



# NOTE MAKING/ MIND MAPPING/ IDENTIFYING THE TOPIC SENTENCE

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# Objective

- Students will learn to use it primarily for academic purposes
- Will be useful in day-to-day life
- Can effectively use in professional situations

# Introduction

- Socrates western thoughts have not survived during his life time
- Only Plato and Xenophon, the students' notes made him popular
- Breakdown information into smaller units
- Easy to recollect and to revise the important details
- Organise information/ identify connection better
- Listening not gets distracted
- Encouragement to the speaker
- Writing better than reading and mere listening

# In Research and Evaluation

- Can help to evaluate information critically
- Making notes avoid Plagiarism
- Easy to cite the details
- One can easily train to identify the main points rather than all details

# Strategies for Effective Note Making/ taking

- Recognise the main points: can discard superfluous information - preserve the potentially useful / relevant points
- Organise the points: Original order will be the best order to learn - similarly to structure it also
- Make comments and observations: room to incorporate own comments
- Abbreviations and symbols: Shorthand was replaced by portable digital voice recorders
- Diagrams and Mind Maps: picture or diagram to recall by using arrows to point relationships between ideas.

# Linear / Diagrammatic methods

- Linear Method: organised in the order of importance using indentation, listing numbering and lettering
- Arabic Numerals: 1,2,3,4,5, etc.
- Decimal System: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4,
- Upper-case Roman Numerals: I, II, III, IV etc.
- Lower- case Roman Numerals: i, ii, iii, iv etc.
- Upper-case Letters: A,B,C, D etc,
- Lower- case Letters: a,b,c,d, etc

# Structure of Notes:

- I.
    - 
    - 
    - a.
    - b.
    - c.
  - II a.
    - i.
    - ii.
- 1.
    - 1.1
  - A.
  - B.

# Diagrammatic Method

- Mind maps
- Tree Diagrams
- Spider grams
- Flow charts

## Galaxies: Giants in Space

On a clear night, away from city lights, you can see our galaxy, the Milky Way, stretched across the sky as a faint band of hazy light. It is more than a hundred thousand light years across in length and contains a hundred billion stars, some of them as old as the universe itself. Although these are staggering numbers, the Milky Way is only one of about a hundred billion galaxies in the observable space of our universe!

Galaxies are one of the most fascinating objects in the universe and there is little else to rival them in size. The largest of them can be millions of light years across and may contain up to a hundred trillion stars. Their variety in terms of size, shape and activity is astonishing. They range from comparatively small dwarf galaxies to giant spiral ellipses, bar galaxies and shapeless irregular galaxies. The Milky Way is a spiral-bar galaxy. Some galaxies actively produce stars while others display a very low level of star birth. Most of the activity in a galaxy happens at the centre or nucleus. Astronomers speculate that there might be extremely massive black holes at the centre of most galaxies, including our own.

Almost all galaxies were formed soon after the universe began and they are distributed all across space. Galaxies have been found even at the edge of the universe, up to the farthest limits observable by our telescopes. Galactic clusters are groups of galaxies found together. These clusters themselves are grouped into larger clusters called 'superclusters' which can span across hundreds of millions of light years. The massive structure of galaxies and galactic clusters with their billions of stars owe their existence to gravity. Although it is the weakest of the fundamental forces in nature, gravity exerts its influence over millions of light years to hold the stars and galaxies together. The exact nature of gravity is one of the biggest mysteries in science.

