Concept Maps

Venn Diagram • Used for illustrating the relationships between and among objects that share something in common.

Double Bubble • Used to compare and contrast. It allows for shared qualities to be placed between two things that are different, while the differences are placed on the outside of the things. Double Bubble allows for rich comparisons not often provided in the Venn diagram, including answering questions such as: are these two things more alike or more different? what is the most important difference, based on your comparison? what conclusions can you draw?

Cause and Effect (Multi-Flow Map) • Shows relationships between events, allowing learners to state the cause of an event before it happened and the effect of the event after it happens. It allows focus on either the causes or the effects. For example, you may want to focus on the reason why an event happened, such as why the wall was painted blue, or on the outcomes of the event, such as the effects of a car accident.

Fishbone Diagram (Cause & Effect) • Used to identify a problem's root cause. It can stimulate brainstorming and provide a visual display of the many potential causes for a specific problem (or effect). The fishbone helps to think about root solutions because it requires a thorough examination of the issues (and the why's) behind the problem—which will lead to a more complete solution.

Brace Map (Whole to Parts) • Used to help organize the relationship of physical objects by breaking the whole down into its component parts for deeper analysis. The parts of the physical object become smaller and more specific.

Tree Map • Used to classify, categorize, and organize. Helps to organize new ideas and to group items by similar or common qualities.

Single Bubble • Used to describe the traits, characteristics, feelings, attributes, properties, or qualities of a thing. Bubble maps use adjectives as the descriptors; based upon the learner's perspective (or developmental stage), the descriptors may change.

T-Chart • Used for listing two separate viewpoints of a topic. For example: pros and cons, facts and opinions, advantages and disadvantages, strengths and weaknesses, problems and solutions, or main ideas and supporting ideas.

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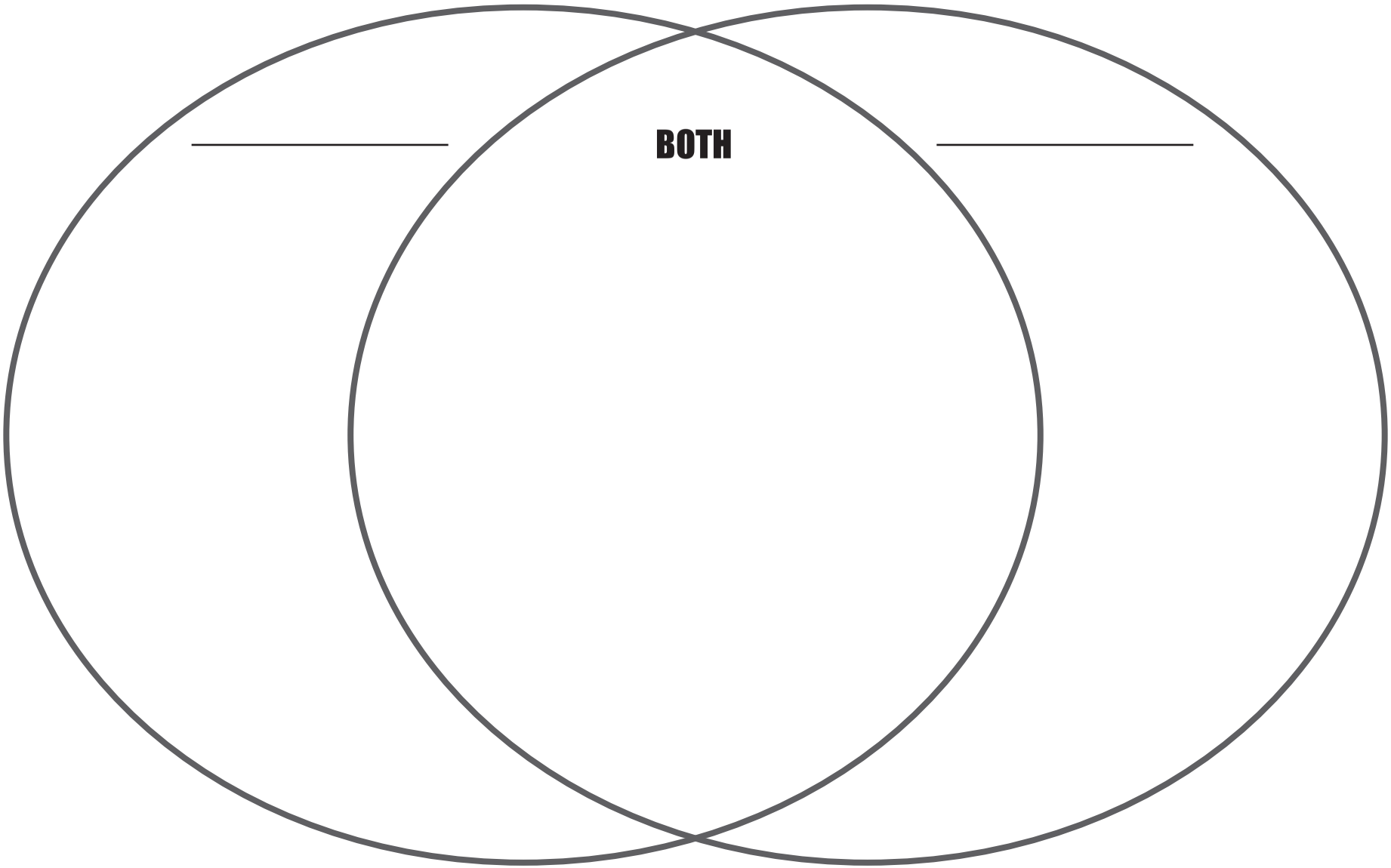
Venn Diagram



