Parameters of Mind Mapping

Tool Used: Canva Whiteboard

1. Central Idea (Core Parameter)

- The main subject, problem, or theme placed at the center of the map.

- Everything else branches out from this focal point.

- Should be clear, concise, and often represented with a keyword, symbol, or image.

2. Branches

- Radiate outward from the central idea.

- Represent the major categories, subtopics, or themes.

- Usually drawn as curved lines for better flow and creativity.

3. Keywords

- Each branch should be labeled with a keyword or short phrase, not long sentences.

- Keeps ideas simple and easy to recall.

- Keywords act as "triggers" for deeper thinking.

4. Hierarchy / Levels

- Mind maps use layers of information:

  - **First-level branches** = main categories.

  - **Second-level branches** = subtopics.

  - **Third-level branches** = supporting details.

- This reflects both the **structure** and **depth** of thinking.

5. Colors

- Different colors help separate ideas, highlight importance, and aid memory.

- Colors can indicate categories, priorities, or emotional associations.

6. Images & Symbols

- Visuals add meaning and improve recall.

- Icons, doodles, or images can quickly represent concepts better than words alone.

7. Connections

- Cross-links between branches show relationships across different categories.

- Makes the mind map more **nonlinear** and reflective of real-world connections.

8. Layout

- Radial (expanding outward from the center) is most common.

- Free-flow or structured layouts can be used depending on purpose.

- Spatial organization (size, proximity) can indicate importance or priority.

9. Clarity & Simplicity

- Keep branches uncluttered.

- Use single keywords, not full sentences.

- Maintain balance so no section overwhelms the rest.