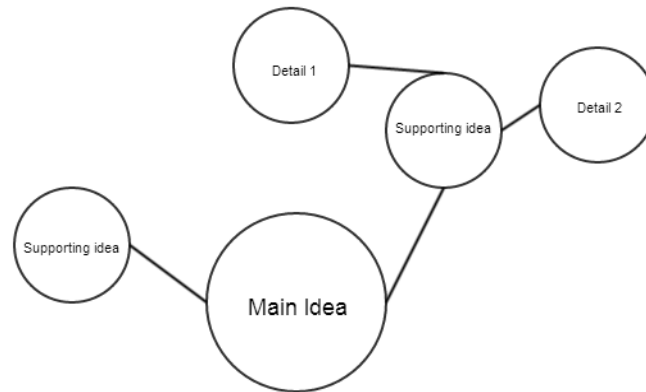


## BRAINSTORMING

**Definition:** Brainstorming is a pre-writing technique that helps gather ideas in order to better organize and speed up the writing process. There are many techniques that can be applied to brainstorming. This lesson covers the **Clustering** and the **Outlining**.

### Method 1: Clustering

Clustering consists of formulating an Idea Map helps organize ideas by visually connecting concepts to the central topic. The supporting ideas can also have connections to other ideas that are still relevant to the main idea.



Select a Main Idea to develop and find four supporting ideas, for those supporting ideas, find another set of supporting ideas for them. This process helps you see how everything can be related to your main idea by using key words or even phrases.

### Method 2: Outlining

Outlining consists of an Idea List, which is a simple bulleted list of all your concepts and your relationships. It is a basic Outlining method that consists of simply listing items in a hierarchy as follows.

- Main idea
  - Supporting idea 1
    - Detail 1
    - Detail 2
  - Supporting idea 2
    - Detail 1
    - Detail 2

Outlining is a quick way of writing out ideas and organizing topic sentences for individual paragraphs. This process is a more tame method of writing out relationships between concepts.