

Topic Plotting

Organization is key!

RESEARCH PAPERS



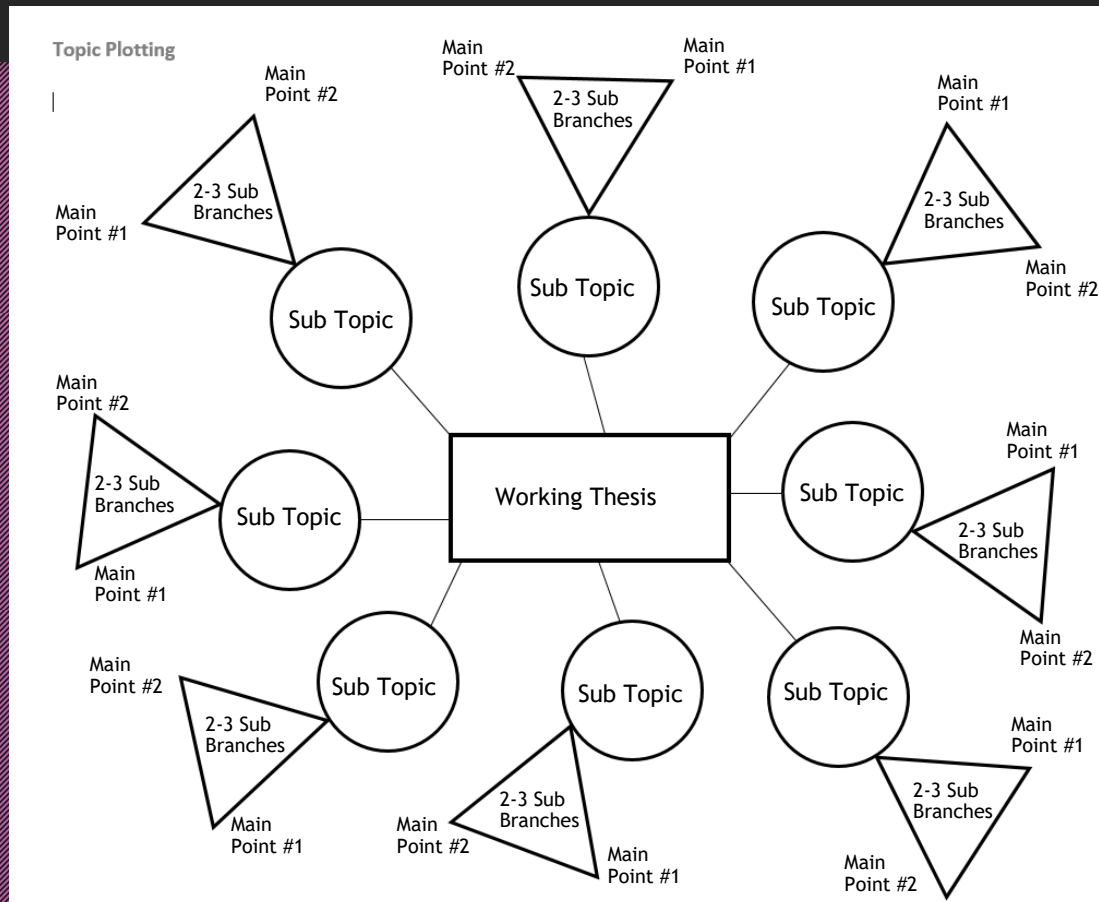
RESEARCH PAPERS EVERYWHERE

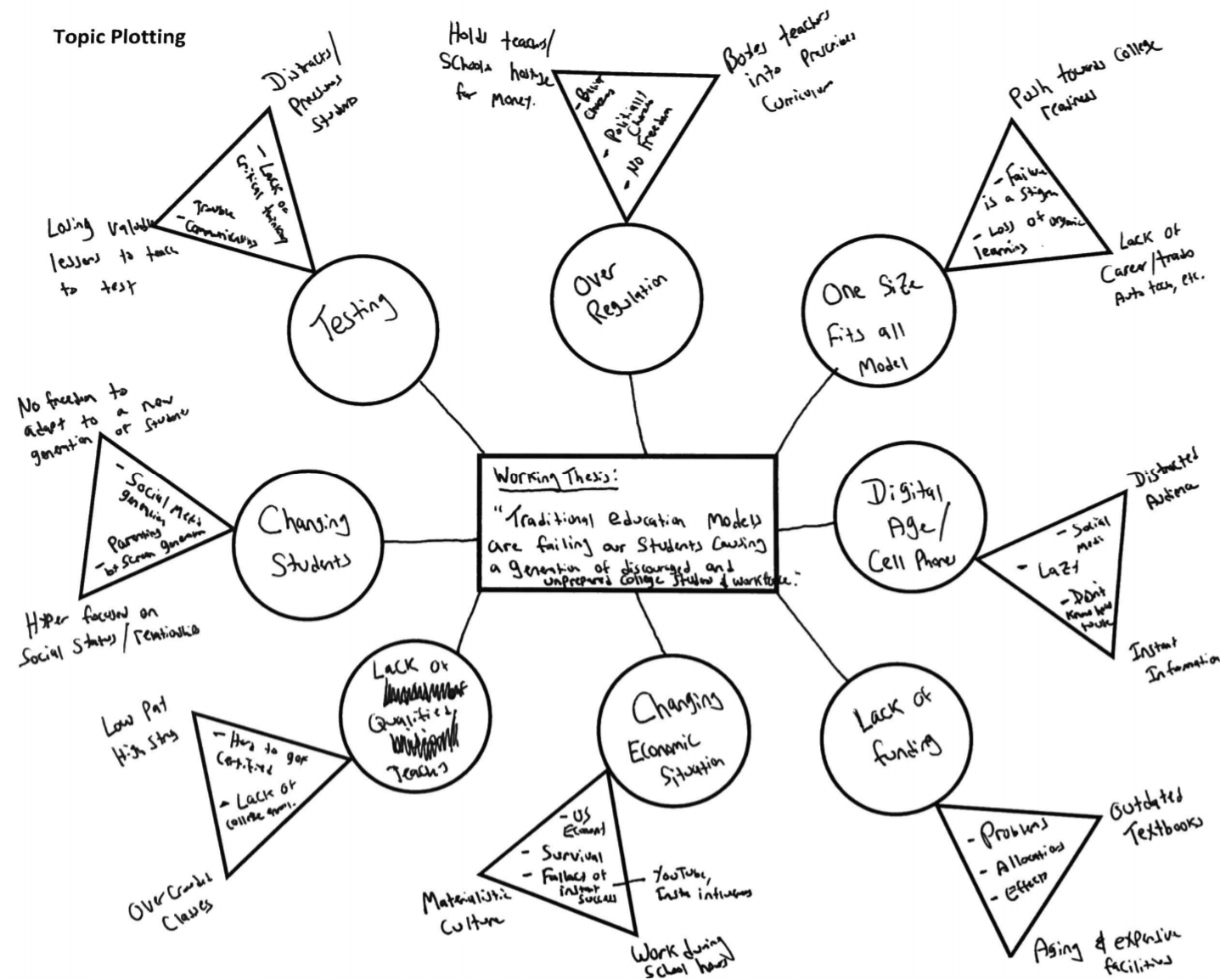
Recap

- Abstract - What do you intend to do with your topic/argument?
- Research/Notecards - What source information can you find to support your topic/argument?
- Annotated Bibliography - What is the purpose of the sources that I have chosen, how will they (or will they not) help my argument?
- Research Installment - Reflection on what you have learned from your hours of researching and gathering source information.
- Topic Plotting - Visually organize your ideas, built off of your research, opinions, and directions you want to go with your paper.
- Outlining - Structure your sub-topics, details and integrate your research in a collapsible, and detailed method

Topic Plotting

- Use this tool to organize your thoughts and ideas.





Why?

- Organize your ideas into sub-topics, branches and main points.
- **Sub Topic** - A direct “theme” or “concept” in support of your thesis.
- **Branch** - Additional avenues of discussion that can be brought up or explored under your sub-topic. A sub-sub-topic, if you will. These can be used to explore other avenues within that sub-topic, all of which will support your thesis.
- **Main Points** - Arguments that will directly support your thesis.

“By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.” - Benjamin Franklin

- “A goal without a plan is just a wish” - Antoine de Saint-Exupery
- “In preparing for battle I have always found that plans are useless, but planning is indispensable.” - Dwight D. Eisenhower
- “All you need is the plan, the road map, and the courage to press on to your destination” - Earl Nightingale
- “Always plan ahead. It wasn’t raining when Noah built the ark.” - Richard Cushing

