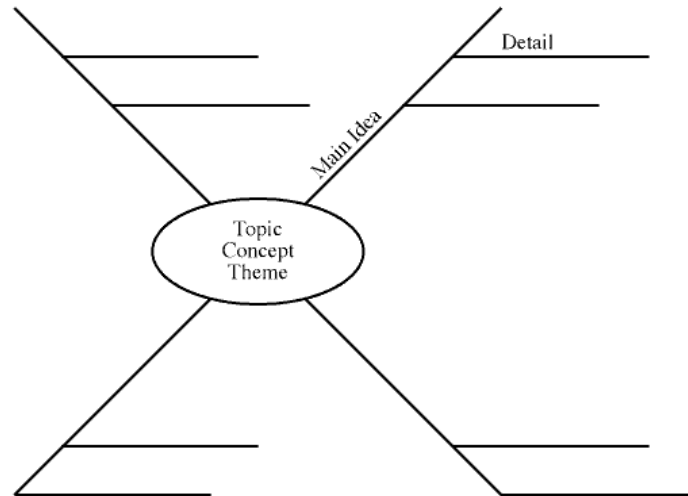


# Graphic Organizers Handout

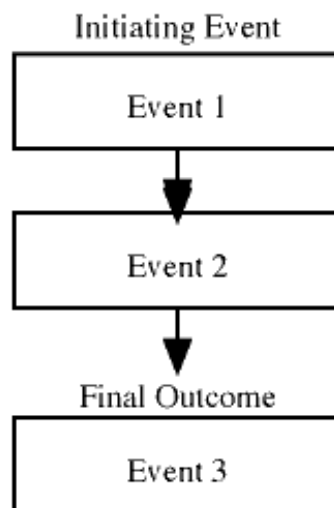
## Ellet High Freshman Seminar

Graphic Organizers, Mind Maps, and Concept Maps are a graphical or pictorial way to organize information and thoughts for understanding, remembering, or writing. Graphic organizers, mind maps and concept maps are powerful tools that can be used to enhance learning and create a foundation for learning. Learn several basic graphic organizers and study time will be better used.

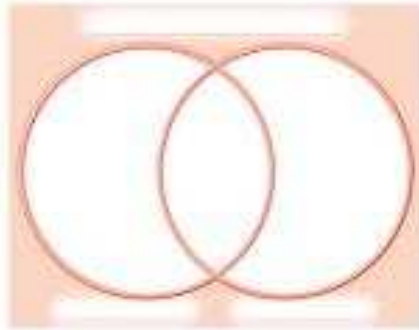
**The Spider Map or Webbing.** Use this method when analyzing the major concept, theme or topic being studied. Each “leg” is for a different main idea about the topic. Details are added to the side of the “leg.”



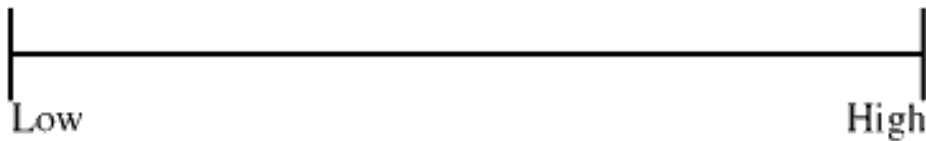
**Series of Events Chain.** Used to describe the stages of something; the steps in a procedure; of events; or the goals, actions, and outcomes. Key frame questions: What is the object, procedure, or initiating event? What are the stages or steps? How do they lead to one another? What is the final outcome?



**Venn Diagram.** Compare (intersecting portion) and contrast (non-intersecting portions) attributes and characteristics of items (things, people, places, events, ideas, etc.)



