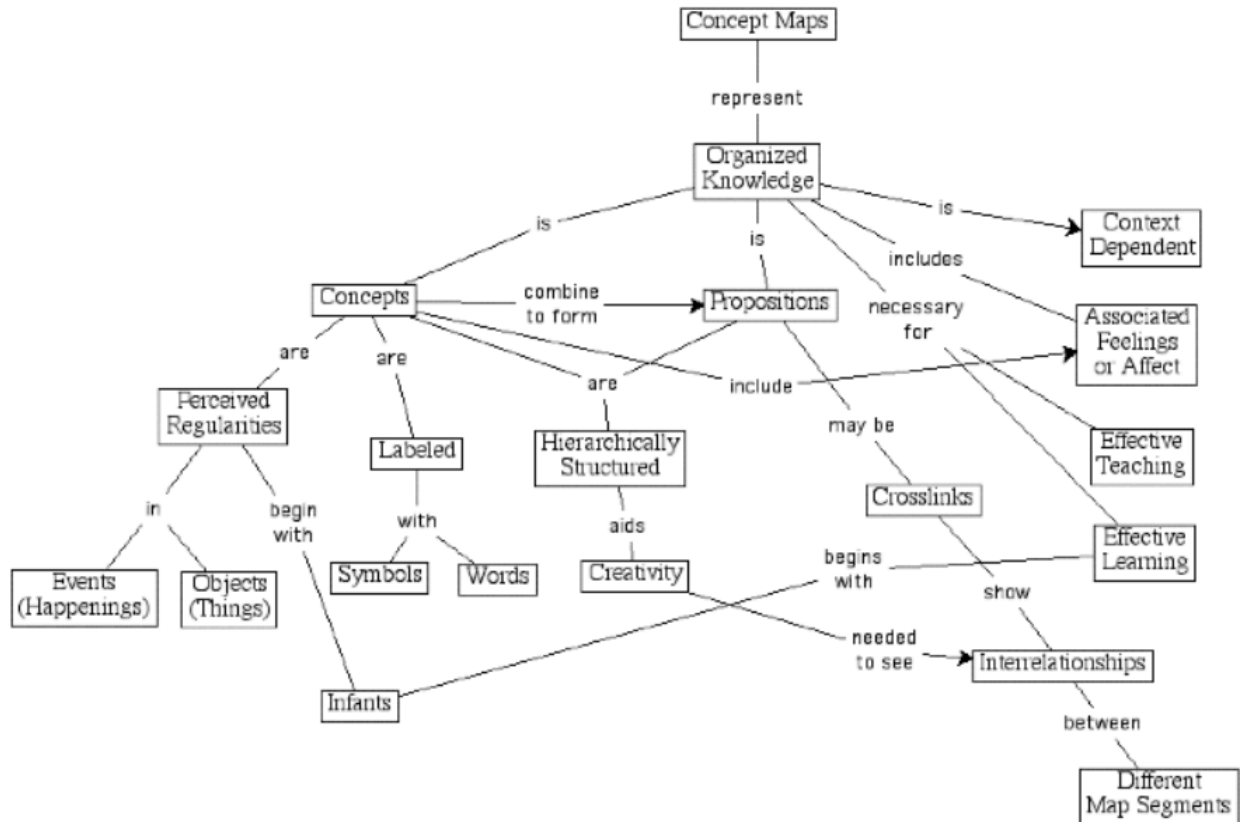


# Concept Maps



## Concept Maps - The “How To”

- *Start:* with a topic, activity, specific problem, or main idea to focus on
- *Determine:* key concepts that connect and relate to your main idea
- *Rank them:* most general then link to more smaller, specific concepts
- *Connect them:* use linking phrases/words to show relationships
- *Revise* your map

Adapted from Novak, J. D., & Cañas, A. J. (2006). The theory underlying concept maps and how to construct them.

## You can use concept maps to:

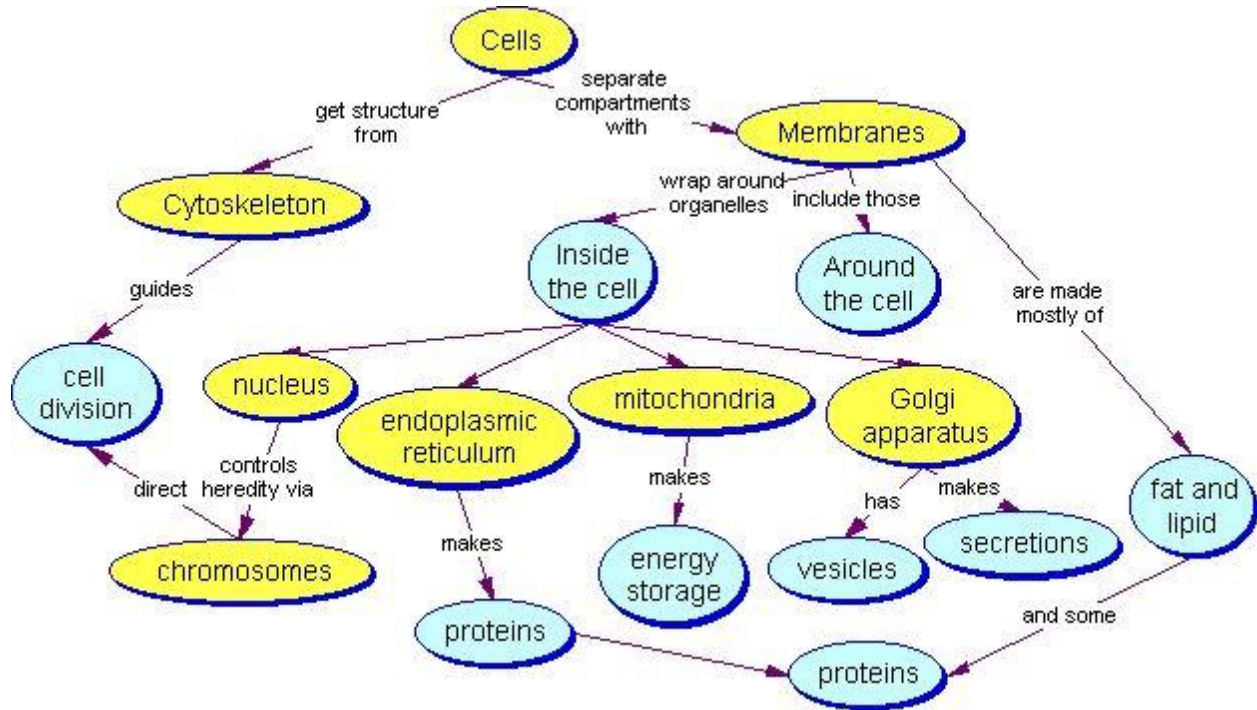
- Visualize - relationships, processes, big picture
- Sequence - linear concept maps can help depict a process
- Analyze - comparisons, cause and effect, solutions, causes, evidence
- Brainstorm - helpful before you write or create an outline, project question, or answer homework
- Outline - may be less visual (think: bullet points) but more familiar



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# Concept Maps

## Example - Cells (Biology)



Adapted from [https://peer.tamu.edu/curriculum\\_modules/Cell\\_Biology/cellbio.conceptmap.htm](https://peer.tamu.edu/curriculum_modules/Cell_Biology/cellbio.conceptmap.htm)

### Things to Consider:

- For what subjects/classes might concept maps work well?
- How would using a concept map help you to study?

### Try it:

Pick a topic below and as a group, create a concept map using the steps on this handout.

- American politics
- Trees
- Netflix
- Climate change
- Photosynthesis



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