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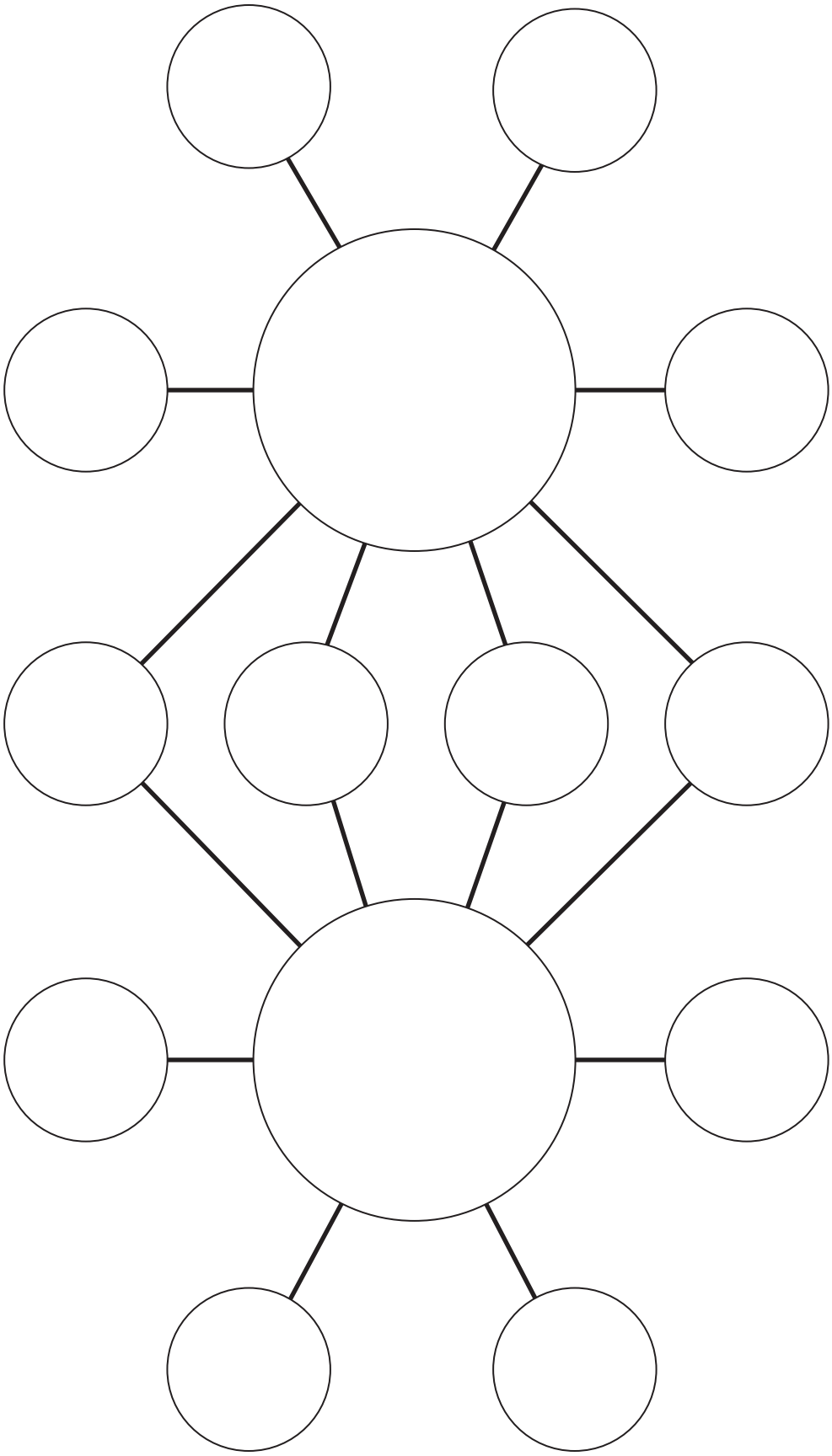
Double Bubble



