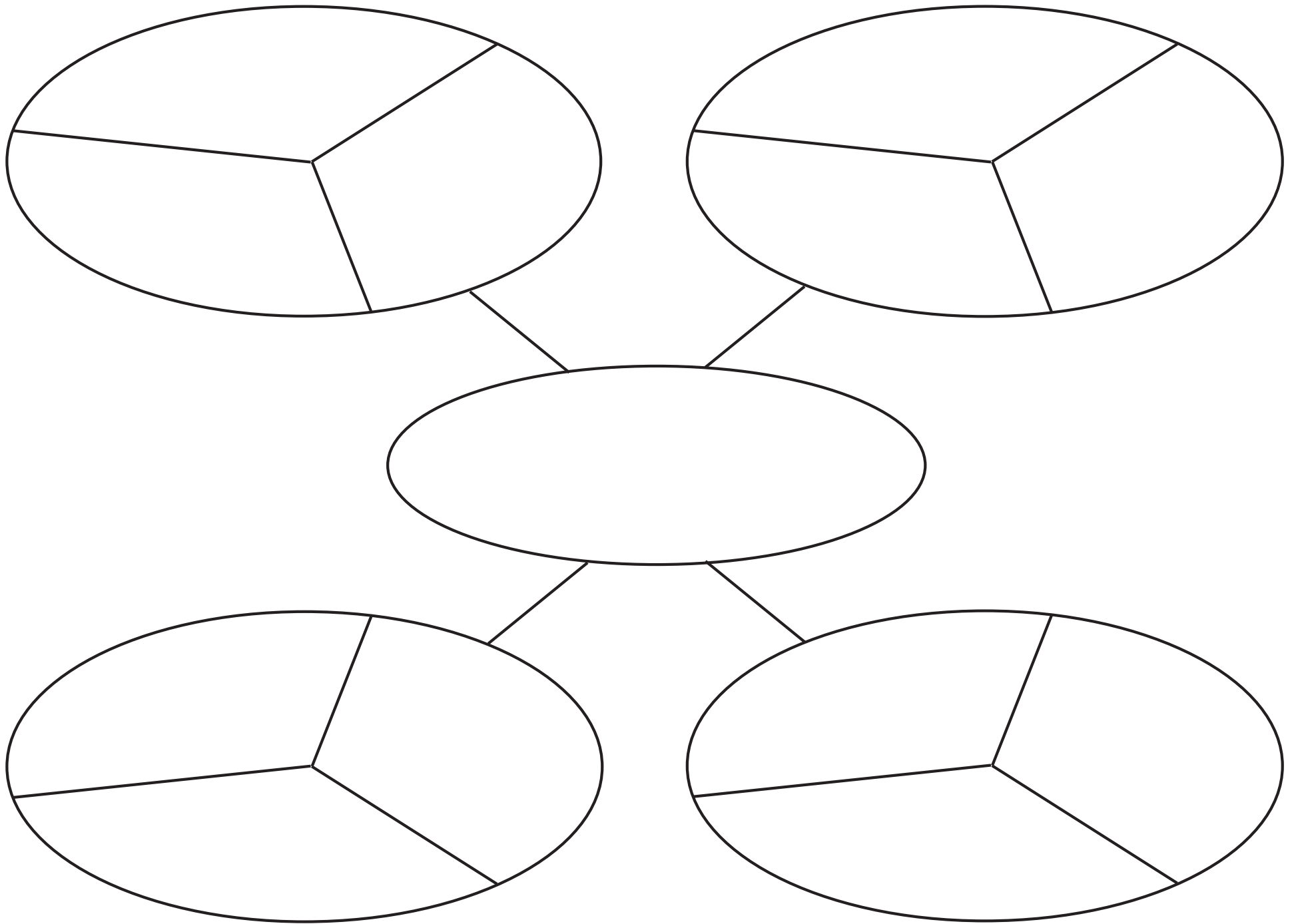




Binge-Watching

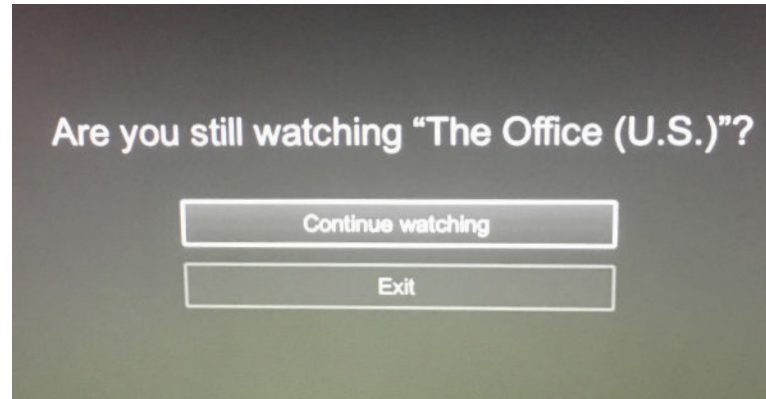
(Binge-watching) has its roots in the 1990s with DVD sets and TV marathons, but the practice reached a new level of recognition in 2013 as Netflix and other video services experimented with original content (like *Orange Is the New Black*) and offered numerous catch-up opportunities for critics' favorites (like *Breaking Bad*). Despite its increased prominence, though, there's never really been a good, single working definition of what binge-watching actually is.

...The Oxford Dictionary defines binge-watching as "watch[ing] multiple episodes of a television program in rapid succession, typically by means of DVDs or digital streaming." Dictionary.com takes a much broader stance on what types of entertainment can be binge-watched, and it suggests that it happens without ever getting up: "To watch (multiple videos, episodes of a TV show, etc.) in one sitting or over a short period of time."

