

**THE POSITIVE EFFECTS OF USING MIND MAPPING FOR ENGLISH
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Annotation: *This article covers the effective ways and results of using a mind mapping in teaching vocabulary in English language classes, with discussions by scholars about the use of this technique.*

Keywords: *mind mapping, vocabulary, strategy, synonym/antonym maps, visualization, thoughts, emotions.*

Mind mapping is an excellent tool for teaching English vocabulary. It allows students to visually organize information in a structured format. This can help students learn and remember words better. Furthermore, mind maps can be adapted to different learning styles, allowing students to benefit from visual, auditory, and tactile learning techniques.

Teachers can create a mind map with the main concept in the middle, and then branches for the different words related to the concept. This allows students to easily understand the relationship between the words and the concept. Additionally, you can introduce modifiers to the mind map to help students understand the nuances of each word. For example, the concept of “gift” can have a branch for each word and modifiers that refer to it, such as “present”, “give”, “buy”, “free”, and “expensive”.

Mind mapping is a simple and effective strategy that teachers can use to engage their students and help them learn English vocabulary.

The Importance of Vocabulary Acquisition. Vocabulary is the foundation of language and plays an important role in all aspects of language using, including reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Without a solid vocabulary base, language learners may have difficulties in understanding texts, expressing ideas, and communicating with others. Many scholars have emphasized the importance of vocabulary. For example, Wilkens pointed out that without grammar, very little can be conveyed; without vocabulary, nothing can be conveyed. McCarthy also emphasized the importance of vocabulary in language and language learning. Vocabulary acquisition is an essential part of language learning as vocabulary provides us with the words we need to express our thoughts, emotions, and ideas. Therefore, the importance of vocabulary acquisition is self-evident. It forms the foundation of language learning and plays a crucial role in words, sentences, and literary studies. The quality and quantity of one's vocabulary directly affect his ability to express meanings and ideas. Students with a rich vocabulary can communicate more fluently, whereas those with a limited vocabulary may have

troubles with communication. Many scholars have emphasized the importance of vocabulary acquisition and conducted extensive research on this topic. Ma discussed the importance of vocabulary in language learning, stating that vocabulary is one of the most basic building blocks in language, and learning vocabulary can help learners understand the completeness of sentences and texts. Zhou believes that a student's English vocabulary determines his English proficiency, and those with a rich vocabulary are more fluent in reading and speaking, whereas those with a limited vocabulary may have trouble in reading and speaking. Vocabulary size contributes significantly to language acquisition, and vocabulary acquisition and language application form a virtuous cycle of mutual support and promotion. Furthermore, the more vocabulary one has, the more precise and clear his expression becomes. Vocabulary acquisition is not only crucial to English learning but also to the way of thinking. By learning new words, one can expand his knowledge and improve his cognition, hence promoting his long-term personal development. In conclusion, vocabulary acquisition is crucial to a person's language learning, communication and long-term development. It can be easily seen what an important role vocabulary plays in language and language acquisition. Therefore, the importance of vocabulary cannot be overstated since it is the foundation of language construction.

Vocabulary acquisition is an essential part of learning a language. It not only enables learners to communicate more effectively, but also helps them to better comprehend written and spoken texts. It's also important for a person's reading comprehension and level of general knowledge.

Having a wide vocabulary helps people to better express their thoughts and feelings. It can help them to form more complex sentences and make their conversations more engaging. Furthermore, having a deeper understanding of words can help people to understand the cultural context of language, allowing them to access literature, music, and other media from various cultures.

So, vocabulary acquisition can help learners to intersect and understand language at a deeper level. For these reasons, it is vital for language learners to prioritize vocabulary acquisition.

Mind mapping is a visual tool that helps individuals organize and connect ideas, thoughts and concepts. Developed by Tony Buzan in the 1960s, mind mapping is now widely used in education, business, and personal development. As Tony Buzan explained, mind mapping can further utilize the potential of the brain by expressing different thoughts in an imagery and divergent way. Buzan believed that mind mapping is an effective way of thinking that guides the brain's memory and cognition through the combination of graphics and texts. Buran and Filyukov also pointed out that mind mapping is not only an effective way of thinking but also a non-linear way of expression. Zhang believed that mind mapping is a tool that helps people develop cognition and enhance their thinking abilities. Luangkrajang exposes that the usage of a mind map in

English language classes can provide students the chance to be active learners by independently gaining facts, processing information, arranging specifics, and developing knowledge. Tarin & Yawilong made an experiment which shows that writing development through the use of mind maps can facilitate EFL students' writing performance and positive attitudes towards the easiness and enjoyment of English writing, and they advocated the use of mind maps to enhance EFL students' writing development and encourage their enjoyment during EFL writing activities.

