Sometimes ideas tumble out; sometimes they need coaxing. Whether your ideas are tumbling out pell mell or barricaded in some mental cave hideout, clustering is a tool you can use to help harvest the fruits of a brainstorm. The example below is just one way a cluster might be constructed.

**Clustering**

**Purposes & projects**
- Neighborhood clean-up
- Provide internet stations
- Creative arts
- Sports
- Mentoring
- Afterschool tutoring

**Location**
- Near school(s)
- YWCA
- Church basement
- Somebody's house
- Community center

**Starting a neighborhood youth program**

**Staff & Community Support**
- Mr. & Mrs. Vogt
- Coach Phil
- Parents
- College interns
- Community safety committee
- Volunteers
- President and Board Members of neighborhood association

**Funding**
- Police association
- Community garage sale
- City, county, and/or state grants
- Neighborhood association(s)

**Next time you prepare to write, develop a cluster and see if it helps your ideas develop with greater efficiency, structure, and/or boldness.**