CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS FOR DUMMIES
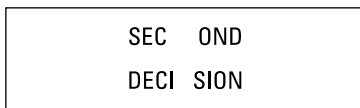
BY MARTIN COHEN

Contents

Figure 3-1: Sticking to your beliefs isn't always easy. This famous image shows a crowd of people giving the Nazi salute, with just August Landmesser refusing to do so.

Question 2: Word pictures

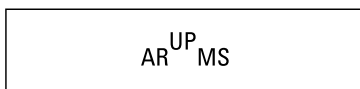*Each picture is made up of words, but also represents a common saying. Can you see what the everyday adage is?*
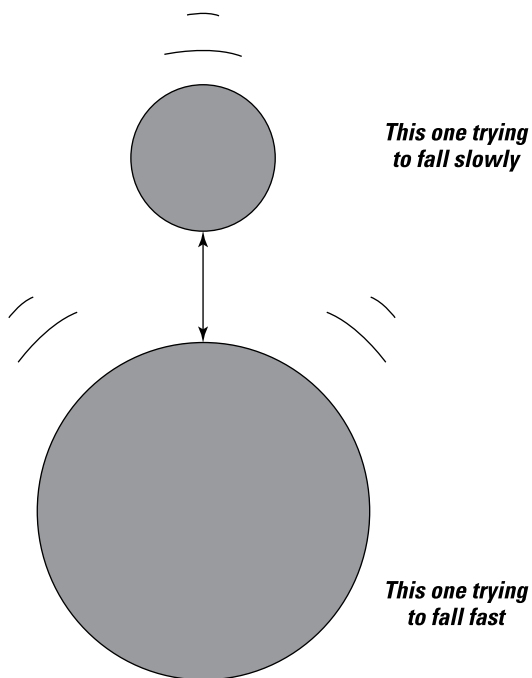
(a)

```
SEC    OND
DECI SION
```

(b)

```
ANOTHER    ONE
```

(c)

AR^{UP}MS

(d)

d o w
r d
a w n
w

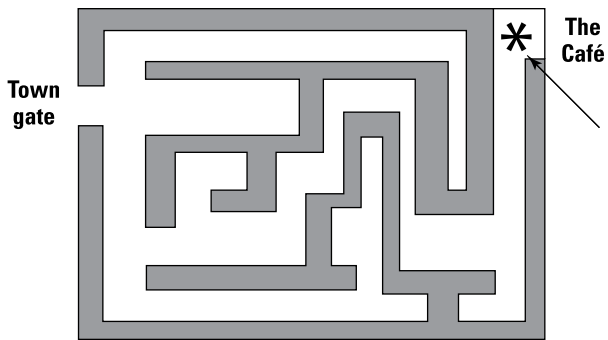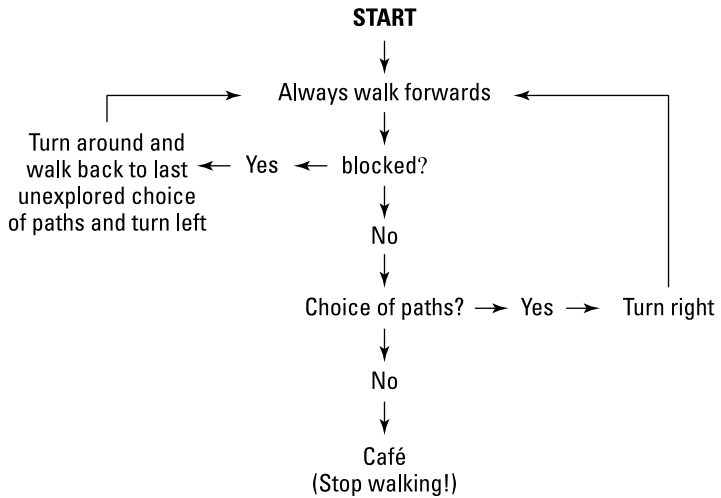**This one trying
to fall slowly**

**This one trying
to fall fast**

Figure 5-1: The clever bit is when Galileo asks us to imagine a string is tied between the two lead weights

Figure 6-1: The old town's streets are a bit of a maze!

