

Getting ready to write

3° and 4° Grade

You Will learn how to

- ▶ Choose a narrow a topic.
- ▶ Gather ideas.
- ▶ Edit ideas.

What is pre-writing?

- ▶ Before you write you decide what you are going to write about. Then you plan what you are going to write. This process is called **pre-writing**.



Choosing and narrowing a topic.



- ▶ How to choose a topic for a paragraph...?
- ▶ A paragraph is a group of five to ten sentences that give information about a topic.
- ▶ Before you write:
- ▶ *Choose a topic that isn't narrow (limited).*
- ▶ **“THE AGES OF MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS”** is too narrow, you can't write much about it.
- ▶ *Choose a topic that isn't too broad (general).* A broad topic Will have too many ideas for just one paragraph.
- ▶ **“SCHOOL”** is too general. There are thousand of things you could say about.

A student could narrow this topic (schools) by choosing one aspect of schools to discuss.

► **SCHOOLS:**

- ✓ *High schools in my country*
- ✓ *Popular schools clubs*
- ✓ *University entrance exam: P.S.U*
- ✓ *Rural schools in the south of Chile*
- ✓ *Technical schools (vocational schools)*
- ✓ *Catholic schools*



Exercise 1:

Choose one of these topics from the list. Narrow it down to a paragraph topic. Then share with us. (elige uno de estos temas, y piense en tres subtemas para escribir)

- A. Holidays (summer holidays, Winter holidays, **My dream holidays**)
- B. Friends
- C. My country
- D. Dancing
- E. Cars



BRAINSTORMING



▶ WHAT IS BRAINSTORMING

- ❑ ***Brainstorming*** is a way of **GATHERING IDEAS** about a **TOPIC**. You have to write down **EVERY IDEA** that comes to you. Don't worry about if the ideas are good or silly, usefull or not. You can decide that later.
- ❑ Type of brainstorming:
 - ✓ making a list,
 - ✓ freewriting,
 - ✓ and mapping.

Making a list

- ▶ Write single words, phrases, or sentences that are connected to your topic.
- ▶ **TOPIC: WHAT SHOULD I STUDY AT THE COLLEGE?**
- ▶ History-learning about the past
- ▶ **Math (too difficult, not interesting)**
- ▶ What job do I want to do later?
- ▶ English for work, travel?
- ▶ Writing?
- ▶ Science-biology, chemistry
- ▶ **I don't like physics!**
- ▶ Journalism
- ▶ I like reading-literature?
- ▶ Art-drawing, painting, sculpture
- ▶ Photography?
- ▶ Friends/social life