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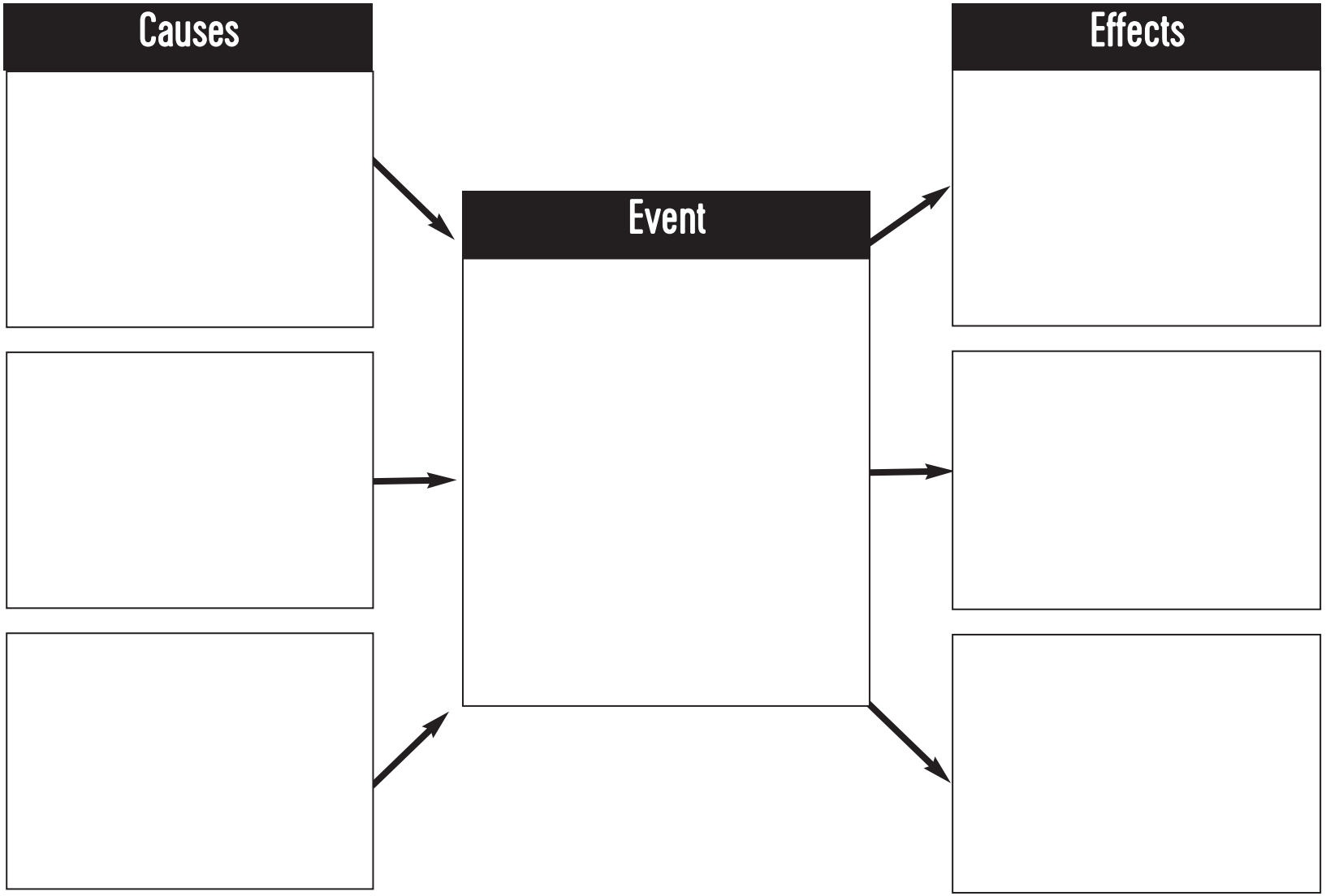
Cause and Effect



