

# STOP Strategy Paired with Concept Mapping



## How to Use the STOP Strategy with a Concept Map

Using a concept mapping tool like the interactive graphic organizer, Inspiration Maps, is a good pair with the STOP strategy. STOP is part of the Self Regulated Strategy Development model for teaching writing and supports persuasive writing. It includes four elements.

**S = Suspend Judgment;** students list the points for both sides of an argument and consider both possible sides.

**T= Take a Side;** students read the points for both sides and decide which side they feel is more persuasive.

**O = Organize Ideas;** students review their ideas and select the strongest, often numbering them in order of importance.

**P = Plan More as You Write;** students continually plan as they write and potentially use other strategies to support the drafting, editing, and revising process.

Below are the steps for using Inspiration with STOP.

**STEP 1:** Find a persuasive template in Inspiration Maps. Teachers and students can tweak templates to suite their writing needs, i.e., teachers may modify the template to make vocabulary align with common core language, such as “claim” and “evidence”.

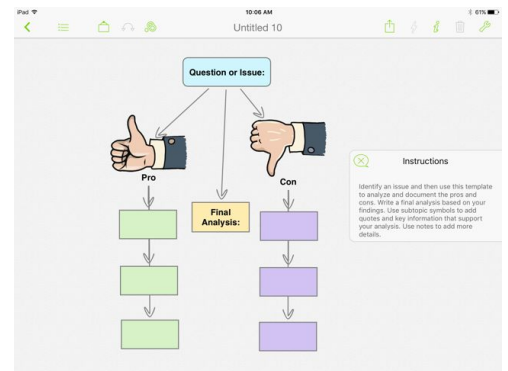
**STEP 2:** S = Suspend judgment by double tapping inside a shape to get the cursor to add text or make edits. Students may use an article to list evidence for and evidence against, such as the example topic “owning exotic animals” from a National Geographic article.

**STEP 3:** T = Take a Side. Make a claim after choosing a column of evidence that is strongest. Create a shape and type the claim close to the chosen column.

**STEP 4:** O = Organize ideas for those points that are most important. Tap and drag on a shape to move it. Then you can number them. The numbers will help when you move to the outline format offered in the Inspiration app. Numbering also helps if you want to put notes into CO:Writer, another app for the writing process.

**STEP 5:** P = continue to Plan. Tap on a box shape to write more. This creates a separate shape for a note. The notes support individual points of evidence. DARE is another strategy to help fluently write an essay. (See DARE demonstration video.)

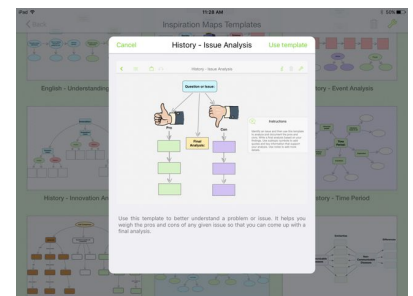
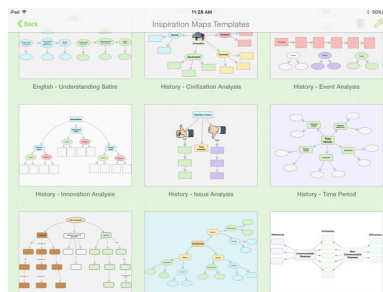
# DARE Writing Strategy with Concept Mapping



## How to Use the DARE Writing Strategy with Inspiration Maps

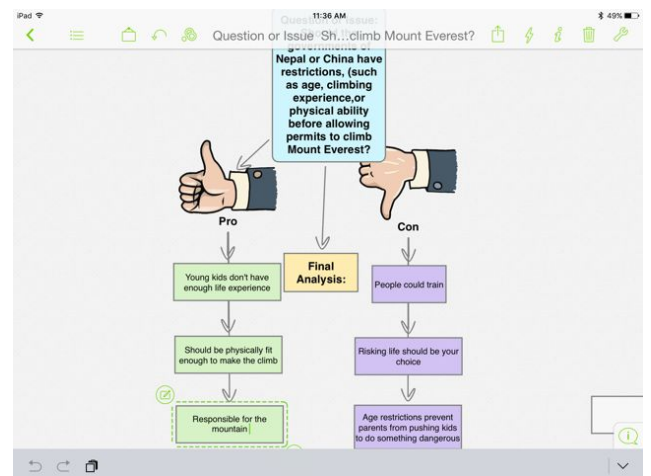
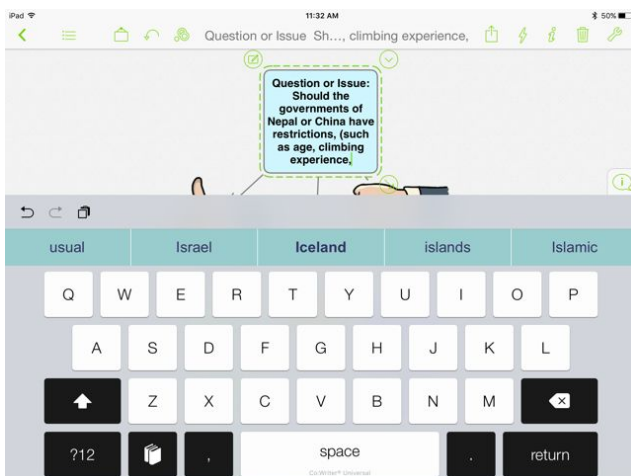
Students can use the DARE strategy paired with a concept mapping tool like Inspiration to develop a persuasive essay. Students often struggle with turning their brainstorming notes into a well organized text. DARE gives them a guide to organize their thinking in a cohesive argument. DARE is an acronym.