Freewriting

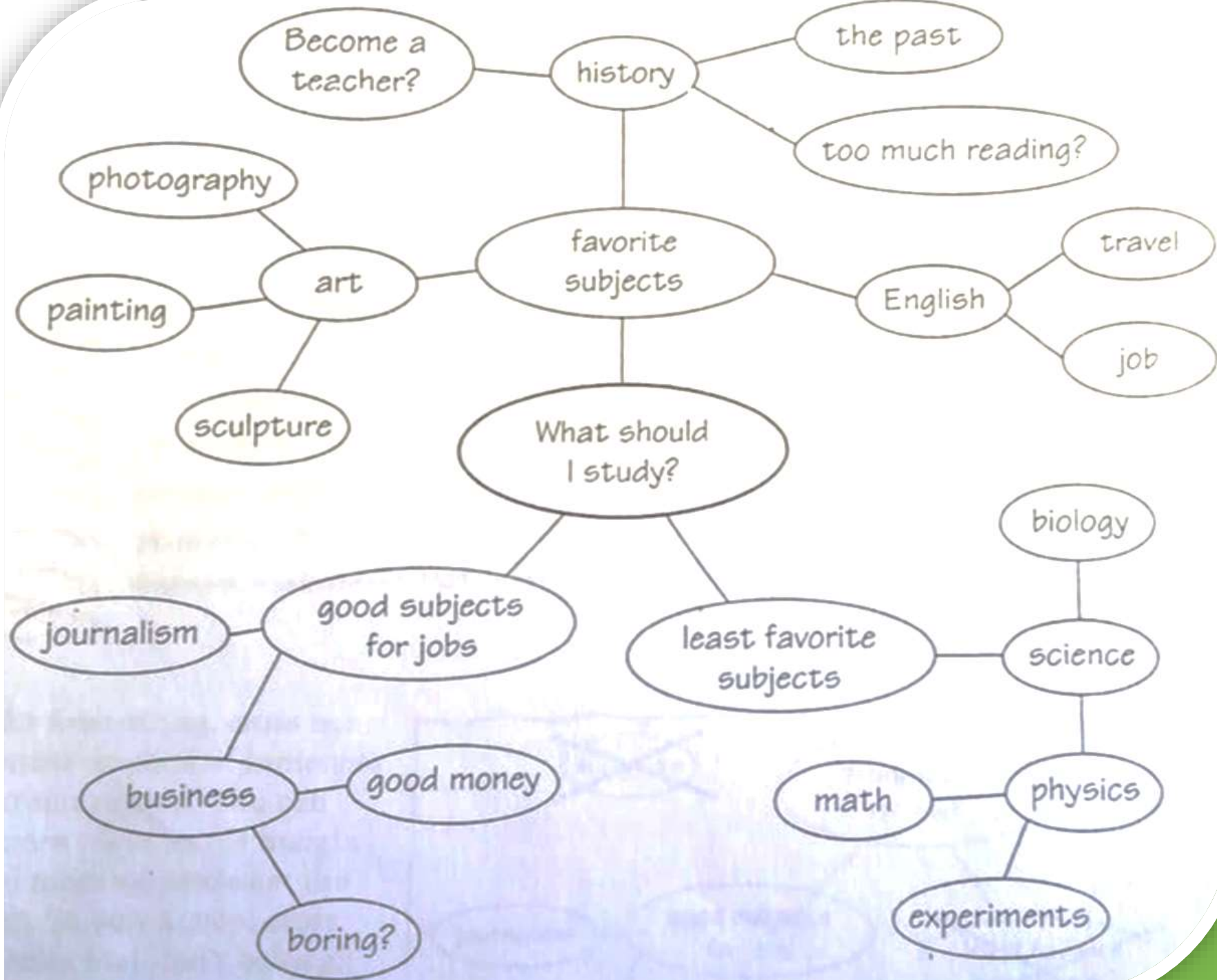
▶ When you free write, you write whatever comes into your head about your topic, without stopping. Free writing helps you practice fluency. You don't worry about having correct grammar and spelling. Don't check your dictionary when you free write, and don't stop if you make a mistake.

▶ TOPIC: WHAT SHOULD I STUDY AT THE COLLEGE?

There are too so many subjects to study at university, it is difficult to choose one for my major. I've always made good grades in math, but I don't like it very much. I don't like physical physics or any science very much. Writing—I've always liked writing. Would journalism be a good course to take? Newspapers have pictures, too, so maybe photography would be good. I'm maybe definitely looking forward to meeting new friends at university. And what about reading? Reading is a part of any course, but literature includes a lot of reading and it probably includes a lot of writing, too.

Mapping

- ▶ To make a map, use a whole sheet of paper, and write your topic in the middle, with a circle around it. Then put the next idea in the circle above or below your topic, and connect the circle with lines. The lines show that the two ideas are related.
- ▶ The next example shows a map of **“WHAT SHOULD I STUDY AT UNIVERSITY?”** The writer connected favorite subjects to the main idea.
- ▶ Art and English are connected to favourite subjects to show that they are related.



Task time



- ▶ Cuando haya seleccionado un tema y lo haya acotado, realizar alguna de las tres lluvia de ideas mencionadas.