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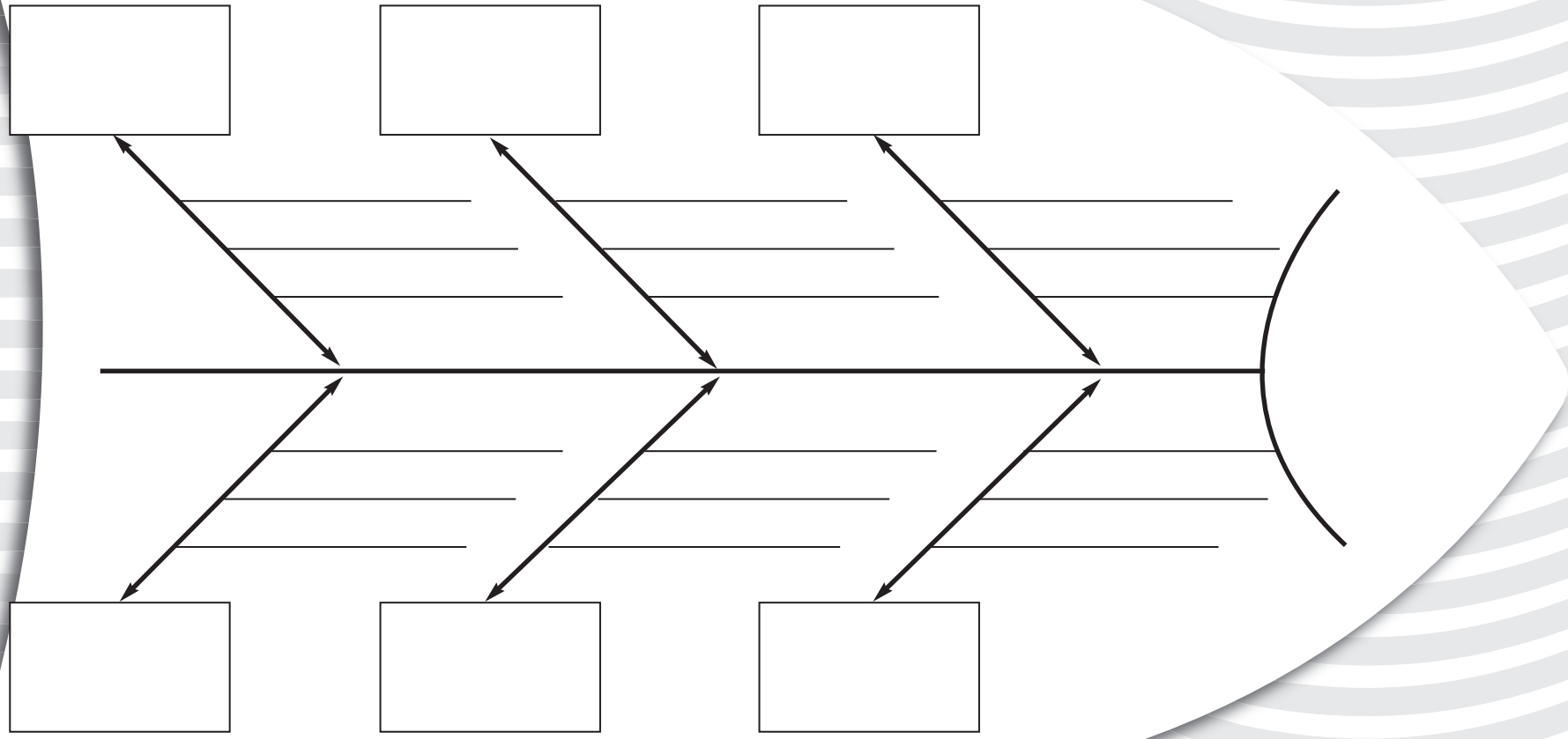
Fishbone Diagram



