

## How to Construct and Use an Idea Map

1. When you first listen to or read a section, write down the section's main idea.
2. On your second listen or reading, add supporting details used to support the section's main idea.
3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 for each section you read.
4. Find connections and differences. Are there main ideas and supporting details that are similar between what you've listened to or read? Are there ideas or details that conflict?
5. Connect those ideas and details that are similar and those that differ or conflict. How do these similarities and differences provide a more detailed explanation of the issue's complexity?

