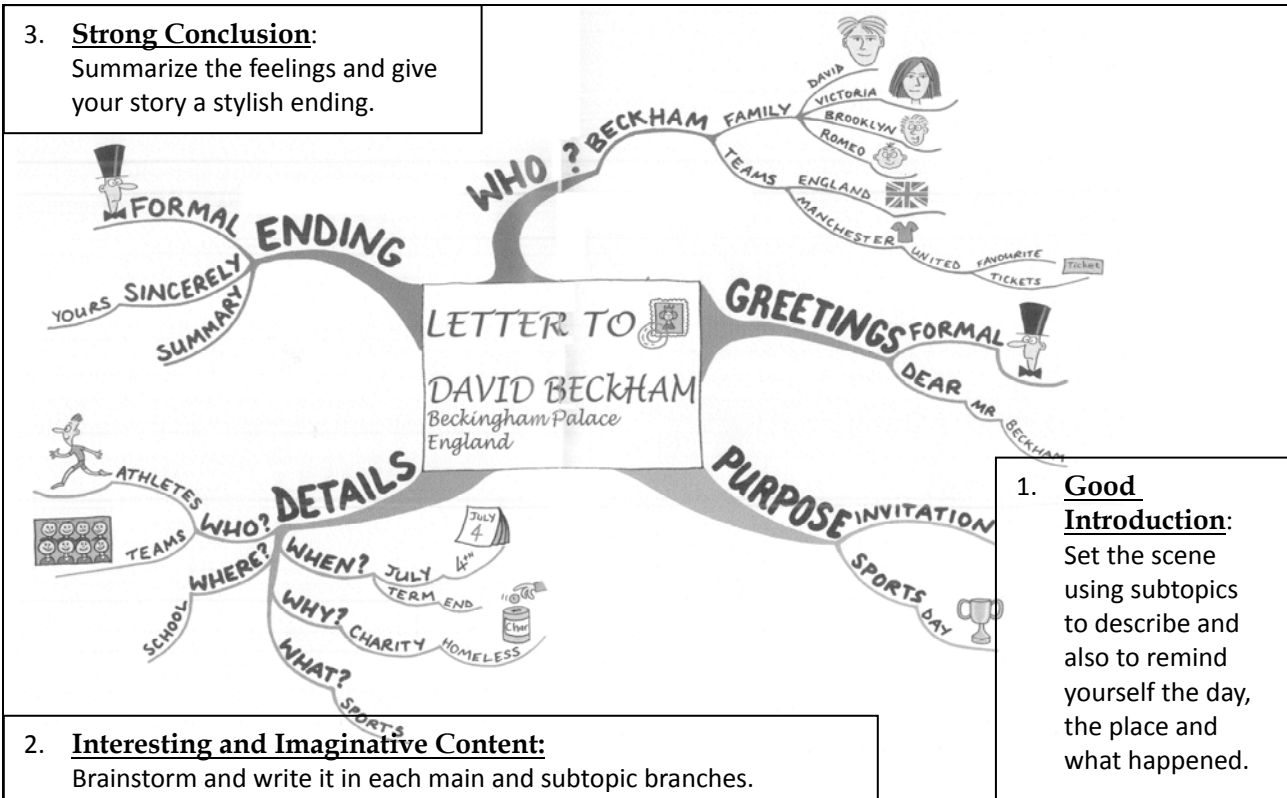


# Self-Directed Learning: Mind Maps help! (3)

We talked about using mind maps to jot notes or make revisions last time. This time we will introduce how it can help doing projects and presentations, or writing essays.

**Coming up with ideas...** When you are trying to write a story or to elaborate a topic, what you need is the power of imagination. Since you can easily add branches in mind maps, you are always encouraged to add any main points, or exciting and intriguing details. With the help of the check map or the question kit which were introduced last time, you'll find mind map a creative machine. Symbols, codes, pictures and colours help to stimulate your thinking as well. Moreover, a mind map is so organized with hierarchies that you can easily avoid repeating and have a well-structured essay or presentation.

- Strong Conclusion:**  
Summarize the feelings and give your story a stylish ending.



- Interesting and Imaginative Content:**  
Brainstorm and write it in each main and subtopic branches.

- Good Introduction:**  
Set the scene using subtopics to describe and also to remind yourself the day, the place and what happened.

Other than writing notes and outline, you can also do self-analysis and problem-solving with mind maps. If you are interested, don't hesitate to borrow books from libraries so as to know more about it!

(Reference: Buzan, Tony. *Mind Maps for Kids: the shortcut to success at school*. Thorsons, 2003.)