

## Power Notes and Power Thinking

Power notes/thinking is just another way to approach jot notes. The use of powers helps students organize main ideas and details.

Power 1 = Main Idea

Power 2 = Supporting Details for Power 1

Power 3 = Supporting Details for Power 2

The following is an example of Power Thinking...

### 1. Colors

#### 2. Primary Colors

3. Red

3. Blue

3. Yellow

#### 2. Secondary Colors

3. Green

4. Made by mixing blue and yellow

3. Violet

4. Made by mixing blue and red

3. Orange

4. Made by mixing yellow and red

#### 2. Tertiary Colors

3. Red-orange

3. Red-violet

3. Blue-green

3. Blue-violet

3. Yellow-green

3. Yellow-orange

If a student was using this strategy to plan an outline for his/her report on body systems it might look something like this.

## 1. Respiratory System

### 2. Nose

3. made of bone and cartilage

4. cartilage – flexible and joins bones

4. bone – hard, porous frame for body

3. prepares air for lungs

4. small hairs filter dirt, dust

4. warms the air

3. cilia and mucus

4. cleans air of what hairs miss

4. cleans air of bacteria and viruses

### 2. Mouth

3. gets air into lungs quickly

3. no filters or warming

### 2. Pharynx

3. tube in upper throat

3. 5” long

3. continues to filter air

3. contains tonsils

4. have white blood cells

5. fight viruses, bacteria and germs

### 2. Larynx

3. tube in middle of neck

3. made mostly of cartilage

3. has cilia

4. moves to create “wind” to blow germs out

3. vocal chords located here

3. holds the epiglottis

- 4. a door that allows air to pass through when speaking or breathing
- 4. closes when swallowing

- 2. Trachea
- 2. Bronchi
- 2. Lungs
- 2. Blood

Students would continue on in the same manner with the other part of the respiratory system.  
Once the power notes are complete, the students has a detailed outline from which to write and essay.

For essay writing the same can be done at the beginning as a brainstorming technique.

Example:

- 1. Courage
  - 2. What it means to me
    - 3. what it meant when I was little
      - 4. my dad in the Navy
      - 4. my big brother
      - 4. standing up to a mean dog
    - 3. how it changed as I grew older
    - 3. what it means now
  - 2. How we can demonstrate courage everyday
    - 3. in our dealing with friends
    - 3. in how we act in our homes
    - 3. in school
  - 2. Examples of courage
    - 3. bravery
    - 3. determination
    - 3. steadfastness
    - 3. standing up for others

A student may see that outline is getting bigger and bigger and the numbers are getting higher and higher, then it would be a good idea to pull a Power 2 or 3 out and make it your number 1 (narrowing the topic) to create a topic that can be covered effectively in a school essay.

The introduction or “hook” into the essay would be a Power 0 as well as the conclusion.