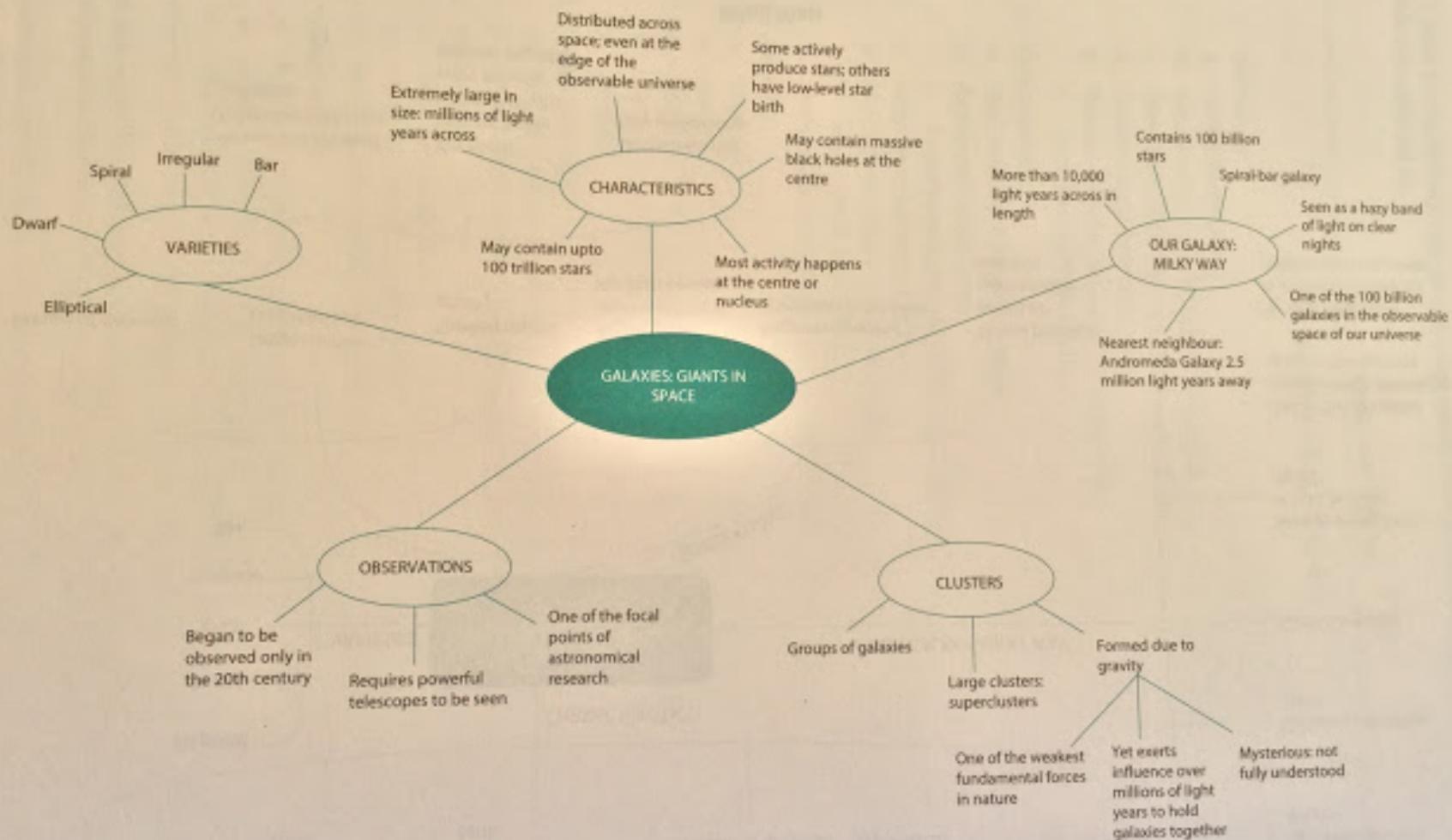
Despite their enormous size, it was not until the early 20th century that scientists began to recognise the existence of galaxies. There is a good reason for that: the galaxy nearest to our own (the Andromeda Galaxy) is two and a half million light years away. At such distances, it is difficult to distinguish them from stars without the help of powerful telescopes. Now, with the aid of technology, they have become one of the focal points of research in astronomy.

