

# using graphic organizers

reading, listening, and memory

*Make It Happen:*

- time management
- concentration
- reading**
- listening**
- memory**
- taking tests
- writing papers
- self-regulation
- learning styles
- motivation

Creating graphic organizers like webs, maps, diagrams, charts, and other visual representations of information can help you organize and remember material. Use these ideas to creatively and visually organize information so that you can learn more effectively.

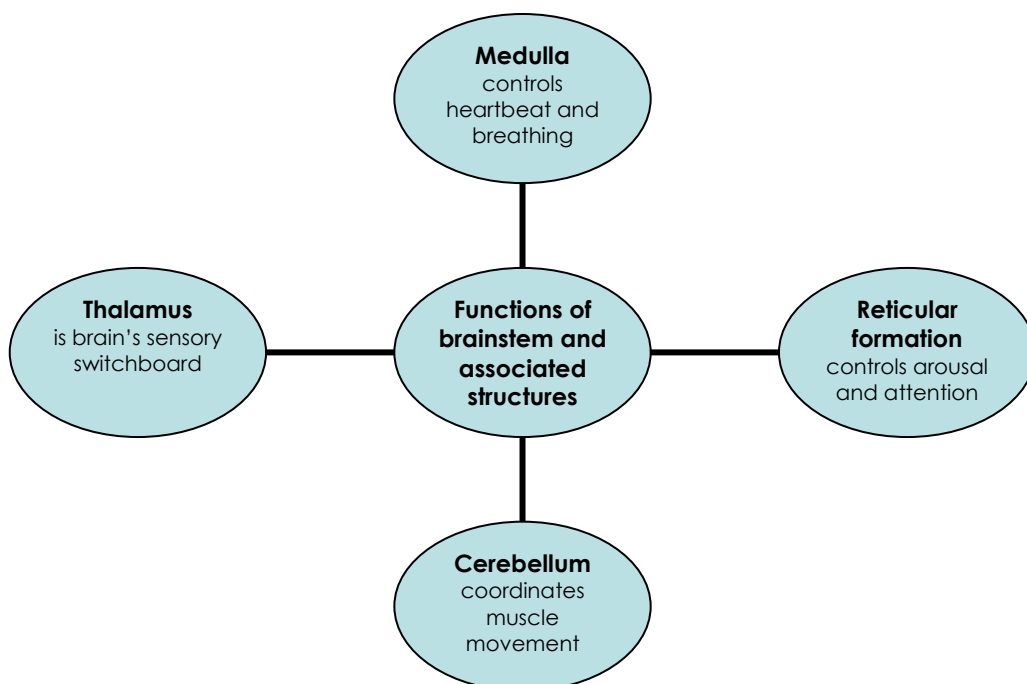
## How can graphic organizers help you?

First, creating graphic organizers can help you understand material more quickly because they force you to identify key information and chunk that information into meaningful units. Second, graphic organizers can make material more memorable because they visually reinforce the relationships between various facts and ideas.

When you are **reading**, try creating a visual web of topics from a chapter or section to make sense of how information fits together. When you're studying for **exams**, develop charts to identify overarching themes and see relationships between ideas in your class notes and reading. Finally, when you write **papers** or an essay exams, use visual maps to organize ideas and plan your content.

## Web or Map

For web or concept maps, the central shape or line contains the main concept, and the attached shapes or lines contain attributes relating to the central topic.



So now you know how to visually represent information—but what about taking notes during lecture or from a text? Check out other note taking resources on the Center for Learning website.

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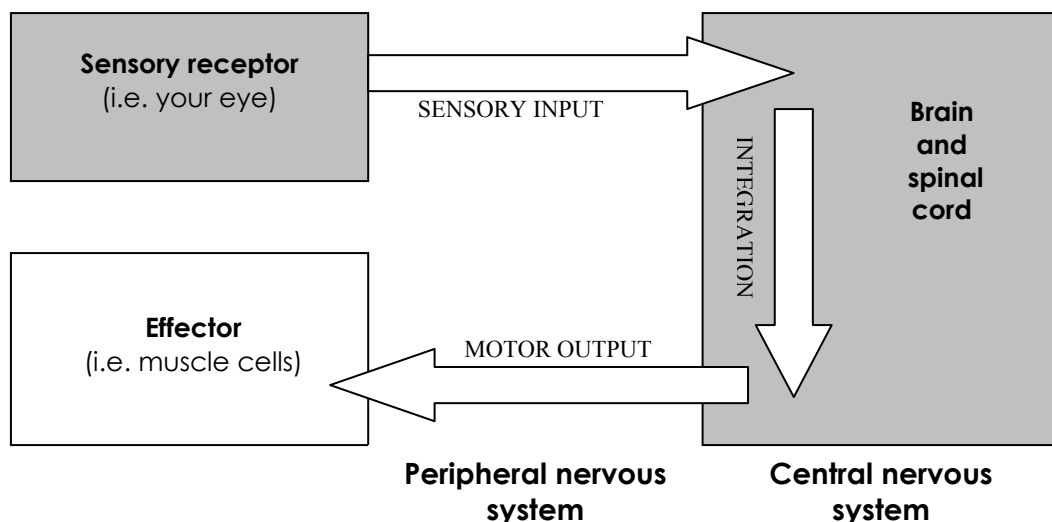
## Sequencing Diagrams

Create a time line, flow chart, or cycle graph to demonstrate sequenced events and processes.

### World War I—The Path to War

June 28, 1914	July 28, 1914	August 1, 1914	August 4, 1914	August 4, 1914	August 4, 1914
Assassination of Archduke Ferdinand	Austria declares war on Serbia	Germany declares war on Russia	Germany declares war on France	German troops invade Belgium	Great Britain declares war on Germany

### Overview of the Vertebrate Nervous System



## Chart or Matrix

Use a chart or matrix to compare multiple categories of information or to help you understand more complex concepts.

### Art of the Middle Ages

Style	Artwork	Architecture	Example	Date	Place
Byzantine	Mosaics, icons	Central-dome church	Hagia Sophia	A.D. 532-37	Constantinople, Turkey
Romanesque	Frescoes, stylized sculpture	Barrel-vaulted church	St. Sernin	Begun A.D. 1080	Toulouse, France
Gothic	Stained glass, more natural sculpture	Pointed-arch church	Chartes	A.D. 1194-1260	Chartes, France

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