

Paramind works best as an "idea multiplier" by taking a sentence and giving back many new sentences. You do this by using the "Merge" or "AutoMerge" function in the "Create" menu. These are the first parts of the program you should use, and will probably be the ones you'll use most.

You should first write a sentence to describe the basic idea your thinking about.

For instance, your thinking about a wedding. You are trying to find out a way to make it less expensive. You will write a sentence such as the following to contain your basic goal:

"Making thing less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding."

We will highlight the word "thing" by dragging the mouse over it. It is the part of the sentence we want to expand, so it will be taken out and replaced by a word category that we will find by pulling down the "Create" menu and selecting "Merge."

We can then chose the "Marrying" category to get an output related to our desired ideas. Paramind will copy the sentence and take out the word highlighted and replace it with a word in the "Marrying"category. The "Marrying word category would be found in "General 3" of the "Category Type" directory).

This is the result we get from the merging the sentence we typed onto the Paramind screen with the word category "marrying":

Making ushers less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

Making tuxedo less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

Making procession less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

Making orchestra less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

Making pledge less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

Making limousine less expensive would lessen

cost of the wedding.

Making lace less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

Making invitation less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

Making honor less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

Making groom less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

Making gown less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

Making ceremony less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

Making aisle less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

Making alter less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

Making banquet less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

Making bridesmaid less expensive would lessen cost of the wedding.

You will want to ask yourself:

What word categories will you be using to help you expand your idea?

Does your idea require you to write in your own Word Categories?

Do you have enough sentences to cover the areas you want your idea to move in?

So, think of Paramind as your idea multiplier. You simply give it one idea and it gives you many more back. This is done by using "Merge" which you'll find in the "Create" menu.

The first step to do this is to type in your sentence. Then you find a word that you see as being important to change for new ideas about the sentence to come out. It might be

any word: a noun, a verb, an adjective, an adverb or even a phrase. After you select with the mouse the word you want highlighted, either by dragging it, or double-clicking on top of the word, you will go into the "Create" menu and select "Merge."

The "Merge" feature lets you make a list of your brainstorming so that you can generate extensive trails of ideas that relate to your idea. Since there are so many combinations of new words copied and merged into your "key sentence" new ideas can be found, and any idea that doesn't first appear to you can be seen later upon reviewing the file. You can have a list of what your idea looks like with one category, and compare that to how it looks with another. This is important for people in all professions who have to make important decisions. You can custom build your categories to have financial figures, colors, places, products, stocks, ideas, employees or anything you desire to be a component of these idea lists that Paramind generates.

Since there are no ways for a computer to edit out ideas that make no sense without possibly editing out ideas that do make sense, normal use of Paramind will sometimes get word combinations that sometimes look strange. Editing out unusual combinations would only lead to lessening the chance of getting the brilliant idea from Paramind.

Paramind works so well because you just take out one word of your sentence at a time, so your original idea is still recognizable.

Paramind can also use text that has been written in a word processor. You may first have to import the text in Write, and then "Cut" or "Copy" the part you want to work with. You will then "Paste" it into the Paramind editor. One good feature to use is the "Find Word to Substitute," as it will go through your text and look for ideas to use. (See more on this in the manual).

Sometimes it's best to take time to type in your own word categories. Go to the "Create" menu and select "Edit Categories." Select "Add," and fill in the screen. You can do this as many times as you want, and there is no minimum number of words per category. You

select "OK" after you are finished, and then select "Build Index" to include your new category or categories in the category list. Building the index is usually slow on all computers and even all programs that use indexes. (Be sure you only click on "Build Index" once. If you double click it will build the index twice.)

To edit a category, you highlight it first, and then select "Edit." Change, delete, or add new words and then rebuild the index again to make sure the new version is included. You don't have to rebuild the index after each category you work on, only upon exiting the edit categories screen.

After you have merged many times you may end up with an output that has so many new ideas that you've lost track of your original ideas. The only way to avoid losing the initial list is to save your merges as you go along. A simple word for the project with letters or numbers such as "car1" or "book7" is a good way to keep track.

The third and fourth merge can produce complicated idea lists by the amount of new words coming into your original sentence. This is only a problem if you don't have a specific direction. Specific directions can be best planned out by using a word manual you can print out by printing the word category lists with the "Dictionary Printer" (included in retail versions only).

The "AutoMerge" feature is an powerful engine to create fifty or more pages of merges on your original "Key Sentence." (A "Key Sentence" is the Paramind term for the sentence you type into the screen which contains your ideas). In one minute of key clicks you can generate hundreds upon hundreds of new fascinating ideas.

The "Substitute Highlighted Word" function can be used for those times where you don't want a lot of output. The new word simply replaces your old word, and you don't have a list of sentences, you simply have the one sentence you started with. It will show you a list of words in the categories that you selected. You select the one that you think might be good to replace the word that you've highlighted.

If you see a word that you like, you simply keep it highlighted and click on "Ok." It will then replace your original word.

Using this feature can also give you a lesson in grammar, as each time you look at a category that has the part of speech (verb, noun, adverb, etc.) that it is in, you can see if a word is an adjective, adverb, etc.!

\*\*\*\*\*TECHNICAL NOTE\*\*\*\*\*

Are you seeing a "Word Not Found in Any Category" message? There is one common mistake that can happen if you've been experimenting with Paramind and clicked the "Replace by Category" feature. If you see a "check mark" next to it when you pull down the "Create" menu, you will want to click on it to remove the "check mark" and disable the feature. You will see a "Word Not Found in Any Category" error message if it is checked, most of the time. Its an advanced feature that isn't used until one is either familiar with what words are in the word category database, has a very large word category database, or has is doing advanced work with a custom made word category database.