## Galaxies: Giants in Space

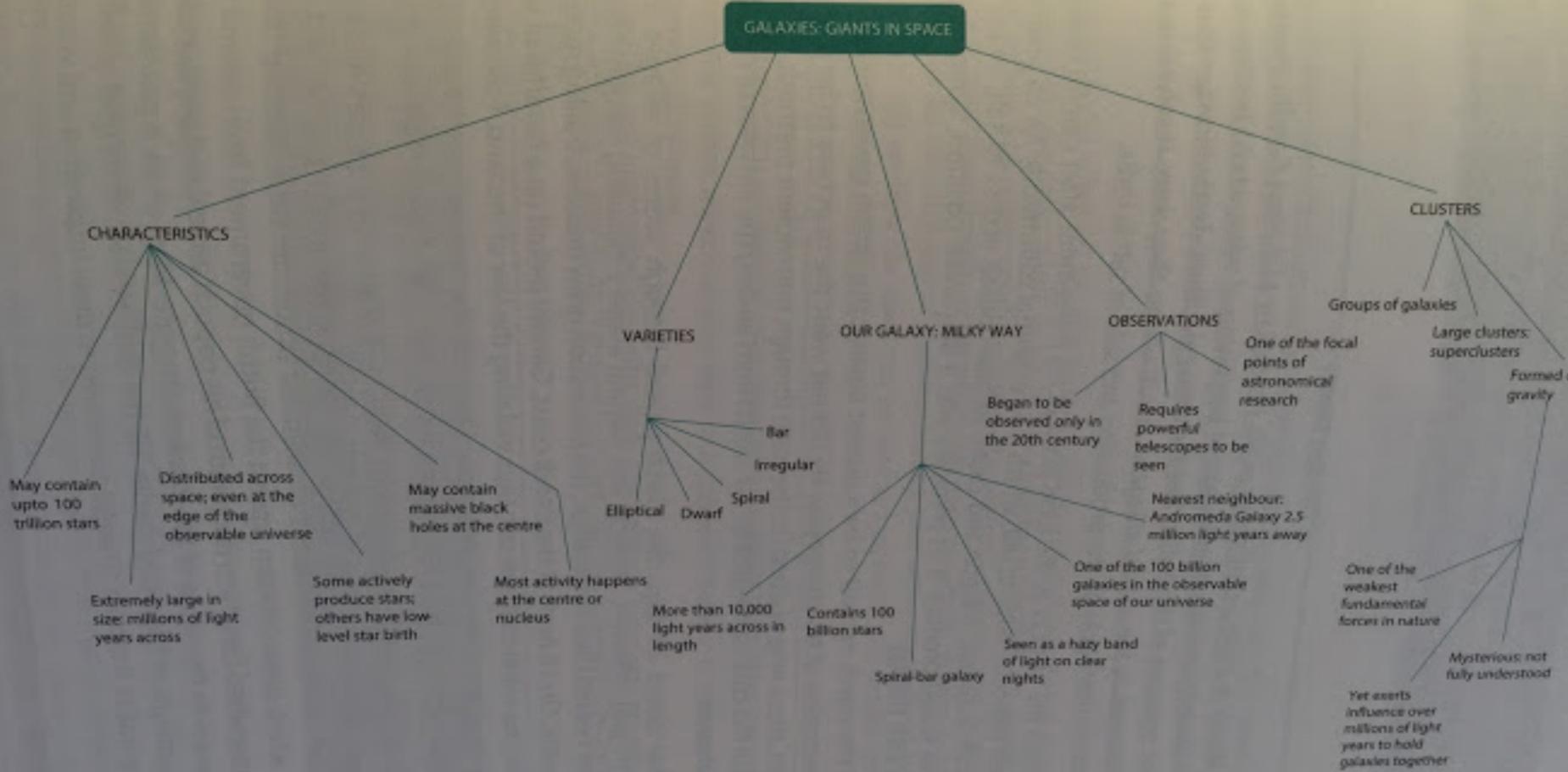
1. Our Galaxy
  - a. Called the Milky Way
  - b. Seen as a hazy band of light on clear nights
  - c. More than 100000 light years across in length
  - d. Contains a hundred billion stars
  - e. Nearest neighbouring galaxy = Andromeda
    - i. 2.5 million light years away
2. Characteristics
  - a. More than 100 billion in number
  - b. Distributed across space
    - i. Found even at the edge of the observable universe
  - c. Most are as old as the universe
  - d. Most active region = center or nucleus
    - i. May contain a black hole
  - e. Could display low or high star-forming activity
3. Varieties
  - a. Elliptical
  - b. Dwarf
  - c. Spiral
  - d. Bar
  - e. Irregular
4. Larger Structures
  - a. Clusters: Groups of galaxies held together by gravity
  - b. Superclusters: Groups comprising many clusters of galaxies
5. Gravity
  - a. Weakest natural force
  - b. Mysterious; not fully understood
  - c. Holds galaxies and clusters together
6. Observations
  - a. Began to be observed only in the 20th century
  - b. Requires powerful telescopes to be seen
  - c. Observing galaxies – focal point of astronomical research