- Develop topic sentence
- Add supporting ideas
- Reject arguments
- End with a strong conclusion

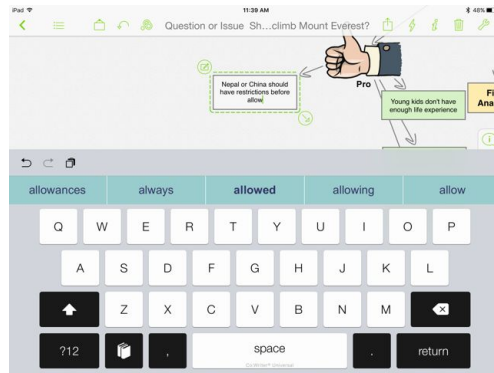


**Step 1.** Choose an Inspiration Maps template from the library that is a good fit for argument writing. Or, have students create their own.

**Step 2.** Type the argument prompt in a box at the top of the page. Below the argument prompt, two symbols labeled “Pro” and “Con” head up the evidence columns. Fill out the columns.

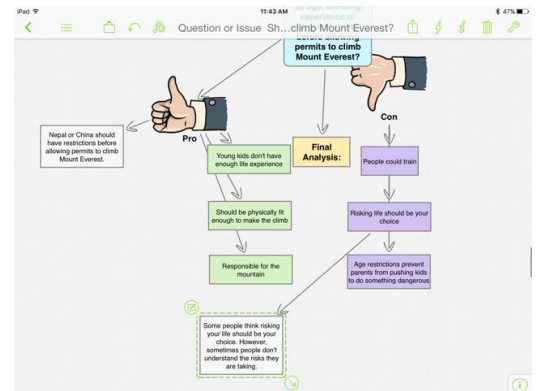
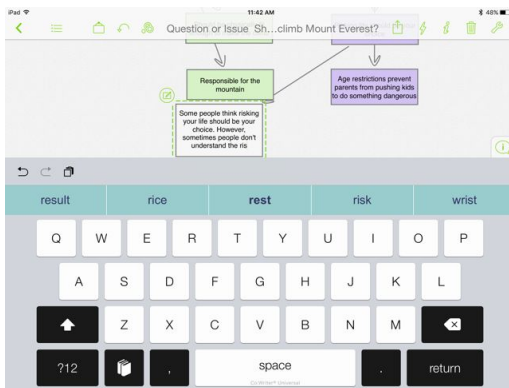


**Step 3.** After reading each side to consider the supporting ideas and evidence, students decide which one has the strongest claim. **Develop the claim** and type this topic sentence off to the side of the chosen column.

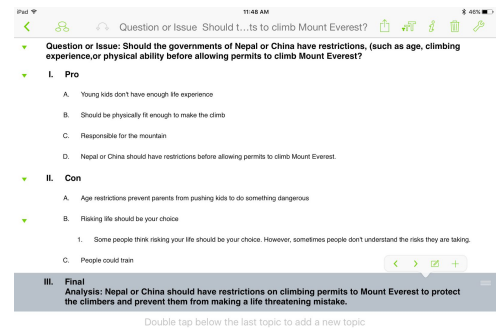
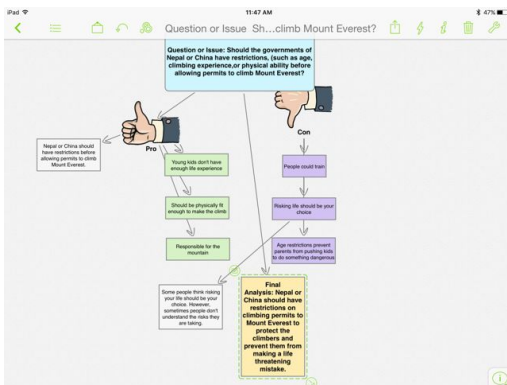


**Step 4.** Add supporting ideas by selecting the strongest reasons from their brainstorming and transform those into complete sentences in the column.

**Step 5.** Reject the other side by choosing one of their reasons from the other side of the argument and explain why that reason is wrong. Create a new box with an arrow pointing to the chosen side. Start out with the sentence starter, “Some people say blank, however...” This formula is helpful for students just beginning to understand rejecting opposing argument.



