

Knowledge Organiser

Learning Aim D: Forms of Notation

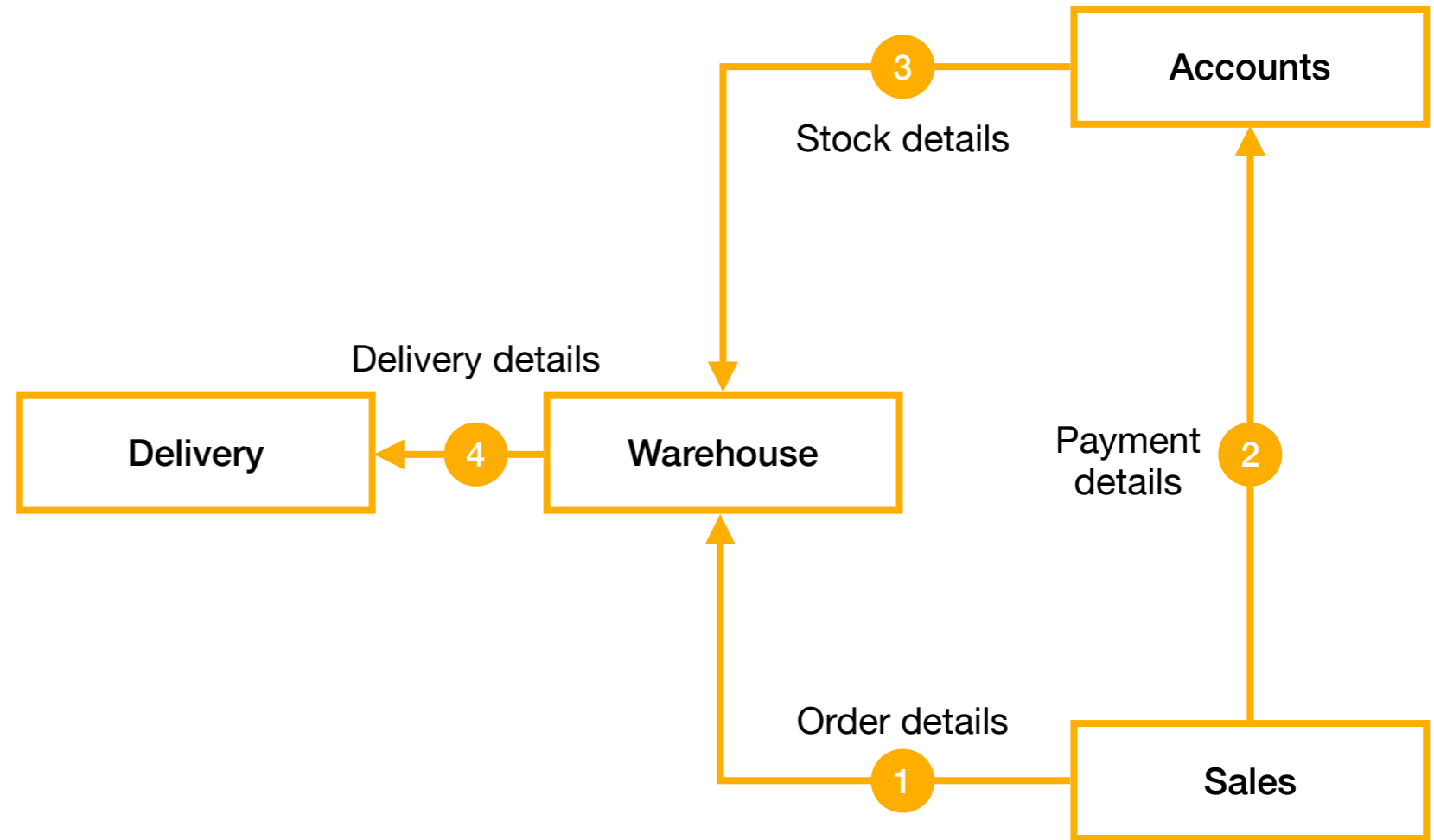
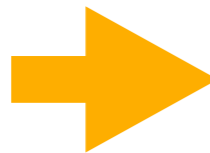
01 Information Flow Diagrams

An IFD (information flow diagram) shows:

People/users of the system



How information travels between organisations or different areas of an organisation



How to create an information flow diagram:

1

Use squares for key parts of the systems like people or departments.



2

Use arrows to show how information flows around the system.



3

Label the arrow with what information is being transferred.