# Mind Mapping

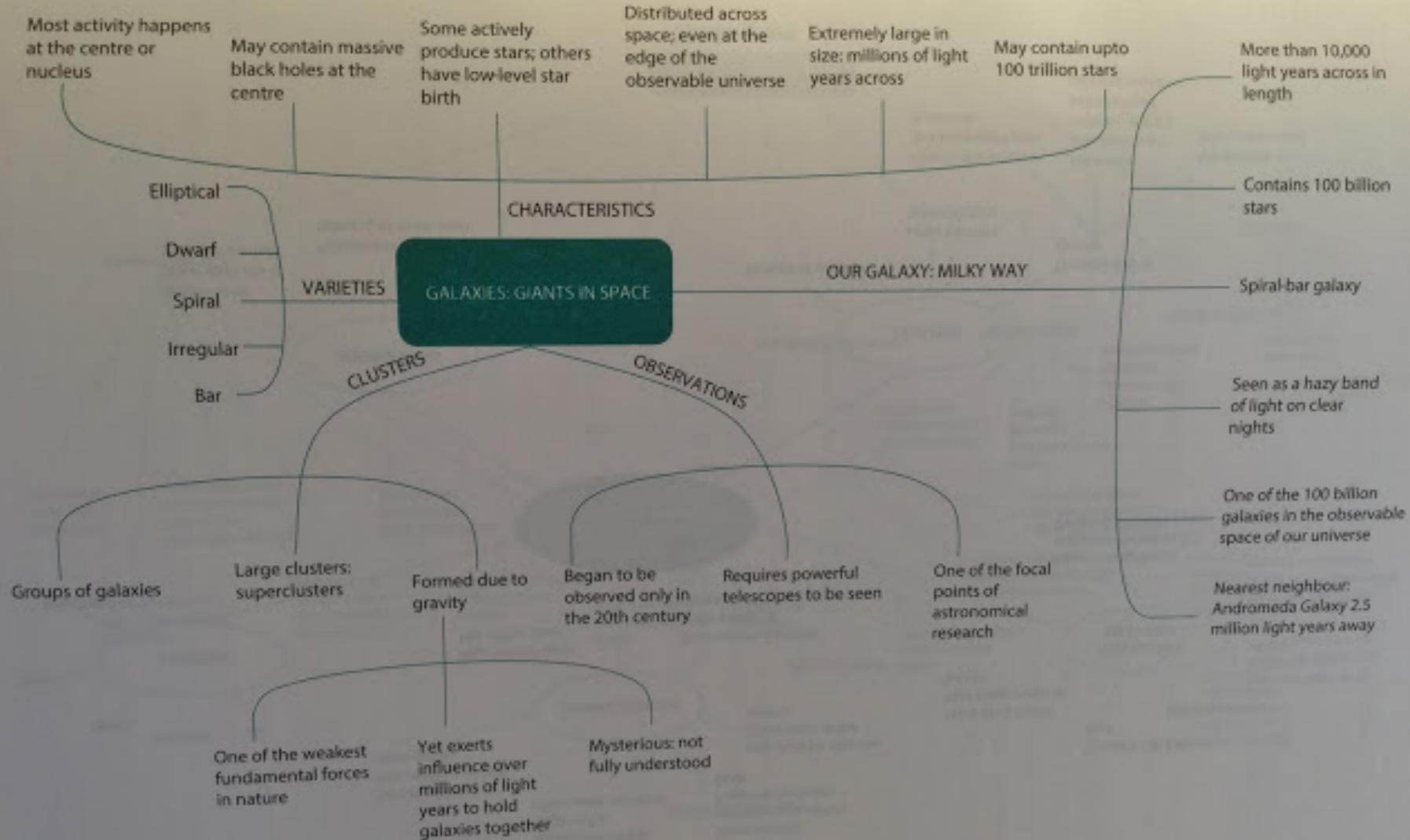
- Pictorial Representation of information
- Help us understand the relationship between different factors
- Make easier to remember, for exams and presentations



