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## Peer Example



## Group

TONY: My narrowed topic is the advantages of riding a bike for students. Help me generate ideas to support my narrowed topic.

DAN: Bikes are cheap. You can buy a good one for a couple hundred bucks.

TONY: A really good one would cost more than that, but you can buy a good used bike for around a hundred.

BETH: And it can't cost much to maintain a bike. There's no gas or insurance. You could do most repairs yourself.

DAN: And you don't have to pay for a parking decal, or get to school a half hour before your class to get a parking place.

ALICIA: How about it also helps the environment? You're not using gas or polluting.

BETH: Or using all the natural resources it takes to make a car. Anything else?

TONY: It's good exercise. Riding helps keep me in shape.

ALICIA: There you go; you can save on the cost of membership at a gym.

BETH: I imagine it must also be kind of enjoyable, at least on nice days. You're out in nature and you can see trees and flowers and things better than people can in cars. So what do you have so far, Tony?

TONY: I've got that they're inexpensive, good for the environment, good exercise, and enjoyable. I think I can make two supporting ideas out of cost because I can say they're inexpensive to purchase and inexpensive to maintain. Hey, thanks for all your help in brainstorming supporting ideas for my topic.

cost

purchase (\$100–\$400)

maintenance (no gas,  
no insurance, no  
expensive repairs)convenience  
no parking decal  
saves timehelps environment  
no pollution  
use less gas

saves metal

exercise  
stay fit

no gym membership

enjoyable  
see trees and flowers

## Freewriting

Freewriting is another way of generating ideas where you focus on the topic and write down everything that comes to mind, no matter how important or unimportant. Write as much and as fast as you can, without worrying about spelling or grammar.