

PREWRITING

There are several ways to boost your ideas when you want to write: Brainstorming, clustering, free writing, and keeping a journal.

I. BRAINSTORMING

Brainstorming is a process of listing any idea of one topic. The following is an example:

Topic: Superstitions

<i>Friday 13th</i>	<i>eat scrambled eggs for breakfast on</i>
<i>breaking mirror</i>	<i>day of a game</i>
<i>always wear pearl necklace</i>	<i>don't walk under ladder</i>
<i>look four-leaf clover</i>	<i>don't step on cracks</i>
<i>don't stay on 13th floor</i>	<i>wear green when I fly</i>
<i>in a hotel</i>	<i>use lucky shoelaces in tennis shoes</i>
<i>sit in center of room for tests</i>	<i>wear lucky T-shirt for games</i>
<i>switch watch to right wrist for test</i>	<i>never start a trip on Friday</i>

After listing some random ideas, the writer selects the idea which is related to one topic. In the other word, the ideas are classified.

Topic: Superstitions

SCHOOL:

always wear pearl necklace
sit in center of room for tests
switch watch to right wrist for test

TRAVEL:

never start a trip on Friday
don't stay on 13th floor in a hotel
wear green when I fly

SPORTS:

wear lucky T-shirt for games
use lucky shoelaces in tennis shoes
eat scrambled eggs for breakfast on day of game

Some ideas that can not be classified are deleted. From the classification, we can easily write a paragraph.

Example:

Superstitions affect several aspects of my life. First of all, I have a lot of superstitions about school, especially tests. For example, I always wear the pearl necklace that my grandmother gave me when I have to take a test. I think it brings me good luck. When I get to school, I always find a seat right in the middle of the room, sit down, and then switch my watch to my right wrist before the test begins. In addition, I am very superstitions about travelling. I will never start a trip on a Friday. When I have to stay in the hotel, I refuse to sleep in a room in the 13th floor. For me, it is unlucky number. On

the first day of the trip, I always wear something green. Finally, like many other athletes, I am very superstitious when it comes to my sport, tennis. When I dress for a match, I always the same white T-shirt with my initials on it. I also use shoelaces in my sneakers. On the day of the match, I always eat the same thing: eggs and a muffin. All in all, I am superstitious about many aspects of my life.

Now try with your own topic:

Step I:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Step II:

A: _____

A.1. _____

A.2. _____

B: _____

B.1 _____

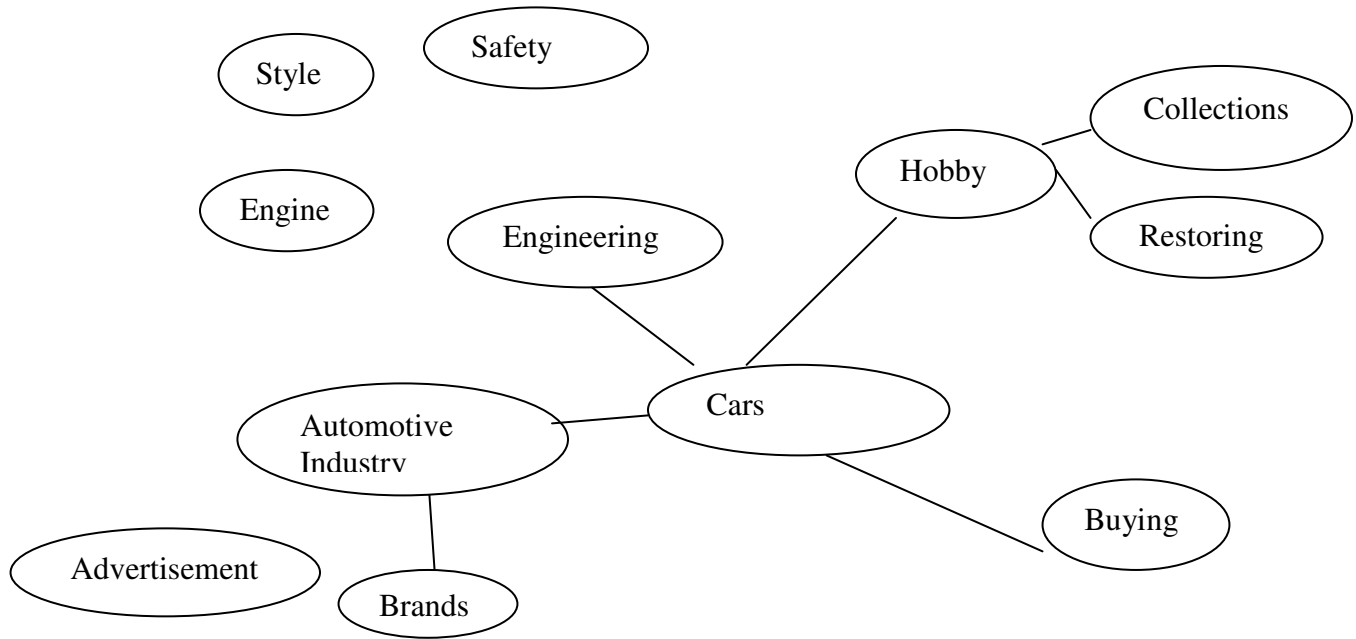
B.2. _____

B.3 _____

And so on

Step III: (Combine into one paragraph)

II. CLUSTERING



To cluster, follow these steps:

1. Write your topic in the center of a piece of paper and draw a circle around it.
2. Think about your topic and write any idea that come to mind in circles around the main circle.
3. Connect these ideas to the center circle with a line.
4. Think about each of your new ideas, write more related ideas in circle around them, and connect them to their corresponding ideas with a line.
5. Repeat the process until you run out of ideas.

The example above is called clustering. From the clustering, you can start writing (free writing). Now try to make a short writing based on your clustering with *Music* as the topic