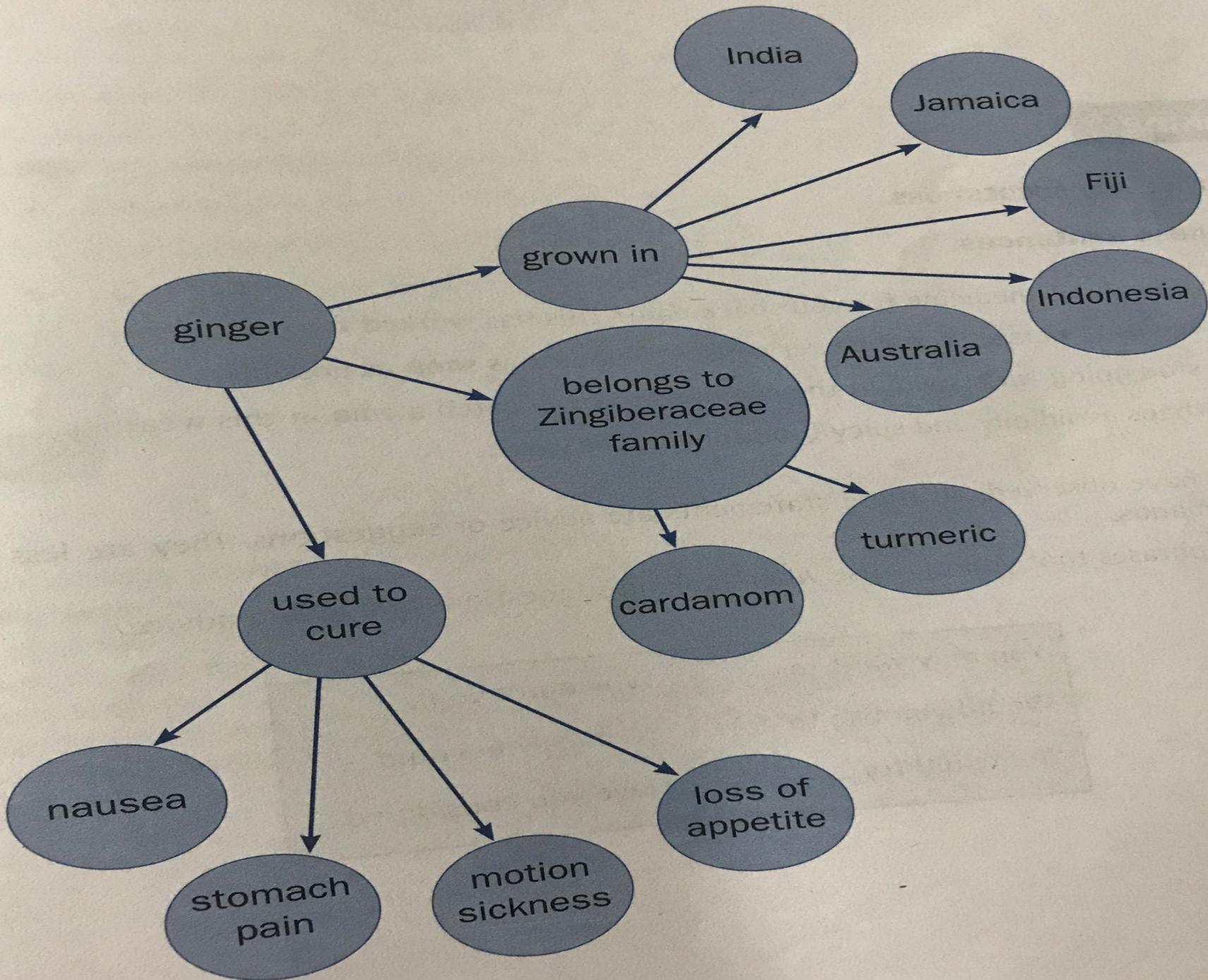
**Spidergram**



**Tree Diagram**



Mind Map



# Identifying the Topic sentences

- Main Idea or Theme of the Paragraph in one sentence
- Idea to be developed, support, exemplify, and explain the central theme
- Either at the beginning or at the end depending on the logical organisation of the paragraph
- Sometimes it is included in the details not as a sentence

