Creating a Mind Map of My Culture

Your assignment is to create an artistic mind map representation of your personal culture. You will later compose a written text that explains the significance of some of the cultural symbols you have chosen to represent yourself.

What is a mind map?

It is a method of documenting that uses the right brain (creative hemisphere) to enhance your ability to understand information and solve problems. Mind mapping helps you document main ideas while eliminating excess information.

7 STEPS FOR MIND MAPPING

1. Put your central theme or concept (YOUR CULTURE) in the center, bottom, or top of the page, and draw a circle around it.
2. Using your “Where I’m From” poem or other prewrites, select 5 cultures you’re a part of. Place the cultures relating to you (use images or symbols to draw attention to ideas) around the central theme.
3. Connect at least 5 details/traits of these cultures that are significant to you by putting them on lines or in circles spawning from each culture. Include at least two subcultures for one or to of your cultures that has five details/traits of its own.
4. Use key words (not sentences!) or simple pictures only; keep it legible.
5. Make sure no idea stands alone. If you can't connect an idea with something on the page, it's irrelevant to the central theme (culture).
6. Don't allow yourself to slow down over concerns about where to place words (this is your left brain habits trying to dominate). Rather, let your ideas flow, and use lines to show connections.
7. Use colors and design with purpose to highlight the most important ideas or organize your cultures.

For drafting, try using mindmup.com, imindmap, or any other software.

Drafting – Sept. 19-22  Final Due – Sept. 25-26
Remember, culture is...

- Identity
- Religion
- Values
- Beliefs
- Family
- Education
- Where you grew up

- Language
- Ethnicity
- Age
- Hobbies
- Family customs/traditions
- Anything that makes you an individual