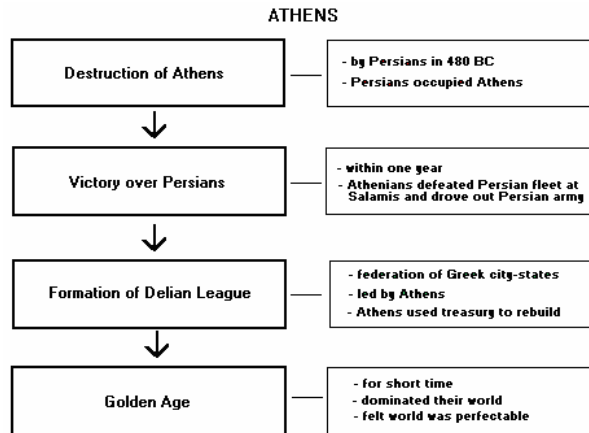


## Organizing your Notes

These examples are based in social science, but can be adapted to fit any subject. It is important to use an organizing method that works best with your learning style.

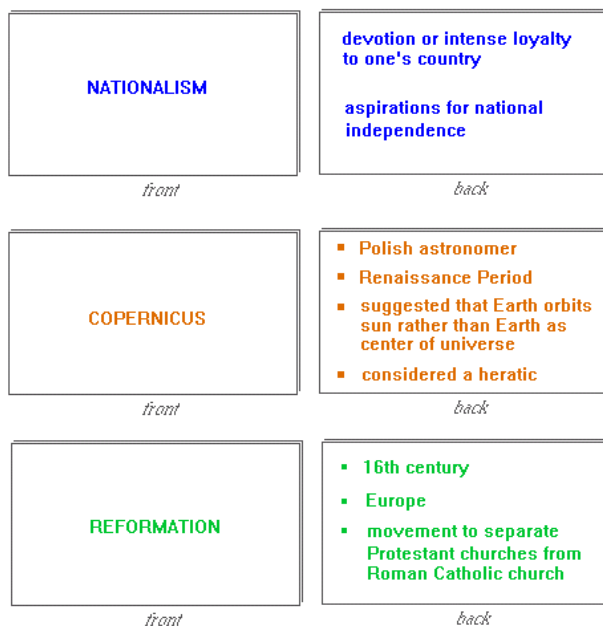
### Flow Charts

Flow charts are useful for organizing spatial information, chronological information, cause and effect relationships, and processing information. An example of a flow chart is given below.



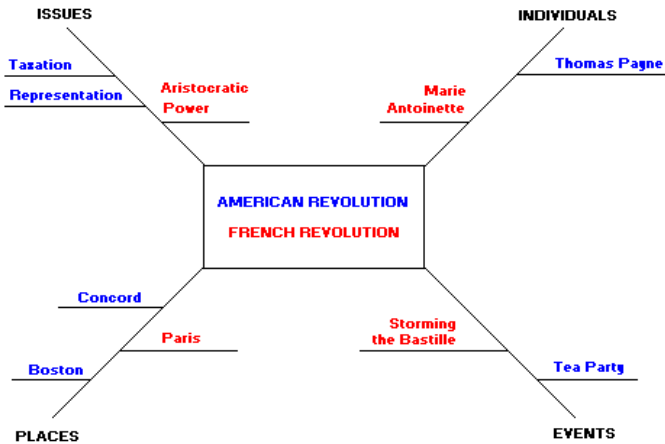
### Flash Cards

Flash cards are used to organize terms and definitions, people and contributions, time periods, and other types of information. When identifying major terms, people and concepts, focus on four things: who or what is the term, with what geographic region is it associated, with what time period is it associated, and why is the term or concept important to the study of that time period.



## Mind Maps or Webs

Mind maps (webs) lend themselves to organizing a great deal of information related to one major concept. Main topics related to the major concept are drawn off it, and details are arranged around the main topics. An example of a mind map completed with history information is provided below.



## Matrices

Matrices are helpful for organizing information about two or more events, people, policies, or groups. Matrices also help to summarize information about one topic

U.S. POLITICAL PARTIES 1790s

	FEDERALISTS	ANTI-FEDERALISTS DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLICANS
<b>Leaders</b>	Hamilton, J. Adams	Jefferson
<b>Constituents</b>	creditors, rich, bankers	farmers, pro-debtor groups
<b>Government</b>	for strong, centralized gov't	against strong central gov't
<b>Foreign Policy Views</b>	pro-English	pro-French
<b>Economics</b>	strong economy 3 reports of Hamilton	opposed Federalist approach

(J. Ihlenfeld, CAL)