# Structural Topic Sentences

- Structural Topic Sentence:
- It describes the shape of the argument
- Called as introducer or the signpost to the central idea of the paragraph.
- Examples:

**Structural topic sentences** Structural topic sentences can look like the following openings:

1. There are three main reasons for the high inflation rate in Indian economy at present.
2. Positive thinking has several benefits.
3. Meditation, which is an intensely personal and spiritual experience, leads to three major important results.
4. There are various causes for underemployment in urban areas.
5. Distance education in the past one decade has had the following results.

# Interpretive Topic Sentences

- Interpretive Topic Sentences offer the conclusion or reaction or feeling, and acquaints the reader to the author's perspective to the issue.

1. You can use descriptive words such as **high, low, widespread, limited, half**, etc.
2. You can interpret/conclude using words such as **suitable, beneficial, unsuccessful, serious**, etc.
3. You can even give your opinion, for example, **shocking or disturbing**, if you want your reader to share your perspective on the issue.

Some examples:

1. Many communicable **diseases of man are known to be** caused by micro-organisms. Some of these micro-organisms are...
2. In education, **girl children drop out earlier than boys**. Girls' enrolment is just 61 per cent, compared to...
3. A recently released report by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) shows a **nation-wide decline** in school dropout rates. In Maharashtra too, the number of students...
4. **Almost 49 per cent of the children** fail to complete primary level education. In a recent study in 11 districts of Rajasthan, it was found that...
5. Access to basic services is **extremely limited**. It was found that ...

# Exercise: Make notes to the Following passage

Task 1

Read the following article and prepare a detailed linear note on it, as well as one of the various visual representations (mind map, spidergram, and tree diagram) that have been discussed previously.

## The Salt March

On the 12th of March in 1930, a contingent of 80, headed by Mahatma Gandhi marched out of the ashram at Sabarmati in Gujarat, marking the beginning of what would become one of the most spectacular episodes of the Indian freedom struggle. Their destination lay four hundred kilometres southwards at the coastal village of Dandi where they were resolved to break the British government's monopoly on the production and sale of salt in India.

Gandhi had chosen the Salt Tax as the focal point of his movement after careful consideration. He attached great symbolic value to salt, which is an essential commodity for all people, cutting across divisions of language, religion and caste. To monopolise access to salt, to tax it and to brand those who would produce it as criminals was a draconian position, symptomatic of all that was wrong with the Raj.

Gandhi wanted the march not just to be a protest against the British government; he wanted it to be a demonstration of his philosophy. He did not want the marchers to be protesters but rather *satyagrahis*, those who yearned for the truth through non-violent methods. To emphasise this, Gandhi chose the core contingent of the march from among the inmates of his ashram and not from political ranks.

On a journey that lasted 23 days, the march passed through scores of villages and towns gathering support and followers. Political and cultural leaders including Sarojini Naidu joined the march. As they neared their destination, the procession grew massive, trailing more than two miles behind Gandhi. On 16 April, at the Dandi coast, Gandhi picked up a handful of salty earth, which he boiled in sea water to make salt; thus violating the law of the land. Following Gandhi's example, thousands all over the country marched towards the seacoast nearest to them to make salt. The enthusiastic agitators took the movement farther, boycotting British-made salt.

The fallout of the salt march was phenomenal. The subcontinent as a whole emulated Gandhi by making, selling and buying illegal salt. The British government tried to put down the movement with an iron fist. Thousands of unarmed protestors were clubbed down by the police: an action which drew criticism against the British government from around the world. The movement catapulted Gandhi to the zenith of his popular appeal and political clout. It also won a lot of followers to the cause of the freedom struggle. Most of all, it put Gandhi and his methods in the spotlight of the world media. Till the achievement of its goal seventeen years hence, in 1947, the Indian freedom struggle continued to draw inspiration and vigour from the Salt March.

# Thank You