02 Data Flow Diagrams

A DFD (data flow diagram) shows:

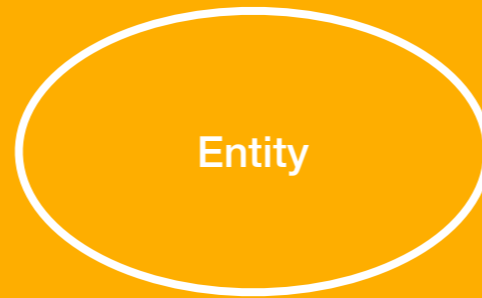
Entities (people, users, other systems)

Data flow within a system

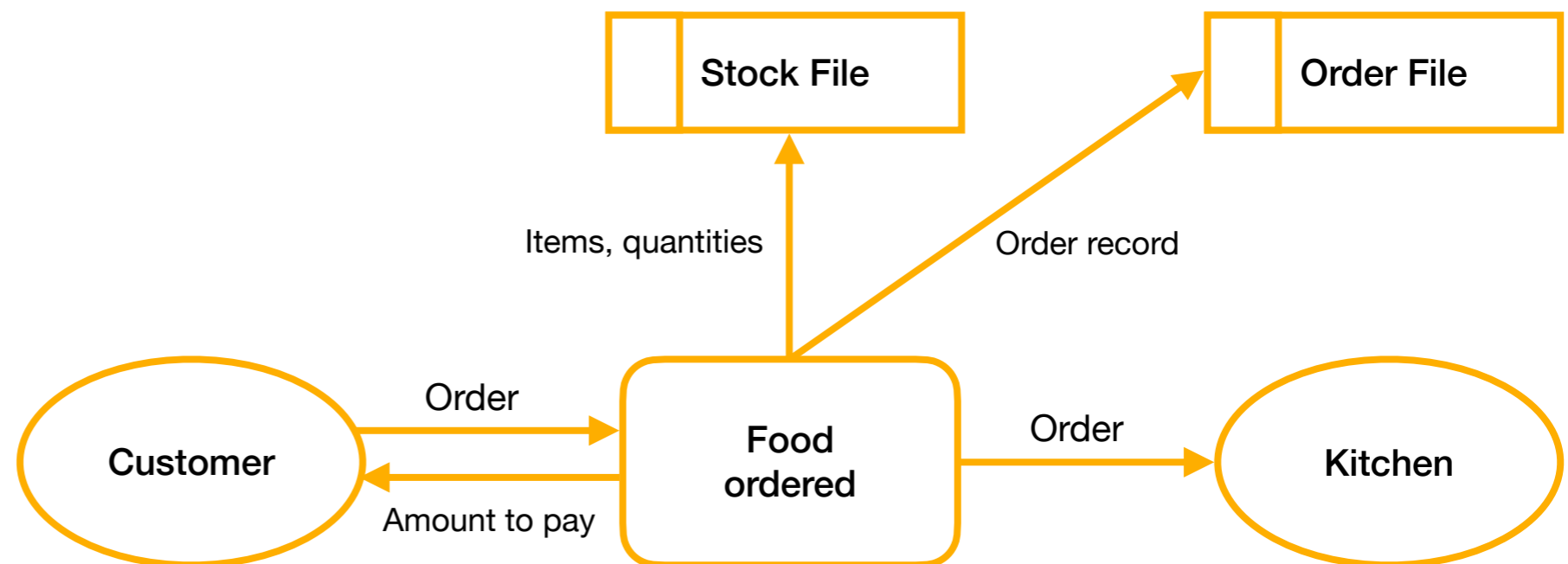
How data is processed

Where data is stored (files/databases)

Data flow diagram symbols:

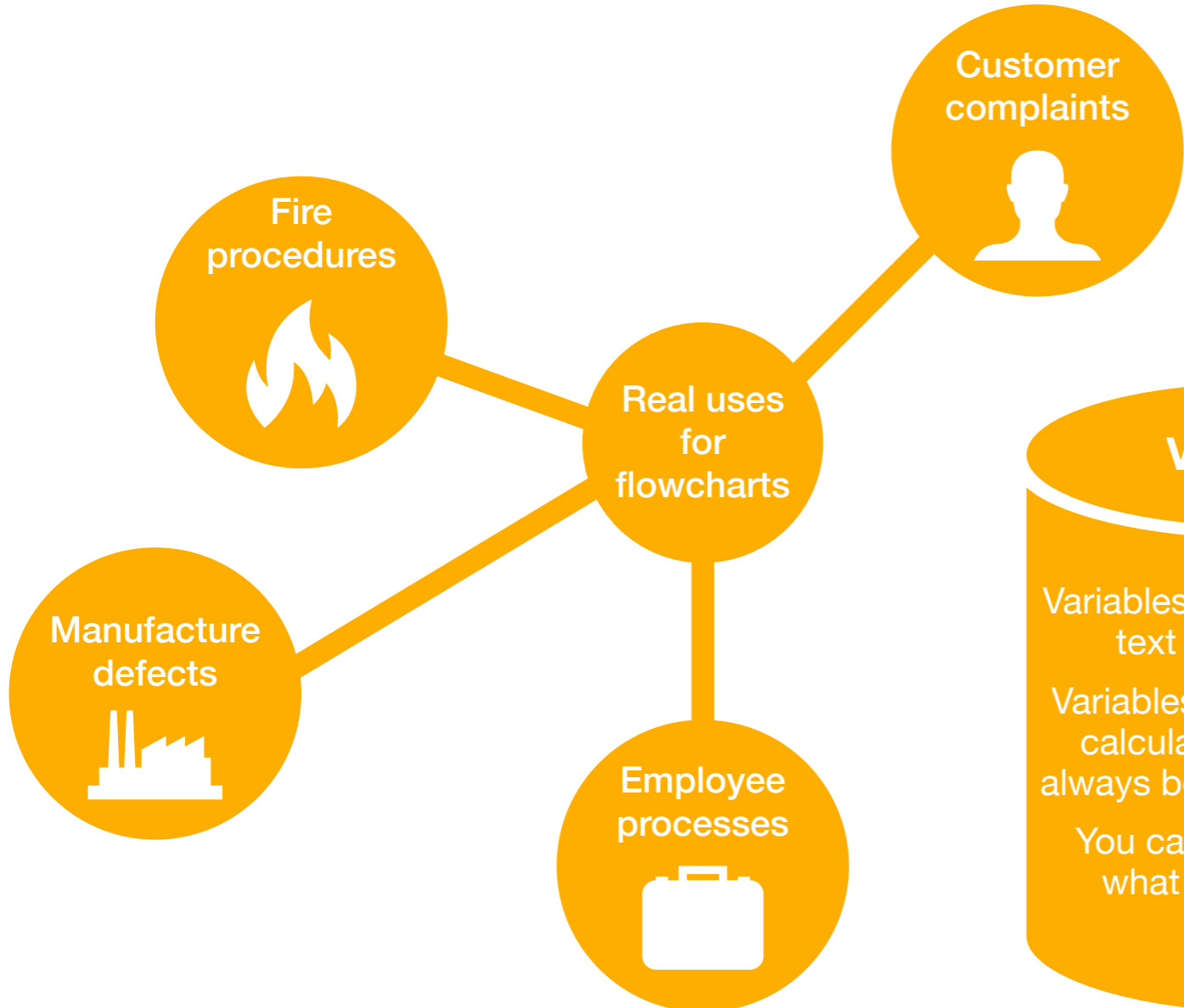


Top Tip!
You should never draw a data flow line between two entities. Data flows always go to or come from a process.