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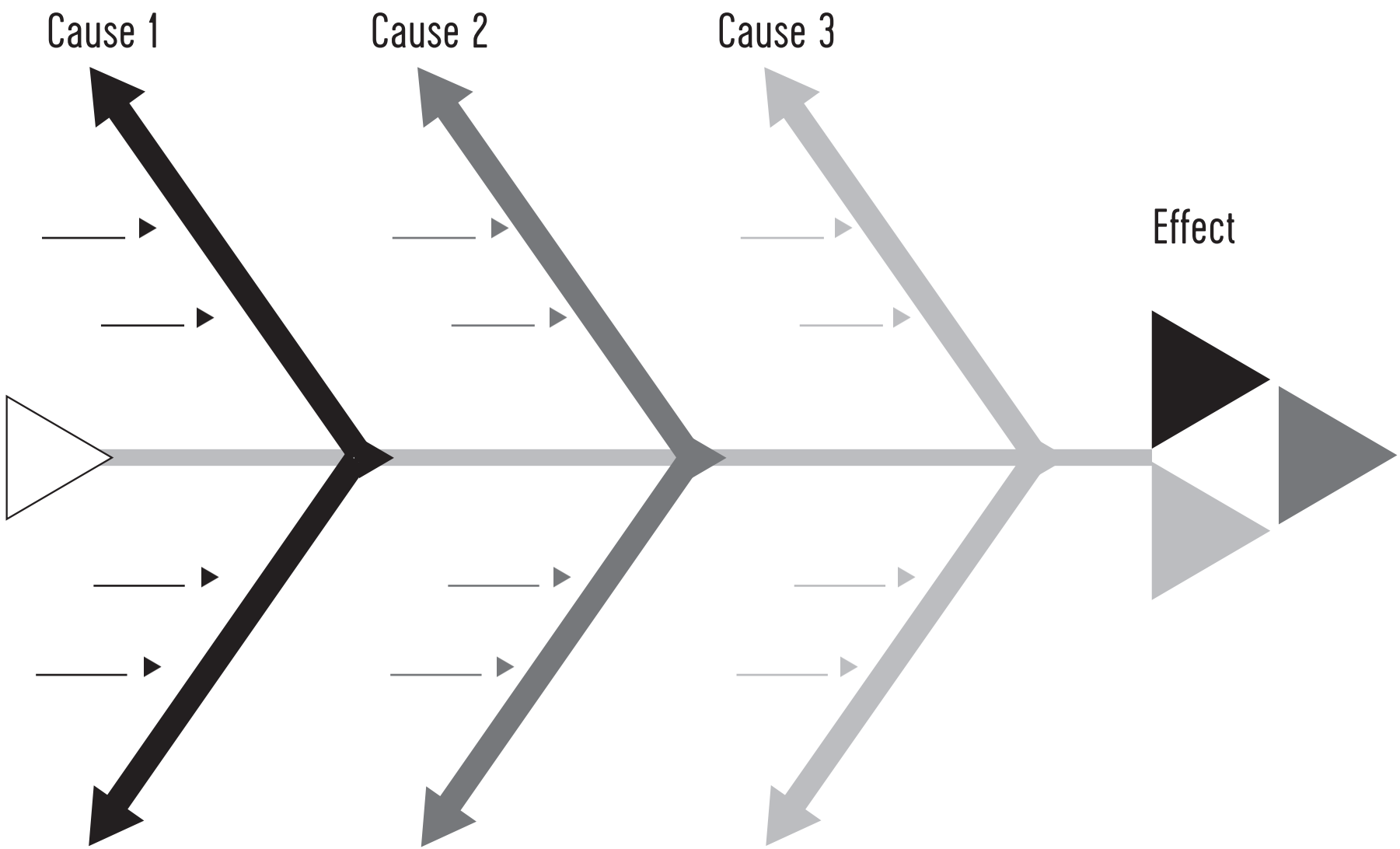
Fishbone Diagram



