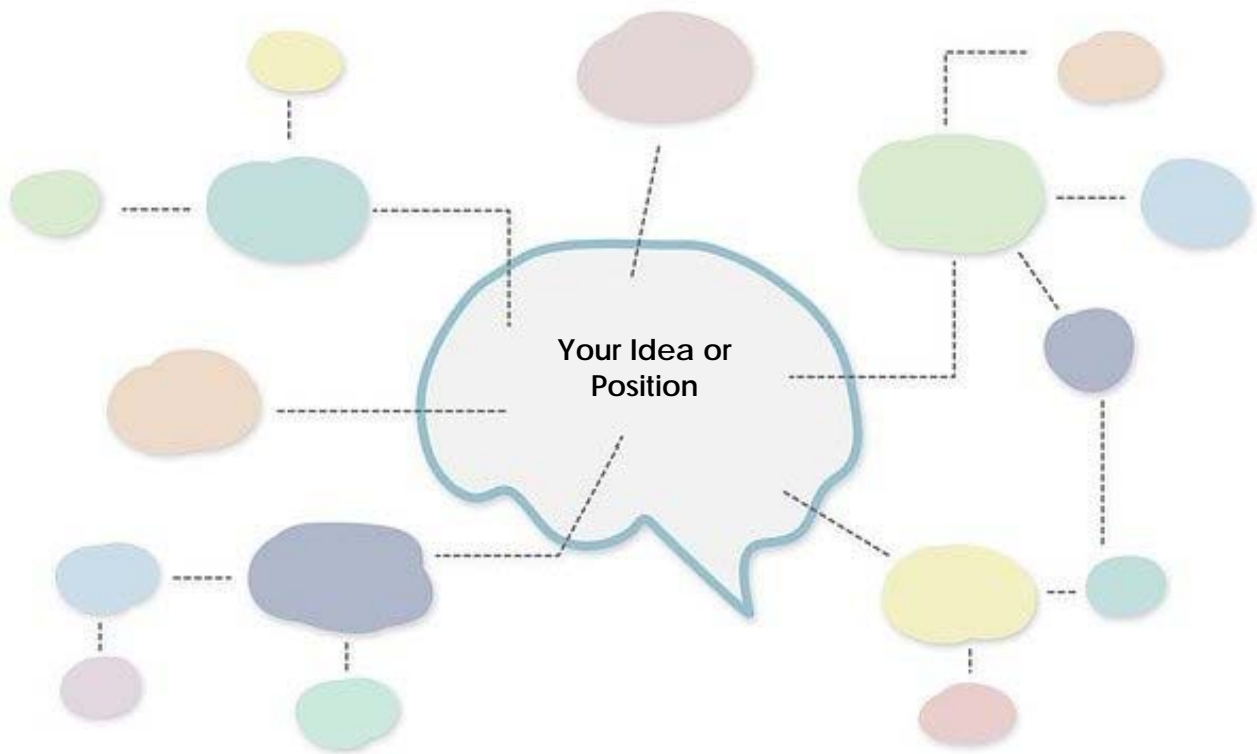


Articulating Implications

A **mind map** is a way to visually represent ideas and how they are connected. Creating a mind map can be a very helpful tool when trying to understand all of the possible implications of an idea or a decision. When completed, a mind map might look something like this:



To use a mind map to fully understand an idea or a decision, start by writing down your idea, topic, or position in the middle of the page. Then, as related ideas or possible effects or consequences of this idea, topic, or position pop into your head, jot each one down. You can use shapes to indicate things that are similar in some way (for example, circles for positive implications, squares for negative implications). Connect related ideas with lines and arrows.