Learning New Words through Mind Mapping

One tool you can use when learning lots of new words is grouping them into different categories and extending your understanding through pictures and definitions. See how many new words you can learn.

The List
Make a list of 30 words you would like to learn around one topic. Be sure to include any words your instructor gives you.

1.	11.	21.
2.	12.	22.
3.	13.	23.
4.	14.	24.
5.	15.	25.
6.	16.	26.
7.	17.	27.
8.	18.	28.
9.	19.	29.
10.	20.	30.

Making Your Map
Now, create a mind map of these words in which you categorize them according to groups of your choosing. Think carefully about the grouping and select a possibility that will help you best remember each of the words. For each word, do the following:

- Place it on the map in a category that makes sense
- Select an image or definition or use the word in a sentence. Use your own words or drawings to help you remember the words.
- Draw 5 connections between words in one category and words in another.

Rethinking Words
Words have lots of different meanings and possible groupings. The more you connect them with one another, the easier they are to learn. Go back and look at the original list of words, and create another map using different categories. This time, include only the words, but be sure to use different categories.