

Wall Chart

Description

Sometimes it is easier to explain things with pictures and labels than with words and paragraphs. A wall chart is a labeled picture, diagram, or figure that displays information on a topic. Wall charts share basic information in a creative layout of artwork, brief captions, headings, small blocks of information, and borders or frames. Wall charts can be prepared using many different media such as crayons, colored pencils, magic markers, paint, cutout letters, collage, or combinations of these options. Wall charts created in a series can depict a given subject or theme with each wall chart covering a subtopic within that overall theme.

Planning

1. The key to a good wall chart is selecting an appropriate topic that lends itself to explanations with pictures, labels, and mini-texts rather than long paragraphs. Therefore, take time to choose a suitable topic, and as you research the information needed, think of ways to visually present the major concepts.
2. Next, sort out the information you want to portray and decide how best to present it. Sketch a layout for the chart and figure out on which sections of the chart you can place diagrams, figures, or pictures and on which sections you can place blocks of information. Consider where on the chart you will need connecting arrows or lines. Use this visual outline as a basis for writing your wall chart report. Sketch the artwork and compose labels and headings that will help to tell the story.
3. Consider using brief but large headlines as titles for major sections and smaller subheadings as points of clarification. Under the subheadings, write small blocks of text that contain important facts to make the topic of your wall chart more informative.
4. The layout and organization of the chart is important and should use arrows and lines to show how parts of the chart connect or relate.
5. Finally, make certain to put something eye-catching at the top of the chart to attract people's attention. Borders and frames can also add special interest and highlight major pieces of the text.

Assessing

1. For each of the following, assign point values on this scale: Outstanding 5; Excellent, 4; Good 3; Fair 2; Unsatisfactory 1: labeled illustrations, diagrams, and/or figures; labels or headings; smaller subheadings, small blocks of information; interesting layout; connecting arrows and/or lines; title, heading, box at top; border or frame; varied print or font sizes, but not too many; engages other students; has eye appeal and tells story with visuals and words.
2. Add up the points and translate the total into a letter grade; explain your results.