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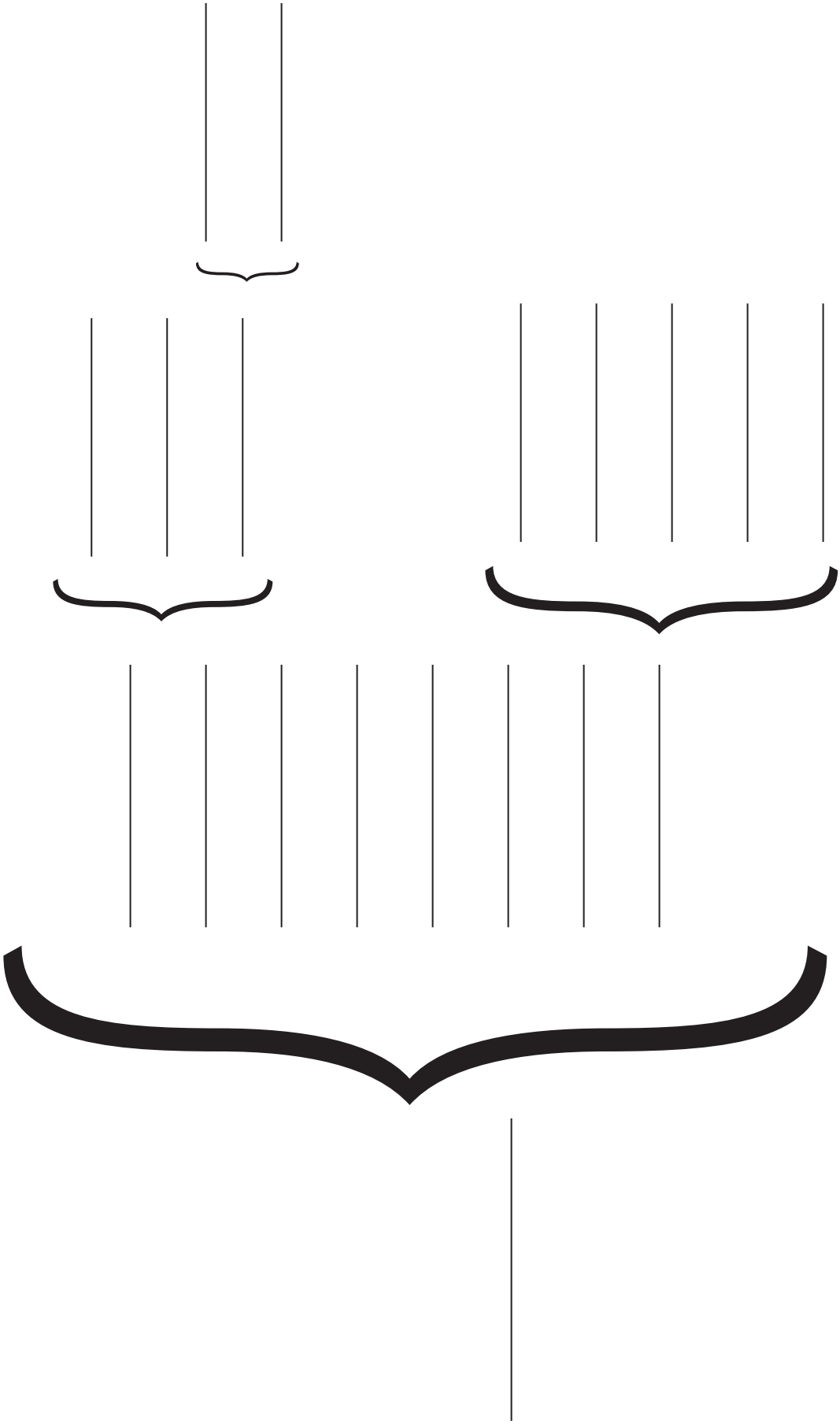
Brace Map



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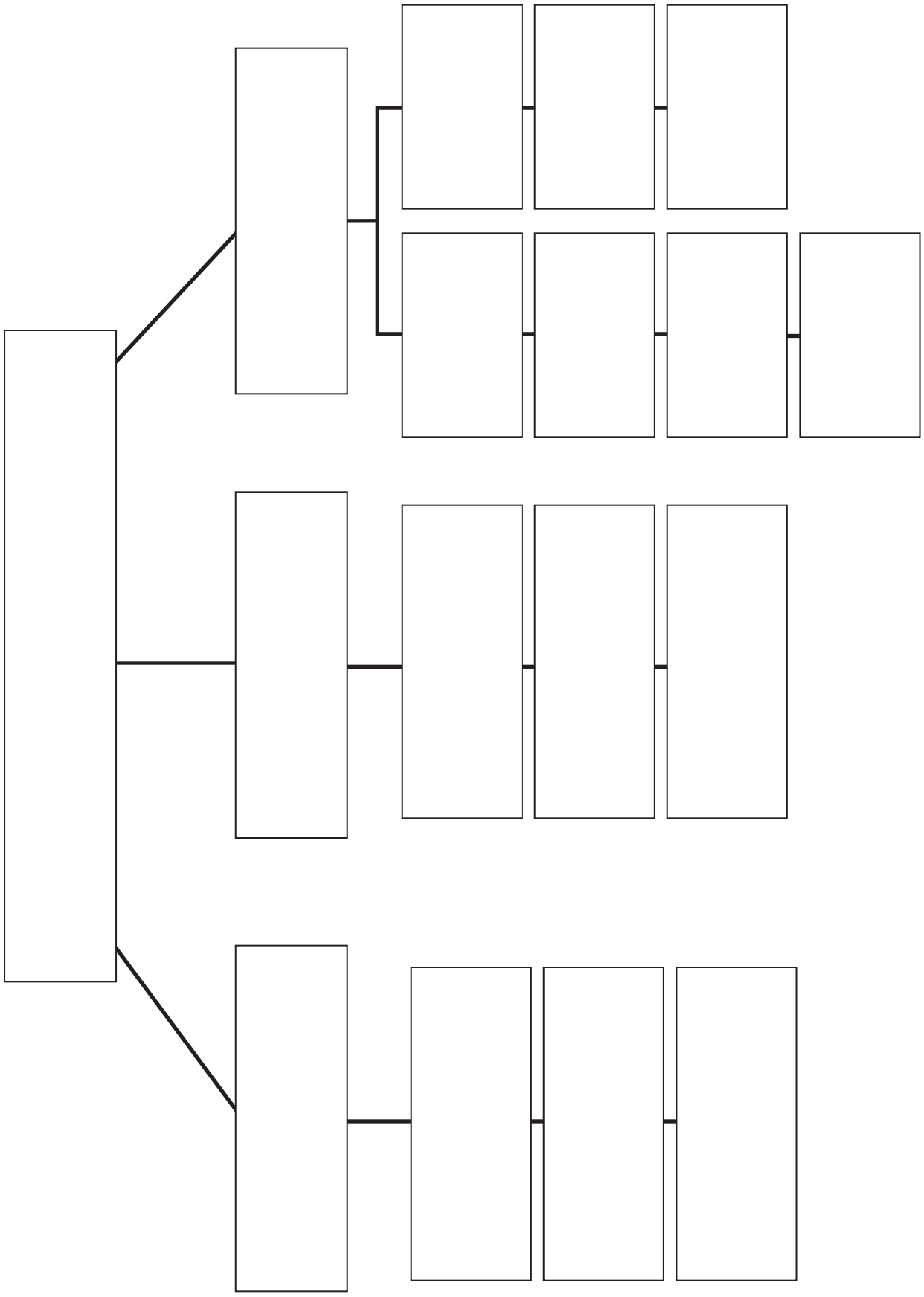
Tree Map