Trend stories about binge-watching rarely get into precise numbers (because)... the minimum number of episodes does not distinguish between hour-long dramas and shorter sitcoms.

...

Joris Evers, the director of global corporate communications for Netflix, says over email that in the vast majority of experiences, the are-you-still-watching prompt appears after three episodes.



The show freezes and is replaced by a dull, gray little dialogue box. The box offers a "continue watching" button to click. Otherwise, the freeze continues, indefinitely.

Regardless of its intended effect, for some viewers, it actively incorporates the element of guilt into the experience. "The auto-play function is responsible for most of

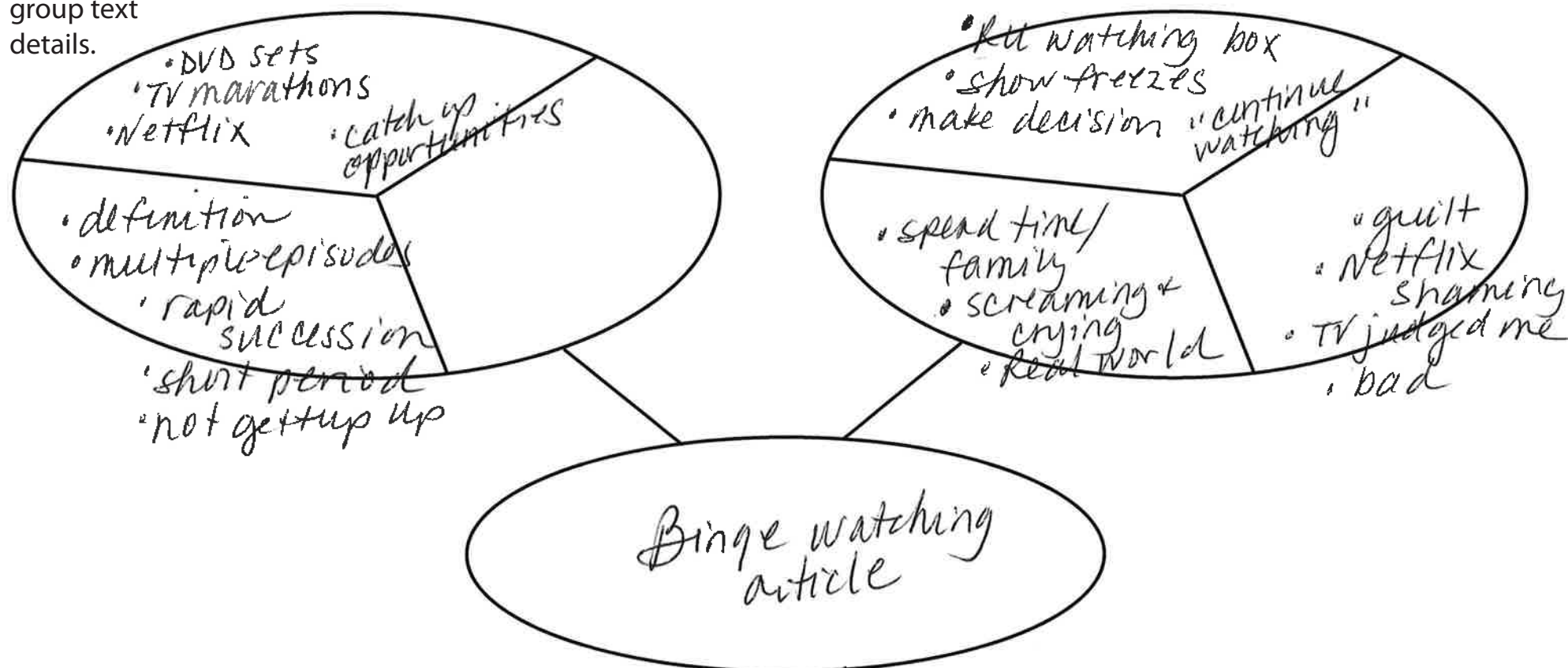
my binge-watches," Notes social media editor Chris Heller says. "If it'll keep playing, I'll probably keep watching until it asks me to make a decision. You know, the 'Are you still watching?' prompt that appears after a while. It's Netflix shaming. After that, I shut it down and try to not think about how my TV just judged me."

