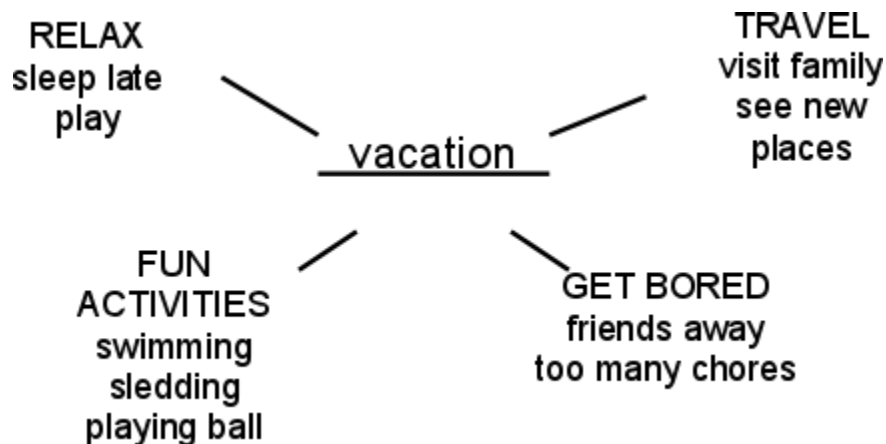


Teaching Writing → Using Graphic Organizers

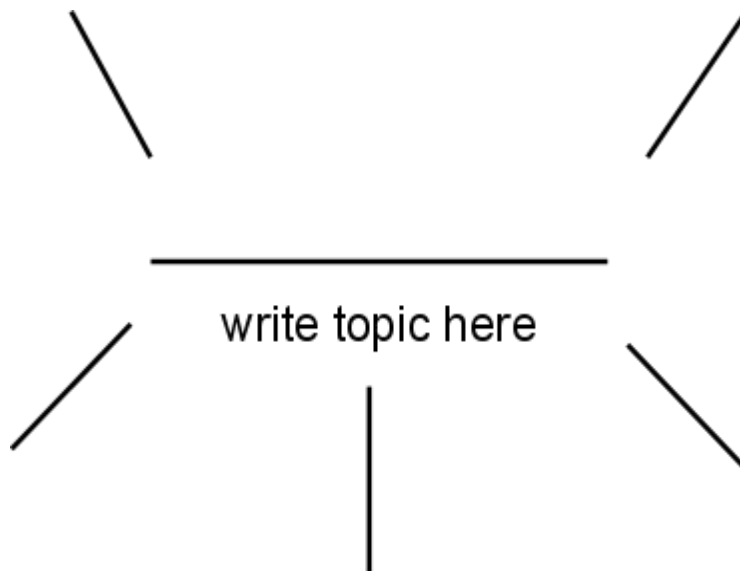
Level: Elementary School

*A graphic organizer is a chart that helps you organize your ideas. The chart can show how ideas relate to each other or how one idea flows into the next in your essay or story. An **idea map** or **spider map** helps you organize ideas as you brainstorm. Place your main idea or topic in the middle of the page. Then, write supporting ideas around the main idea, grouping ideas that are related. When you are finished brainstorming, choose the most important or interesting ideas to help you write about your topic.*

Read the spider chart below. Then, use the blank spider chart on the next page to brainstorm ideas on your topic.



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