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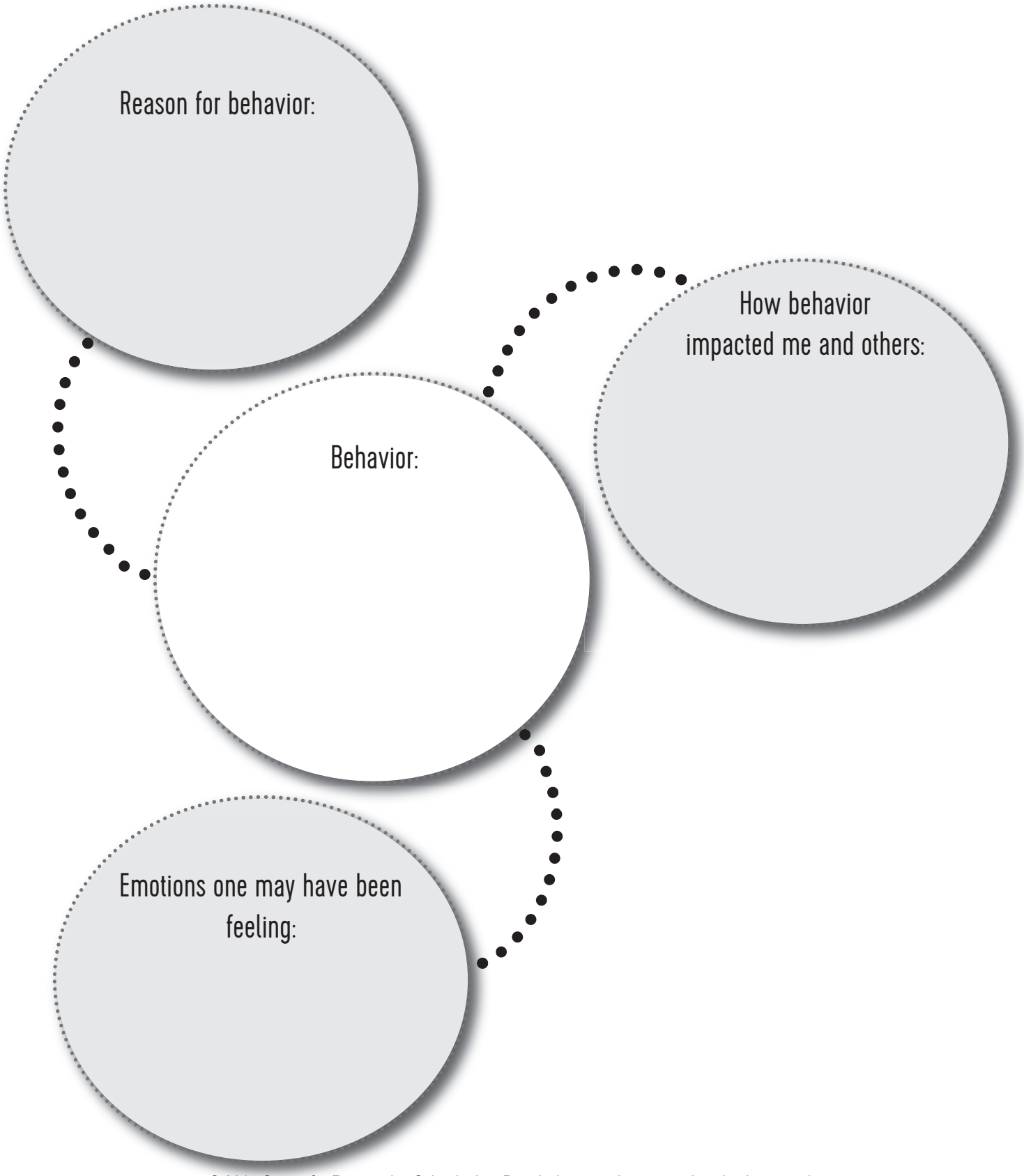
Single Bubble