Features

When learning a new word, it is important to understand its meaning, pronunciation, connotation, syntactic rules, and examples of usage.

For example, a learner should understand the meaning – which may be literal, metaphorical, or humorous. Furthermore, the learner should learn the pronunciation of the word, which includes understanding the correct vowel and consonant sounds, as well as any tone changes in the word.

Additionally, it's important to understand the connotations of a word – that is, the subtleties and nuances that may be used in different contexts. For example, the word “awesome” can have a different connotation depending on the context. It might mean “amazing” or “terrible”.

Syntactic rules are important to understand, as well. For example, words can have different endings depending on verb tense and subject position. Additionally, some words can act as nouns, verbs and adjectives, and learners should be aware of these nuances.

So, learners should also learn examples of usage for the words they are studying. This could be done by providing the learner with example sentences or having them create their own sentences with the words. By understanding these features, learners can better comprehend and use new vocabulary.

According to Buzan's summary, mind mapping has the following basic characteristics: Firstly, they are centralized, with attention focused on the central image. Secondly, they are radiating, with branches stretching out from the central theme like a tree. Thirdly, they are hierarchical, based on the level and content of their relationships. Fourthly, they are holistic, with the content of the mind maps not being isolated but interconnected by lines to form a complete knowledge network, and each connection represents a way of thinking. Fifthly, they are diverse, using colors, shapes, code, etc. One of the key features of mind mapping is its ability to draw on both sides of the brain. Mind mapping often uses images, symbols, and colors, which activate the right hemisphere of the brain responsible for creativity and imagination. Meanwhile, text and logical connections activate the left hemisphere responsible for reasoning and analysis. By combining these two types of thinking, mind mapping can help its users to generate and connect new ideas, leading to greater insights and understanding of complex information.

Benefits and Functions. Using mind mapping generally recognizes that mind mapping has functions in promoting creativity, learning ability, and enhancing memory. Futrell et al. believes that as a cognitive tool, mind mapping can enhance students' learning speed and accuracy, and it can also serve as a teaching strategy to promote the development of teaching practice. Li points out that mind mapping can convey images, symbols, numbers and new information, and build bridges among them, making it an effective metacognitive tool. Abi-El-Mona & Adb-El-Khalick conducted a comparative experiment of scientific concept learning by using mind mapping, and the results showed that students who learned scientific concepts by using mind mapping scored higher than those who learned by using traditional note-taking methods. Eriksson & Hauer found, in a qualitative study of using mind mapping to cultivate students' marketing skills, that using mind mapping can greatly enhance learners' enthusiasm, making them more attentive in class and cultivating their marketing skills. Zhang et al. suggested that mind mapping, as a teaching strategy, can not only encourage learners' interest and enthusiasm for learning but also stimulate their ideas and improve their expressive ability. In addition, some scholars pointed out that regarding mind mapping as a teaching strategy can exercise students' divergent thinking abilities. Li's research also shows that mind mapping can stimulate perceptual cognition through graphic combination, analyze the connection between things clearly, and promote creativity and cognitive growth. Luangkrajang examined the use of mind mapping in language teaching and revealed the effectiveness of mind mapping in English classes. He found that mind mapping can positively enhance students' mastering ability and make them more active. For example, synonym/antonym maps can help compare and distinguish subtle differences between words, so learners can better understand their meanings and usages.

The following map associates words with specific contexts, making learning more intuitive and vivid.

Mind mapping is a scientific and efficient thinking tool. It stimulates students' thinking with direct and vivid visual effects, and then constructs a clear graphic and textual knowledge system, transforming the thinking in their minds into an explicit knowledge system. It is beneficial for teachers to understand students' thinking activities and carry out teaching activities based on students' learning situation. In addition, its drawing method is concise and easy to learn, and it is not limited by location and environment. Relevant vocabulary is presented in the form of mind mapping, which can stimulate the brain in multiple dimensions and make learning more effective. Knowledge visualization has been widely applied in linguistics. Halliday pointed out that meaning is constructed through the process of exchanging symbols in society. Therefore, visual expression of symbols can convey language meaning more intuitively, thus achieving knowledge dissemination and communication. Additionally, linguists Kress and Van Leeuwen stated that visual language is an important mode of communication, conveying information through visual symbols such as images, colors,

and layout. Mind maps help students to enhance their vocabulary by linking new and old words with visuals that aid in conveying meaning in a particular setting. Therefore, the use of visual symbols in knowledge visualization can help people better understand and memorize knowledge.

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