

Questioning as we learn: An introduction to critical thinking

Material for Higher Education students in Sierra Leone by INASP, UK



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Unit 2 - Snippet 44

Making my thoughts visible

So-called graphic organizers are – as the term suggests – a visual representation of how information about a topic extracted from a linear text (i.e. text that flows uninterrupted) can be re-organized, revealing connections, relations among concepts, thoughts, etc. The graphic elements usually include text boxes of different shapes, arrows, lines, etc. or matrices/table format, and a short text (key words or very short writing).



Comic 'Head in the clouds' by [Luke Surl](http://www.lukesurl.com/arc_hives/comic/520-head-in-the-clouds), http://www.lukesurl.com/arc_hives/comic/520-head-in-the-clouds, licensed under [CC BY-NC-SA 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/), retrieved 15 March 2018

In the following snippets you will learn more about graphic organizers whose purpose is to provide a visual aid to facilitate learning. Competent learners are skilled at using graphic organizers to make their thoughts visible. By making their thoughts more clearly visible – as if laying out their mind on paper – learners can monitor more easily their thinking about what they are reading, the connections they are making between ideas, and thus increase their chances of comprehending the author's purpose.