

4. Add linking words to give meaning to the arrangement of concepts.

When adding the links, be sure that each proposition makes sense. To distinguish concepts from links, place your concepts in circles, ovals, or rectangles, as shown in the maps. Then make cross-links. Cross-links are made of propositions and lines connecting concepts across the map. Links that apply in only one direction are indicated with an arrowhead.

Map C is a finished map covering the main ideas listed in Step 1.

Making maps might seem difficult at first, but the process forces you to think about the meanings and relationships among the concepts. If you do not understand those relationships, you can get help early on.

Practice mapping by making concept maps about topics you know. For example, if you know a lot about a particular sport, such as basketball, or if you have a particular hobby, such as playing a musical instrument, you can use that topic to make a practice map. By perfecting your skills with information that you know very well, you will begin to feel more confident about making maps from the information in a chapter.

Remember, the time you devote to mapping will pay off when it is time to review for an exam.

Practice

1. Classify each of the following as either a concept or linking word(s).

a. classification _____

b. is classified as _____

c. forms _____

d. is described by _____

e. reaction _____

f. reacts with _____

g. metal _____

h. defines _____

2. Write three propositions from the information in **Map A**. _____

3. List two cross-links shown on **Map C**. _____