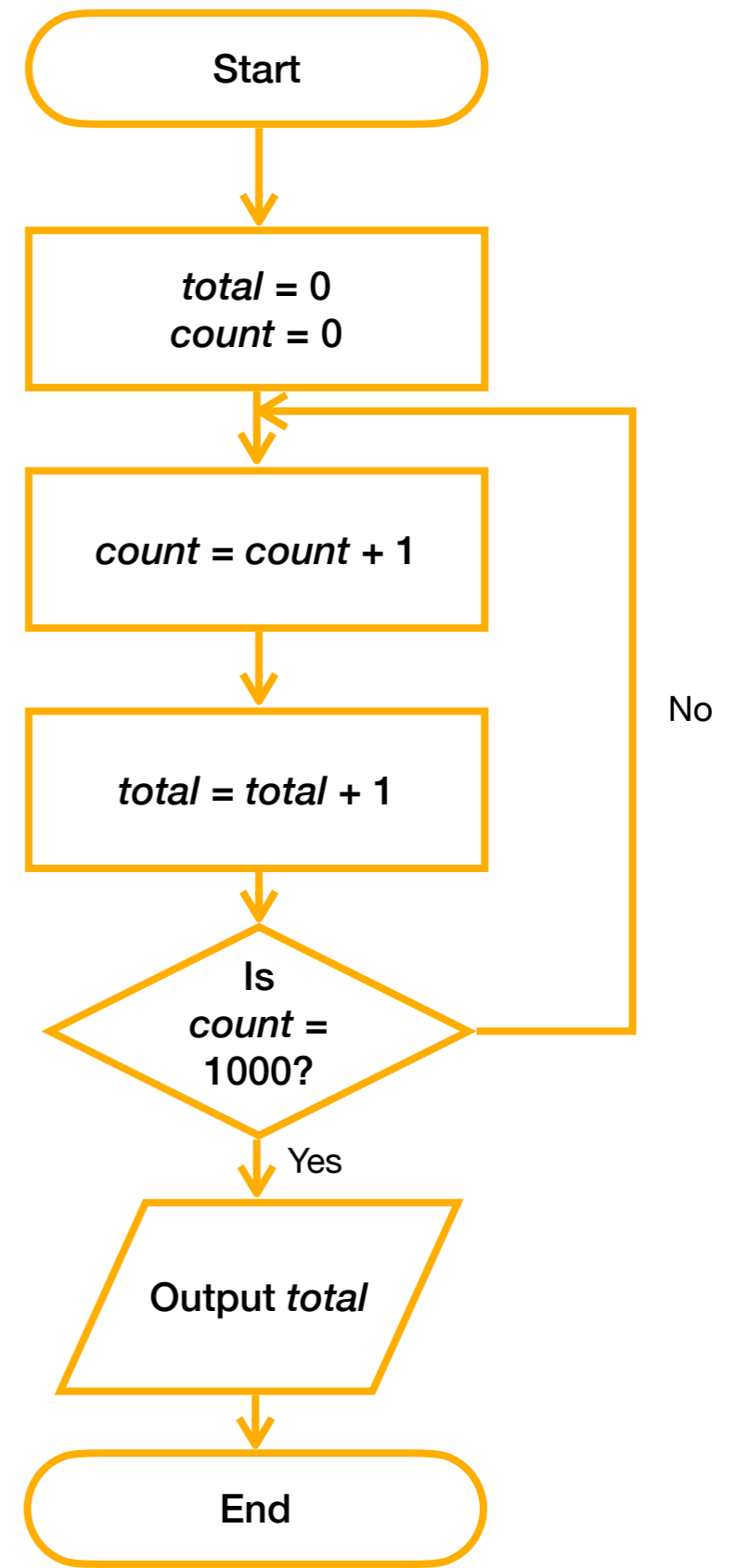
03 Flowcharts

Flowchart symbols:

