

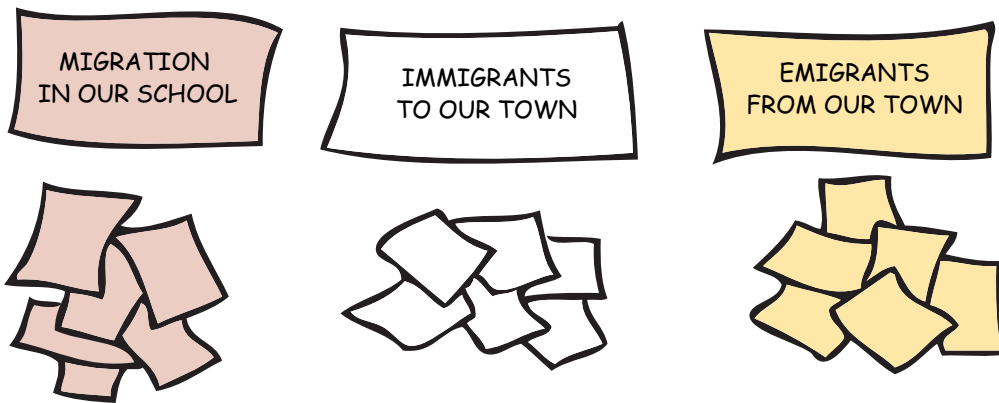
Idea salad

You had your brainstorming session and have collected many ideas. You were so successful that you now have lots of themes to choose from. If you find it hard to pick a subject for a research project, try the “idea salad.”

You’ll need pens and a lot of paper. Coloured paper would be best – one colour for each subject.

- Sit down in a circle again. Then write down your subjects – each on its own piece of paper. Arrange these papers on the floor.
- Now everyone should write their ideas about each subject. Each idea should be written on a separate page and these should be placed in a pile beside the appropriate subject.

**Collecting ideas
about a subject**

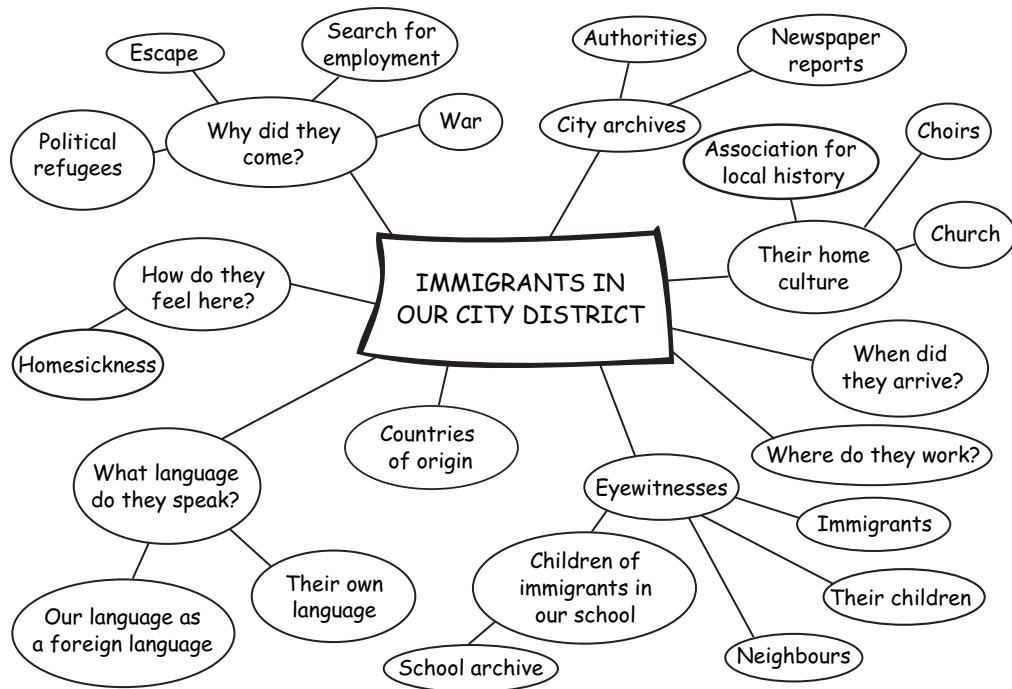


- After about 10 minutes, divide up into groups – as many groups as there are research subjects. Each group goes to a corner of the room and begins to organise the pile of papers – naturally using the clustering method.

Clustering ideas



A cluster on the theme “Immigrants in our neighbourhood” might look like this:



- Each group now presents its findings. Through the idea salad and the resulting cluster, it becomes clear what actually makes up the individual subjects. Maybe you will notice that a theme that seemed “completely boring” before actually is fascinating. Or a subject that you were excited about at first glance could turn out not to be at all suitable for the history competition.
- Finally, you discuss the various subjects; all participants can express their opinions. In the end, you must agree on a joint theme. The best way of doing so is by voting on it.

Presentation and discussion of ideas