START

Always walk forwards

Turn around and
walk back to last ← Yes ← blocked?
unexplored choice
of paths and turn left

No

Choice of paths? → Yes → Turn right

No

Café
(Stop walking!)

Figure 6-2: One way a computer may tackle the maze problem.
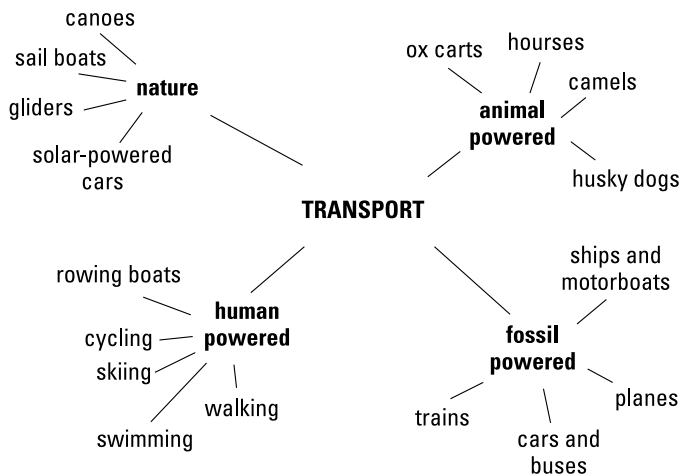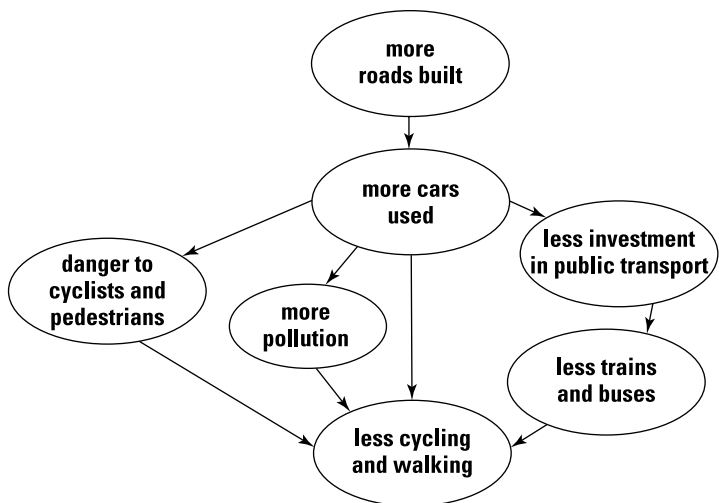
Figure 7-1: A mind map on the core theme of 'transport'. This is the kind of thing that a brainstorming session may produce.