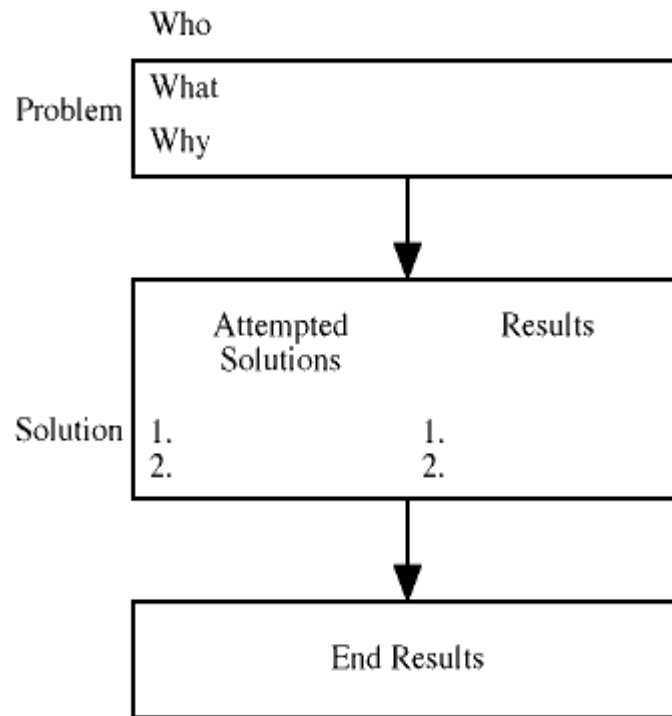
**Continuum Scale.** Use for time lines, or rating scales. Key frame questions: What is being scaled? What are the end points?



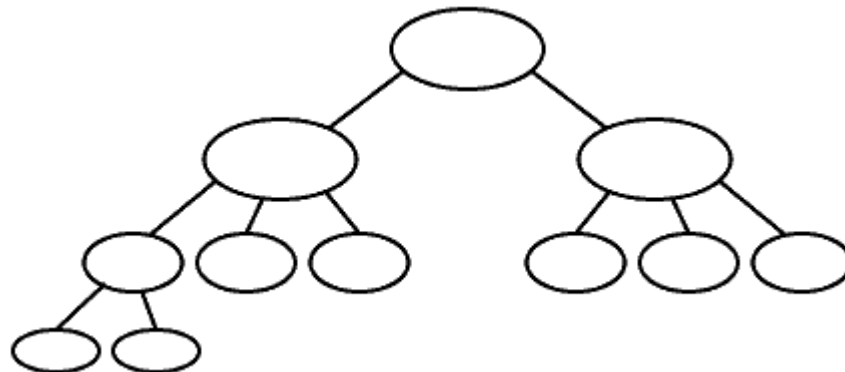
**Compare/Contrast Matrix.** Used to show similarities and differences between two things. Key frame question: What things are being compared? How are they similar? How are they different?

	Name 1	Name 2
Attribute 1		
Attribute 2		
Attribute 3		

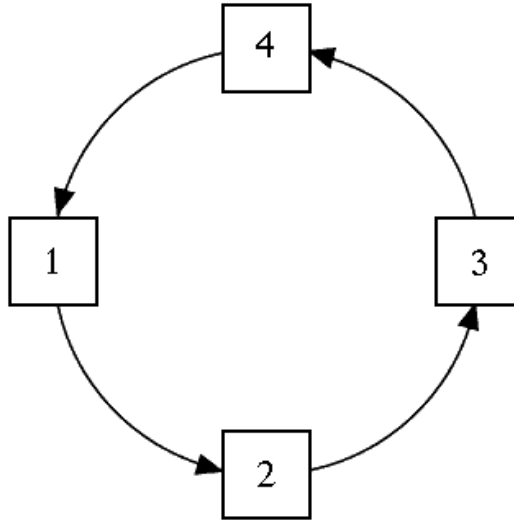
**Problem/Solution Outline.** Used to represent a problem, attempted solutions, and results. Key frame questions: What was the problem? Who had the problem? Why was it a problem? What attempts were made to solve the problem? Did those attempts succeed?



**Network Tree.** Used to show causal information, a hierarchy, or branching procedures. Key frame questions: What is the superordinate category? What are the subordinate categories? How are they related? How many levels are there?



**Cycle.** Used to show how events interact to produce a set of results again and again. Key frame questions: What are the critical events in the cycle? How are they related? In what ways are they self-reinforcing?



### Works Cited

American Reading Company. *Graphic Organizers*. 2004.

*The Graphic Organizer*. <http://www.graphic.org>

North Central Regional Educational Laboratory. *Graphic Organizers*.  
<http://www.ncrel.org/sdrs/areas/issues/students/learning/lr1grorg.htm>