...

Sometimes there are clear reasons to feel guilty: Health channel fellow Judith Ohikuare said she felt bad about her all-nighter binge on *Sons of Anarchy* during the holidays because "I knew that I was supposed to be spending time with my family, not crouching over my laptop and screaming and crying about what was going on television." But the more common response was along the lines of what senior editor Jennie Rothenberg Gritz described as "a yucky feeling, like my consciousness was being overtaken by the show and I wanted to get back to the real world."

Group Text Details to Generate a Summary

Collect and
group text
details.



Summarize the
article— one
sentence per
"grouping."

Binge-watching started with DVD sets and TV marathons, where people would watch multiple episodes in rapid succession all in one sitting. Signs of binge-watching include seeing the "Are you still watching?" box, feeling guilty, and living in a fantasy world rather than the real world.

Vulgar Language



I hear it walking to class. It's all throughout media — television, social media, music — you name it. Bad words seem to be unavoidable. The internet has allowed for profanity to appear everywhere and to appear uncensored, thus making these words lose their head-turning value.

My professors — authority figures — sometimes swear during class, yet it doesn't even phase me anymore. In order to gain attention these days, a person must use a myriad of words strung together creatively in order to cause an effect of maximum vulgarity.

It starts out slowly — you begin to say swear words in your head, then out loud on occasion and then out loud on a regular basis. Some curse as a way to blow off steam in negative situations. Some use profanity because everyone else seems to be doing it. And still,

some swear because they're joking around with their friends.

What is this culture of cursing doing to society?

For starters, most swear words are derived from an intent to insult another person. Interestingly enough, many of these words have very feminine connotations.

Yes, context is everything, but as recently proven to me through a discussion in one of my classes, these derogatory comments are the seemingly invisible impact of the mentality society holds that women are less than men. Why continue to perpetuate that stigma?

Another issue is the nature of profanity itself. Discussions with topics of a sensitive nature can quickly turn to arguments, leading to violence if things get out of control. This is

because swearing can create a more hostile environment than one where foul language is absent.

Curse words slowly creep into our vocabulary without us realizing until they become a natural reaction in a variety of circumstances. Swearing can leave someone with a bad impression, signal a lack of control and indicate a bad attitude or immaturity. This is even truer when it comes to our generation interacting with members of older generations.

We should be conscious of the situations in which we choose to use profane language, and try to limit it all together. Nobody wants to be the person who has a slip-up at an important event within a professional setting or in front of the entire family at a holiday dinner.