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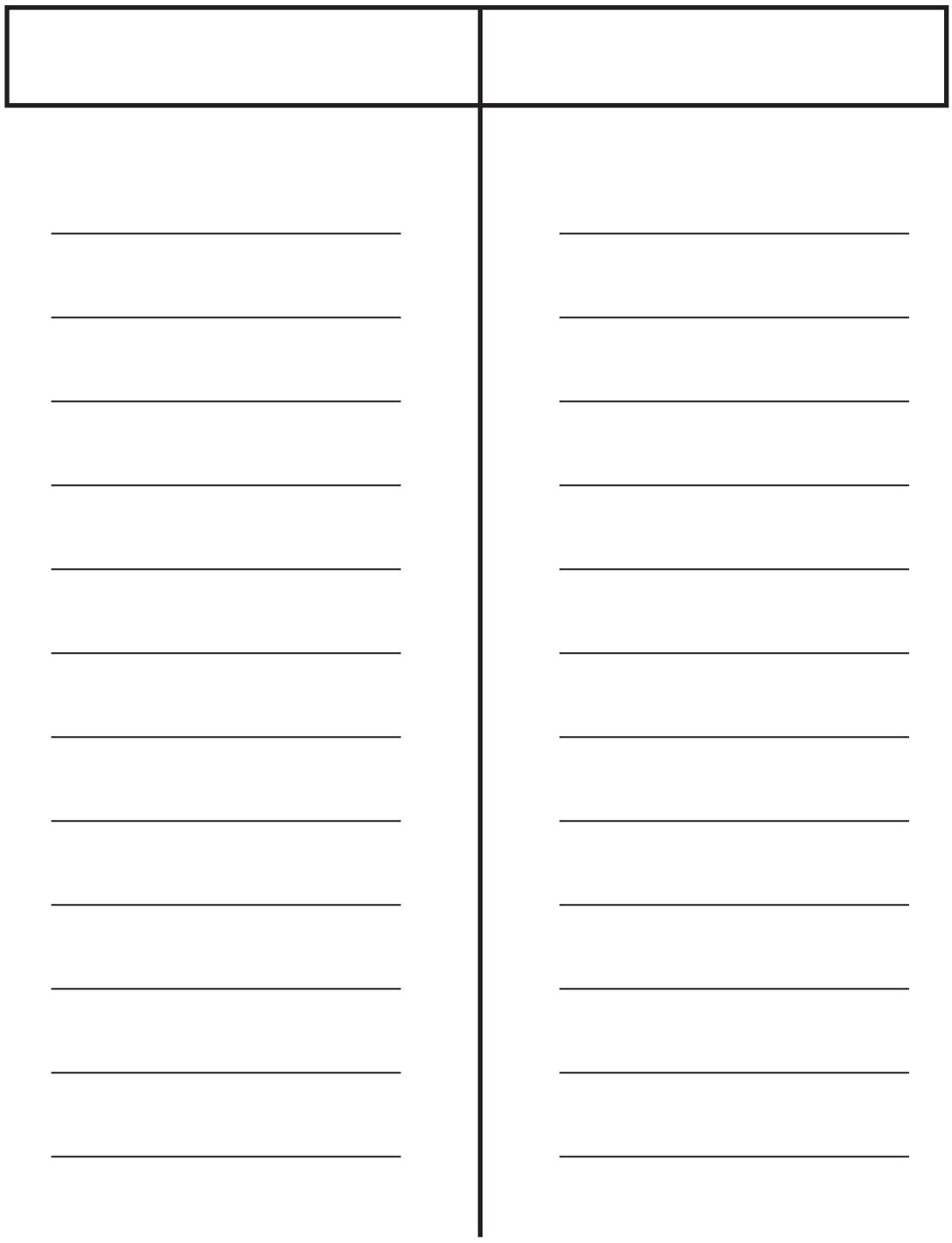
T-chart



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