Mandala Organization Options

There are numerous ways you can organize your Mandala essay. Here are five main areas to focus on regarding organization: topic sentences & concluding sentences, transitions, introduction and conclusion.

Everyone will have a brief INTRODUCTION and CONCLUSION.

As far as body paragraphs are concerned, there is no set way to structure your essay—it is up to you. Here are some suggestions.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **One paragraph per topic**  Introduction   1. Passion 2. Fears 3. Future dreams or roles 4. Weakness 5. Interests 6. Strengths 7. Philosophy 8. 3 Adjectives   Conclusion | **Grouping topics**  Introduction   1. Passion   Dreams  Philosophy   1. Weakness   Fears   1. Strengths   Interests  3 adjectives  Conclusion (include 3 adjectives) | **Grouping Topics**  Introduction (adjectives)   1. Things you are proud of:  * Strengths * Philosophy  1. Things you want to work on:  * Weakness * Fear * Dream/roles  1. Passion   Conclusion | **Grouping Topics**  Totally up to you!  Be creative! |

**TOPIC SENTENCE & CONCLUDING SENTENCE**

* One sentence that tells what your entire paragraph is about.
* Concluding sentence wraps up the paragraph-like a bow on a package.

**TRANSITIONS**  (avoid next… and then… next…)

Words that can be used to **compare** two things:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| likewise | also | while | in the same way |
| like | as | similarly |  |

Words that can be used to **contrast** two things:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| but | still | although | on the other hand |
| however | yet | otherwise | even though |

Words that can be used to **add information**:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| again | another | for instance | for example |
| also | and | moreover | additionally |
| as well | besides | along with | other |
| next | finally | in addition |  |

Words that can be used to **emphasize a point**:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| again | truly | especially | for this reason |
| to repeat | in fact | to emphasize |  |

mandala

*The word mandala comes from an ancient word for “circle.” The circle is a symbol of being complete, unified, and stable. In some cultures the mandala is used to represent the inner self, while in other cultures it is used to represent the world or the universe. Making your own mandala will help you think about the core of who you are as a person and become more open to insight about yourself. Your mandala will use symbols to represent your identity.*

**Colors have significance on a mandala.**

**Use the following color associations as you think about which colors to use on your mandala.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **RED**  Energy  Life  Blood  Passion  Love  Anger  Bravery  Strength  Excitement  Determination  Festivity  Hatred  “Stop”  Fire  Joy  Revolution  Courage  Zeal  Aggression  Danger  Anger | **BLUE**  Coolness  Calmness  Idealism  Truth  Self-Reliance  Integrity  Nobility  Intellect  Faith  Cold  Despair  Tranquility  Intuition  Trustworthiness  Peace  Sincerity  Affection  Contemplation  Passivity  Harmony  Relaxation | **GREEN**  Harmony  Balance  Growth  Nature  Gentleness  Reliability  Calmness  Rebirth  Jealousy / envy  Abundance  Vitality  Freshness  Fertility  Hope  Naiveté  Rest  Order  Friendliness  Action | **VIOLET / PURPLE**  Spirituality  Magic  Inner-awareness  Reformation  Royalty  Purification  Trust  Faith  Passion  Vision  Knowledge  Power  Integrity  Dignity  Extravagance  Royalty  Wealth |
| **WHITE**  Spirituality  Holiness  Peace  Purity  Hope  Wisdom  Innocence  Light  Faith  Youth  Heroism | **BLACK**  Death  Sorrow  Depression  Judgment  Evaluation  Law  Loneliness  Evil  Darkness  Grief  Villainous | **ORANGE**  Physical vitality  Pride  Enthusiasm  Ambition  Endurance  Strength  Courage  Success  Warmth  Happiness  Danger | **BROWN**  Tradition  Organization  Solidarity  Conventional Ideas  Earth  Country  Reliability  Stability |
| **YELLOW**  Illumination  Wisdom  Enthusiasm  Playfulness  Optimism  Cowardice  Warmth | **MAGENTA**  Imagination  Innovation  Compassion  Creativity  Impatience | **PINK**  Friendliness  Compassion  Faith  Health | **GRAY**  Sorrow  Security  Maturity  Dependability  Responsibility |