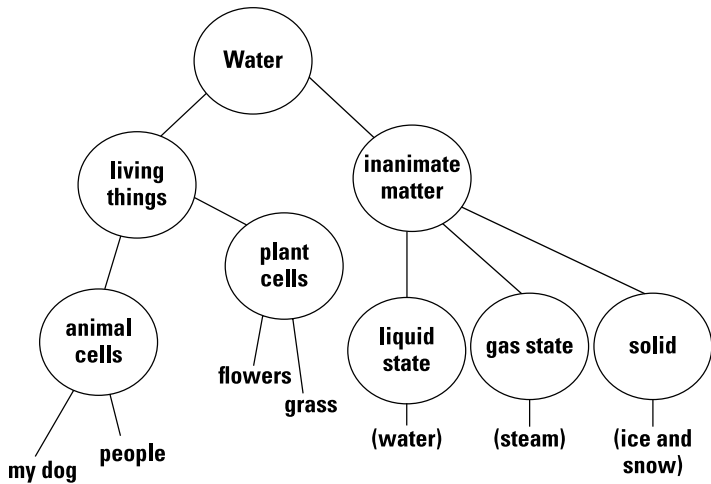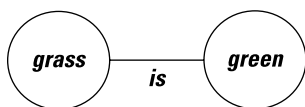
Figure 7-2: A flow chart that seeks to demonstrate (argue) a particular point: how and why building roads is bad.
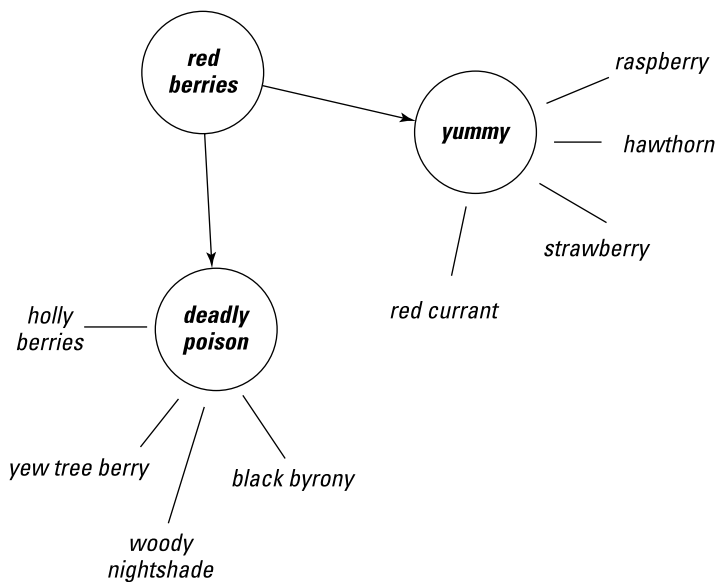
Figure 7-3: Water concept chart. A simplified version of one of Joe Novak's original concept charts (see the earlier sidebar 'How it all got started').
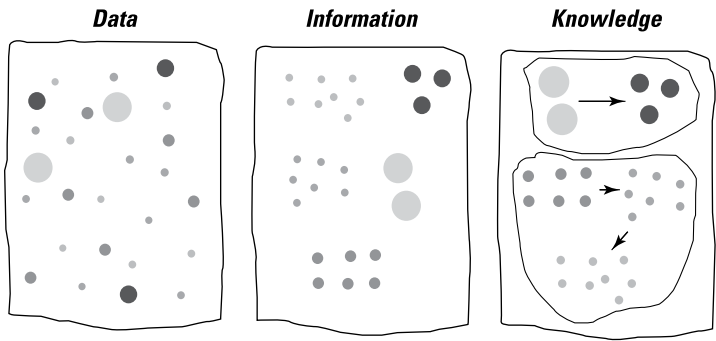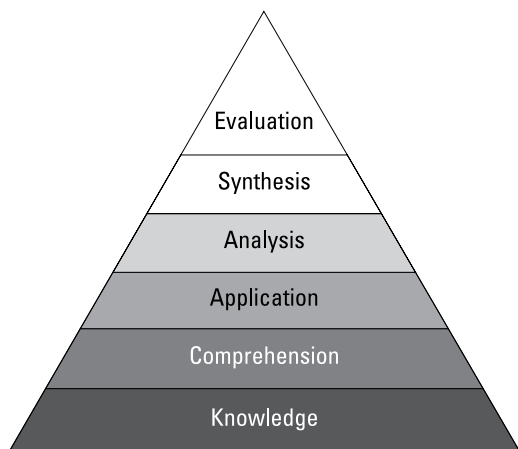
Figure 7-4: A one-line concept chart.

