An exploration map is a visual or conceptual tool used to organize and guide inquiry, especially when dealing with openended, complex, or unfamiliar subjects. It's commonly used in problem-solving, learning, research, or creative thinking.

Theme CIFRZ level Date Version

Central Exploration Question Known Information Open Questions / Uncertainties What are you trying to understand, solve, or explore? What do I not yet understand? What do I already know about this? Paths to Explore **Tensions or Contradictions Idea Clusters** Ideas or notes that clash or challenge each other. Promising directions or next steps. Group related thoughts, Zettel, quotes, or sources. **Next Action Links to Other Maps or Areas** What other problems or maps connect here? How will I continue exploring?





Theme CIFRZ level Date Version

An exploration map is a visual or conceptual tool used to organize and guide inquiry, especially when dealing with openended, complex, or unfamiliar subjects. It's commonly used in problem-solving, learning, research, or creative thinking.



What are you trying to understand, solve, or explore?

What kind of notes
should I start with in
my Zettelkasten ?

Known Information

What do I already know about this?



Open Questions / Uncertainties

What do I not yet understand?



Idea Clusters

Group related thoughts, Zettel, quotes, or sources.



Paths to Explore

Promising directions or next steps.



Tensions or Contradictions

Ideas or notes that clash or challenge each other.



Links to Other Maps or Areas

What other problems or maps connect here?



Next Action

How will I continue exploring?







Zettelkasten

CIFRZ level

A1

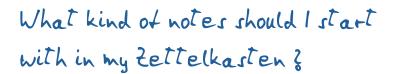
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Version 01

ended, complex, or unfamiliar subjects, It's commonly used in problem-solving, learning, research, or creative thinking

Central Exploration Question

What are you trying to understand, solve, or explore?



Known Information

What do I already know about this?



- · Lettelkasten is supposed to help connect ideas over time.
- · Some people say start with literature notes, others with permanent notes.
- · I'm using Obsidian as my tool.

Open Questions / Uncertainties

What do I not yet understand?



- · Do I need to write in full sentences ?
- · What's the difference between fleeting, literature, and sermanent notes?
- · Should I create structure notes right from the beginning &

Idea Clusters

Group related thoughts, Zettel, quotes, or sources.

Cluster A: Types of Notes

- → Fleeting notes = quick thoughts
- -> Literature notes = highlights + ideas from reading
- -> Permanent notes = connected and rewritten insights

Cluster B: Note Quality

- -> Atomic
- -> Clear
- -> Connected
- -> Context-independent?

Paths to Explore

Promising directions or next steps.



- · Try writing 3 types of notes from the same source.
- · Watch a tutorial comparing note types.
- · Test if my notes still make sense after 3 days.
- · Review other A1 beginner questions in forums.

Tensions or Contradictions

Ideas or notes that clash or challenge each other.



- · Some say to take lots of fleeting notes, others say to ignore them
- · I feel pressure to write 'perfect' notes, but I also read they should be quick and rough.
- · Structure notes sound helpful, but also too advanced for now.

Links to Other Maps or Areas

What other problems or maps connect here?

- · Related to 'My Zettelkasten Setup Questions" map.
- · Could connect to a later question: 'When do I start linking ?'
- · See notes from book How to Take Smart Notes (20021-20030).

Next Action

How will I continue exploring?



· Reflect in 3 days: Which one was still useful }

Q::

- · Sketch a personal workflow draft for how I want to take notes.
- · Ask for feedback on my first permanent note in a forum.







ended, complex, or unfamiliar subjects, It's commonly used in problem-solving, learning, research, or creative thinking

Zettelkasten

CIFRZ level

B1

21.07.25

Version

01

Central Exploration Question

What are you trying to understand, solve, or explore?

If I have two different points of interest, do I create one Lettelkasten or two separate ones?



Known Information

What do I already know about this?

- · Lettelkasten works best when notes can link and build on each other.
- · Topics can cross-pollinate unexpectedly over time.
- · I already use tags or folders to distinguish areas.
- · I've seen others use one vault or notebook with multiple themes.



Open Questions / Uncertainties

What do I not yet understand?



- · Will separate Lettelkästen grow too isolated to support serendipity?
- · Could one unified system become too chaotic or noisy?
- · How different do topics have to be to justify separation ?
- · What happens when I change or drop an interest?

Idea Clusters

Group related thoughts, Zettel, quotes, or sources.



- -> Promotes unexpected connections
- -> One consistent workflow and tool
- -> Less maintenance, no duplication
- -> Supports long-term 'personal knowledge graph'

Cluster B: Benefits of Two

- -> Easier to navigate domain-specific workflows

- -> Cleaner mental and digital space
- -> Can tailor templates, tags, or review practices
- -> Useful if topics never meaningfully intersect



Paths to Explore

Promising directions or next steps.



Tensions or Contradictions

Ideas or notes that clash or challenge each other.



- · Ask: Do I ever write ideas that connect both topics?
- · Identify what 'connection potential' looks like.
- · Try a trial period with a single vault and mark topic
- · Write two notes—one in each topic—and attempt a
- · Review others' experience in Zettelkasten forums or blogs.

- · Want coherence, but also clarity.
- · Fear of messiness us. risk of silos.
- · Current thinking = separated; tuture discovery = integrated}
- · Multiple identities (e.g., personal vs. academic voice).

Links to Other Maps or Areas

What other problems or maps connect here?



- · When do topic boundaries help or hinder ?"
- · Notes on Luhmann's dual Zettelkasten system.
- · Project on cognitive Hexibility vs. information architecture



Next Action



- · Tag current notes by theme and inspect overlap.
- · Review 30 notes: Are there cross-links between topics }
- · Create a temporary merged structure note testing overlap.
- · Decide on boundary rule: topic-based & purpose-based &