**Step 6.** Finally, students **End with a strong conclusion** by typing in a shape near the bottom of the map.



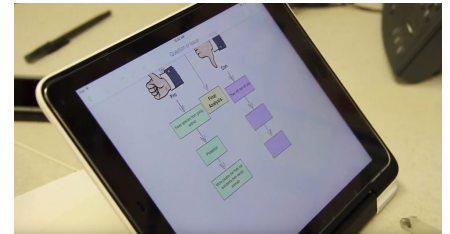
Students can change the format of their map from web to outline using the icon with the three lines to begin writing their essay. They could also copy and paste the outline text into a writing program such as Google Docs or MS Word. The DARE strategy is a great way to get students started on writing a persuasive essay. Pairing the strategy with a concept mapping tool allows students to see a visual representation of their argument but also easily manipulate and reorganize their thoughts.

# USING CONCEPT MAPPING WITH STOP STRATEGY



## Teacher Perspective: Pairing a Concept Map with STOP

Using a concept mapping app such as Inspiration Maps allows students to organize their thoughts from their iPads. They use the app for brainstorming, then often reorganize for better outlining to write their papers. Inspiration Maps allows them to easily manipulate their thoughts where they couldn't do that on paper. Students can drag items to different spots in their map. The tool is valuable for student writers and pairs nicely with the STOP strategy.



### STOP Strategy

- Suspend Judgment
- Take a Side
- Organize Ideas
- Plan More as You Write

Teachers model the steps of the strategy so students can see there are two sides to an argument. If students write down brainstorming ideas for both sides of an argument, it becomes easier to see which side they have the best ideas for and to begin writing.

Students comment that writing is difficult and sometimes they don't know where to start. STOP gives them a structure to go off of to write a persuasive piece. Teachers feel like the strong writers are helped with the strategy, too, since it slows them down allowing for more organization and focus to their writing points.

STOP gives students a basis for their brainstorming; Inspiration gives them the tool to organize. The pairing can be used across multiple content classes.



# Strategies for Effective Writing: STOP + DARE



## Persuasive Planning and Writing with STOP + DARE

### STEP 1. STOP

**Suspend judgment.** Consider both sides of an issue before taking a position.

**Take a side.** Write down ideas for both sides.

**Organize ideas.** Select ideas on the “for” or “against” side that best support your position.

**Plan more and say more as you write.**

Continue planning while writing. Add more ideas.

+

### STEP 2. DARE

**Develop your topic/thesis sentence.**

**Add supporting ideas.**

**Reject arguments for the other side.**

**End with a strong conclusion.**

The STOP + DARE Strategy provides a general framework for planning, reflecting, and writing a persuasive essay that addresses both sides of an issue.

Step 1. Introduce the mnemonic for the two-part STOP + DARE strategy.

- Model it using think aloud.
- Discuss the characteristics of a strong argument/persuasive essay.

Step 2. Provide a sample argument essay for students to read. Discuss.

- Look for evidence of the STOP + DARE strategy in the example. Discuss components of the essay.

Step 3. Provide an example of an argument prompt for students to practice using the STOP + DARE Strategy.

- Analyze and discuss student essays for the STOP + DARE Strategy.

Step 4. Students independently write an argument essay based on the given prompt utilizing STOP + DARE.

# Argument Planning and Writing Strategy

## STOP and DARE

**STEP 1. Suspend judgment.**

Consider both sides of an issue before taking a position.

**STEP 2. Take a side.**

Write down ideas for both sides.

**STEP 3. Organize ideas.**

Select ideas on the “for” or “against” side that best support your position.

**STEP 4. Plan more and say more as you write.**

Continue planning while writing. Add more ideas.

**D**Develop your topic/thesis sentence.

**A**Add supporting ideas.

**R**Reject arguments for the other side.

**E**End with a strong conclusion.



+ *DARE*

The STOP & DARE Strategy provides a general framework for planning, reflecting, and writing an argument essay that addresses both sides of an issue.

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**S**uspend judgment, Brainstorm ideas for and against the topic.

_____ (For)	_____ (Against)
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.
6.	6.
7.	7.

**T**ake a side. Place a “=” at the top of the box that shows the side you will take.

**O**rganize ideas. Decide which ideas are strong and which ideas you can dispute.

**P**lan more as you write. Remember to use all four essay parts (DARE) and continue planning.

Now write your essay on another piece of paper.





Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Article title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Suspend judgment**, then brainstorm ideas for and against the topic. (Use **Inspiration Maps**.)

PRO (For)

CON (Against)

1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.

**T**ake a side. Place a “+” at the top of the box that shows the side you will take.

**O**rganize ideas. Decide which 3 ideas are strongest and which ideas you can dispute.

**P**lan more as you write. Remember to use all four essay parts (DARE) and continue planning.

## **DARE**

**D**evelop your topic sentence

**A**dd supporting details

**R**eject 1 argument – or nod to the opposition

**E**nd with a concluding sentence

Now, write your paragraph in **CoWriter Universal**.