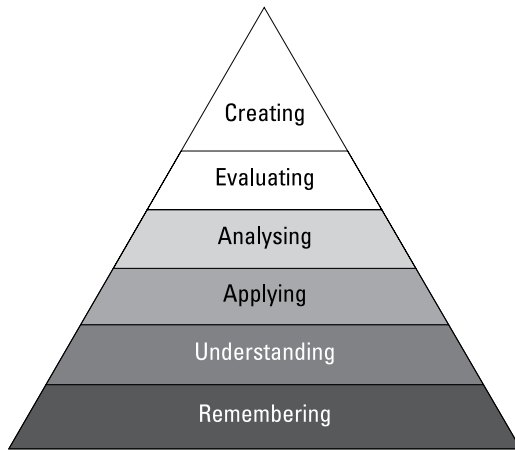**Figure 7-5:** A simple chart that begins to do some conceptual work.

Figure 8-1: Constructing knowledge: A visualisation of the relationship of data to information and knowledge.
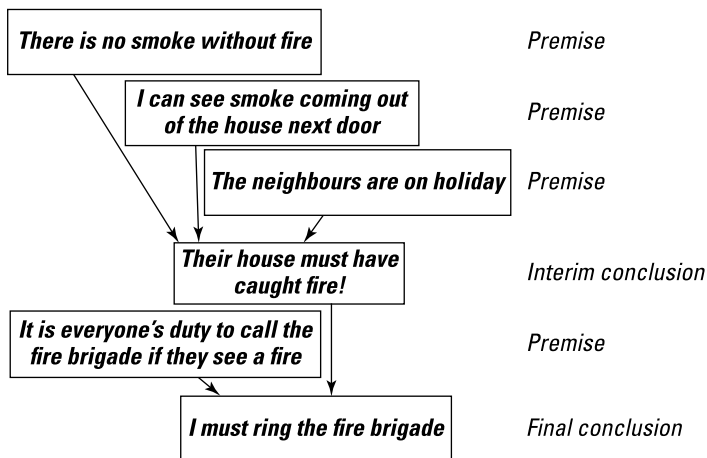
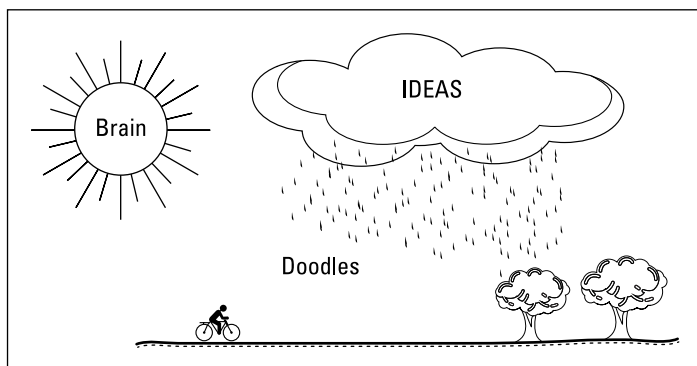**Figure 8-2:** Bloom's original triangle.

Figure 8-3: The new Bloom triangle.

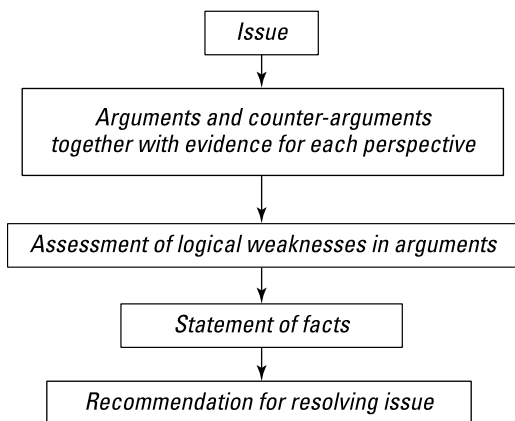**Fig 10-1:** A simple argument with one intermediate conclusion.
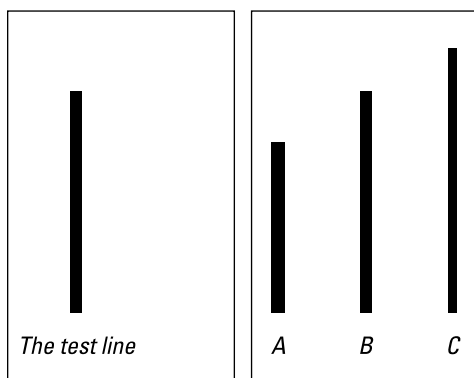
Figure 11-1: My doodle.

Figure 12-1: Such a little to pay! But where's the evidence?

Figure 13-1: Structure of a persuasive paper.

The test line   *A   B   C*

Figure 15-1: The lines test: Which line do you think is the match? Sure?