



Thinking Maps give teachers an understanding of how to visually represent or “map” the critical and creative thinking embedded in their state’s college and career readiness standards. The Maps provide students with both the scaffolds and structures to empower them to be independent learners.

College and Career Readiness Standards	Guiding Questions	Thinking Process	Thinking Maps as Tools	
Define key academic vocabulary terms; Generate or gather ideas about a topic or concept	What does _____ mean? Can you define _____?	Defining in Context or Brainstorming	Circle Map	
Use vivid language to describe the qualities of someone or something; Infer descriptors and use evidence from the text or observations as support for inferences	How would you describe _____?	Describing	Bubble Map	
Analyze the similarities and differences between two topics, concepts, texts or points of view; Use comparisons to draw conclusions and develop deeper understandings of concepts	How are _____ and _____ alike/different?	Comparing and Contrasting	Double Bubble Map	
Classify members of a group based on specific characteristics; Think inductively or deductively about details in order to write organized and coherent expository compositions	What is the main idea of _____? What are the supporting details?	Classifying	Tree Map	
Identify the parts of an object; Decompose a structure in order to analyze form and function	Analyze the structural parts of _____ to suggest improvements.	Part-to-Whole	Brace Map	
Sequence events in time; Analyze life cycles; Design steps to follow in order to solve real-life problems	What ordered steps would you follow to solve _____? How would you demonstrate the steps for solving _____?	Sequencing	Flow Map	
Analyze the causes and effects of an event from multiple points of view; Collect information in order to structure a thoughtful argument; Make predictions and construct “What If” statements	What is the impact of the author’s point of view on _____? How would you evaluate the argument and claims in _____?	Cause and Effect	Multi-Flow Map	
Create analogies and metaphors; Identify one-to-one correspondence; Understand complex academic terms and concepts by relating them to personal information	What is the relationship between _____ and _____? How would you analyze the relationship and analogies in _____?	Seeing Relationships/ Analogies	Bridge Map	