

# ESPeak Mapping: List, Group, Compare, and Share

The ESpeak condensed directions are designed to save time if you only need a refresher. If you have any doubts, consult the more detailed description.

Construct your map in the order described below:

## 1. Listing

- The first step is to create a list that will serve to start the concept map. It will have just enough terms/concepts to allow a prediction of which parts of the map are going to require the greatest amount of space and it will be composed mainly of headings if any are given in the material being mapped. If headings are not provided, then a scan for those concepts that are more general is needed.
- In summary, the list is the first set of decisions that need to be made. The decisions answer the question, "is this a major topic that groups other topics within it?" For simplicity at first, just use the major headings and section headings that are given in the notes. They might need to be paraphrased to fit into a bubble later, but this is not critical at first.

## 2. Grouping

- Now take the list and mark (highlight, underline, circle) the most general topics in the list. Next, identify and use a different marking for terms that belong under each of those headings. At the end, your overview list will now have topics visually identified as either general topics or subtopics.
- Now start your map at the top of the page by linking the general topics in your outline to the top bubble so that they branch and spread out below. This is now your overview map. It can be changed and reorganized later if you choose to, but this is a good starting point for now.
- In summary, the Grouping step starts the actual map with an overview that becomes the foundation for the final map. You can change anything you like as you learn the material. None of these is more correct than the other. Keep adding bubbles as you read and find concepts that belong in different categories. You will eventually have all of the facts and details in your map – but you won't have all the important relationships until the next step.

## 3. Comparing

- In this step you try to find connections between branches rather than straight down groupings. These links are more "side-ways" but they can also include local convergences. This lets you link together observations that might not get presented in lecture as a fact.
- You may have to draw long, winding, stretched-out links across your map.
- In summary, the Comparing step is like the Grouping step, except that you will now have to go back through the material to try and find concepts that are similar, different, or that show cause-and-effect. This is hard to put into a set of directions because the comparisons are not always there. But, it is important to always look for them.

#### 4. **Sharing**

- At a separate point in time, such as the weekend, go back and speak or say your map. Use it to make a lecture on the topic. Say it out loud. This is important to find misunderstandings that you can correct before the exam.
- In summary, start at the beginning with the top bubble and say the entire map out loud. No short-cuts! Looking at the map and recognizing it is not enough. If and when you reach a point that you cannot make sense of a link in your map, stop and go back and read what is necessary to correct it to make sense.