

Lesson 1.2: The Writing Process

Prewriting: Brainstorming and Clustering

Brainstorming is the process of freeing your mind to come up with ideas in response to a word. You can brainstorm alone, with a partner or in a group.

Tips for Brainstorming:

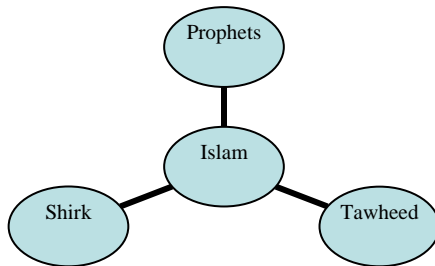
- ◆ Write a word or subject on a piece of paper.
- ◆ List every idea about the word or subject that comes to your mind.
- ◆ If you are brainstorming with a partner or a group, record all the ideas given.
- ◆ Do not stop to judge the ideas. You can go back to that later.
- ◆ Keep going until you have no more ideas.

Clustering is also called webbing or making connections. When you cluster, you use a series of circles and connecting lines. This process helps you break a large subject into smaller parts.

Tips for Clustering:

- ◆ Write your subject in the center of a piece of paper. Circle it.
- ◆ Around the subject write all the related ideas that occur to you. Circle the Ideas, and draw lines to connect them to the original subject.
- ◆ Let your mind wonder a bit. Add new ideas to the original subject and to its related ideas. Keep writing, circling, and connecting until your paper is filled.

Example 1: Clustering



Exercise 2: Using the techniques

With a partner use the subject from the example or other listed below. Work together to brainstorm a list of related ideas or subjects. Then, working alone, choose one of the ideas, and use it as a subject of a cluster. When your cluster diagram is finished, meet again with your partner to compare and contrast your clusters.

Other subject choices: dangerous jobs, natural disasters, Scholars, Ummah, righteous companions or Hijrah

2 points/rewards