



Literacy at Hartford Public High School

May 17, 2004

Volume 1 Number 34

Graphic Organizers

Graphic organizers are extremely effective tools in helping students to arrange their thoughts and ideas in a visual manner. A number of on-line sites provide ready-made organizers, while others allow teachers to construct their own.

One site that might serve as a starting point for teachers is located at

<http://www.eduplace.com/graphicorganizer/index.html>

It includes the following examples of organizers:

- [Clock](#)
- [Cluster/Word Web 1](#)
- [Cluster/Word Web 2](#)
- [Cluster/Word Web 3](#)
- [Describing Wheel](#)
- [E-Chart](#)
- [Fact-and-Opinion Chart](#)
- [Five W's Chart](#)
- [Flow Chart](#)
- [Four-Column Chart](#)
- [Garden Gate](#)
- [Goal-Reasons Web](#)
- [Ice-Cream Cone](#)
- [Idea Rake](#)
- [Idea Wheel](#)
- [Inverted Triangle](#)
- [ISP Chart \(Information, Sources, Page\)](#)
- [KWL Chart](#)
- [KWS Chart](#)
- [Ladder](#)

- [Observation Chart](#)
- [Persuasion Map](#)
- [Planning Chart](#)
- [Problem-Solution Chart](#)
- [Sandwich](#)
- [Sense Chart](#)
- [Sequence Chart](#)
- [Spider Map](#)
- [Step-by-Step Chart](#)
- [Story Map 1](#)
- [Story Map 2](#)
- [Story Map 3](#)
- [T-Chart](#)
- [Ticktacktoe](#)
- [Time Line](#)
- [Time-Order Chart](#)
- [Tree Chart](#)
- [Venn Diagram](#)

Another useful site for accessing graphic organizers can be found at this URL:

<http://www.graphic.org/goindex.html>

Graphic organizers are valuable instructional tools. Unlike many tools that just have one purpose, graphic organizers are flexible and endless in application. One common trait found among graphic organizers is that they show the order and completeness of a student's thought process - strengths and weaknesses of understanding become clearly evident. Many graphic organizers show different aspects of an issue/problem - in close and also the big picture. Since many graphic organizers use short words or phrases, they are ideal for many types of learners, including English Language Learners with intermediate proficiency.