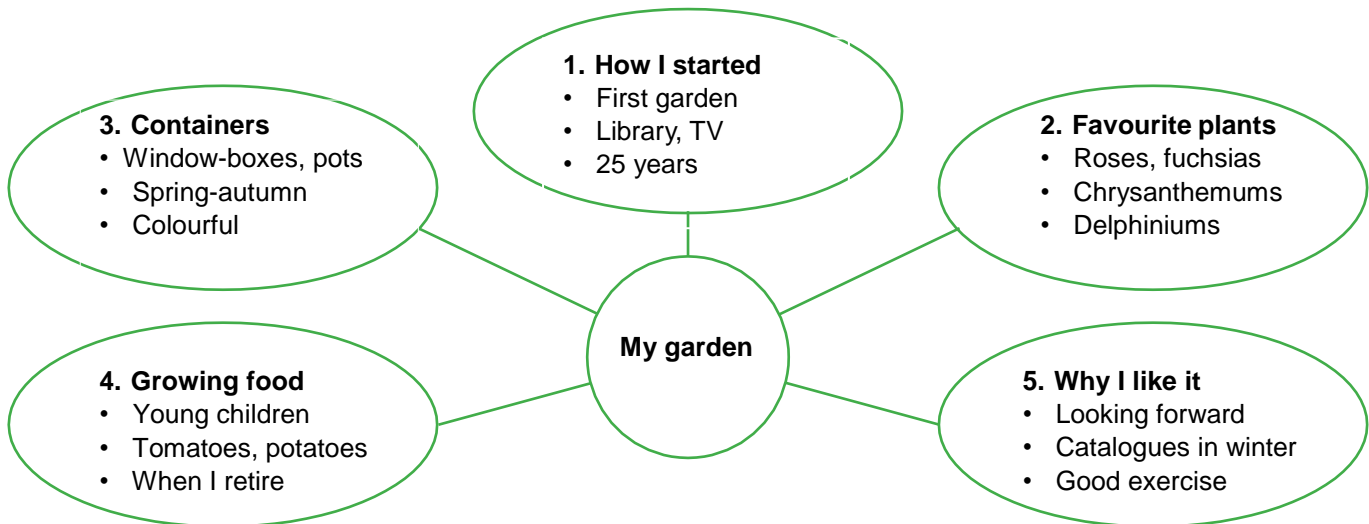




Using a mind diagram

This **mind diagram** or **mind map** has been used to **plan a piece of writing** about gardening. Note how the topic in each bubble has been made into a new paragraph in the passage below.



My garden

It all started when I moved into a house with a small but well-stocked garden. I borrowed gardening books from the library, watched gardening programmes on television and visited garden centres. Throughout the next twenty-five years, I planted, pruned and propagated.

Each year I have a different favourite plant. Roses, fuchsias, chrysanthemums and delphiniums have all had their turn.

One of my favourite ways of growing flowers is in containers. I start them off in my greenhouse and then put them out just before they flower. That way I always have colourful flowers by the front door.

When my children were young and I spent a lot of time at home, I grew tomatoes, peppers, potatoes and strawberries. I don't have enough time now because I have a job. Perhaps I'll take up gardening again when I retire.

Gardening is brilliant because there's always something to look forward to. Even in winter you can look at seed catalogues and plan for the summer ahead. In spring you can dig, prune, mow and plant. Who needs to go the gym to keep fit? Not me! I've got too much work to do in the garden.