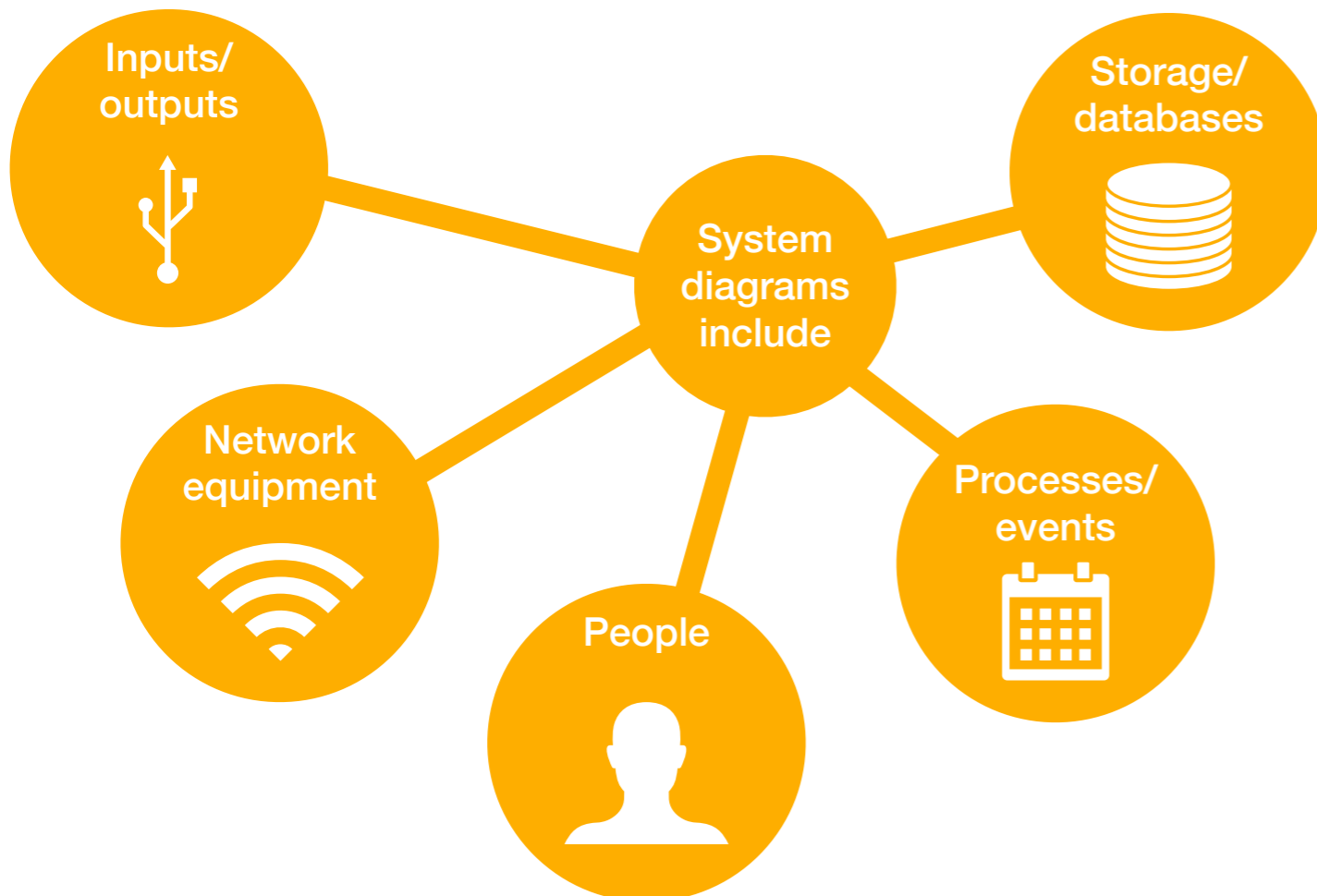
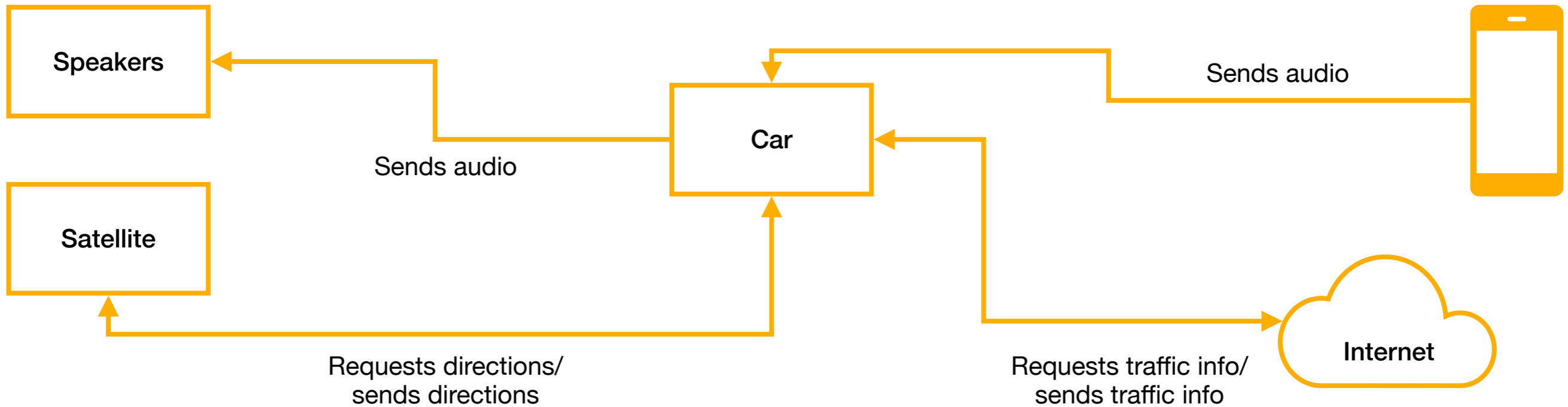


Variables

Variables store a number or text in a flowchart. Variables are often used in calculations, which will always be in a process box. You can input or output what is stored in the variable.



04 System Diagrams



How to create a system diagram:

Identify the key components



Draw the key parts



Add the connections

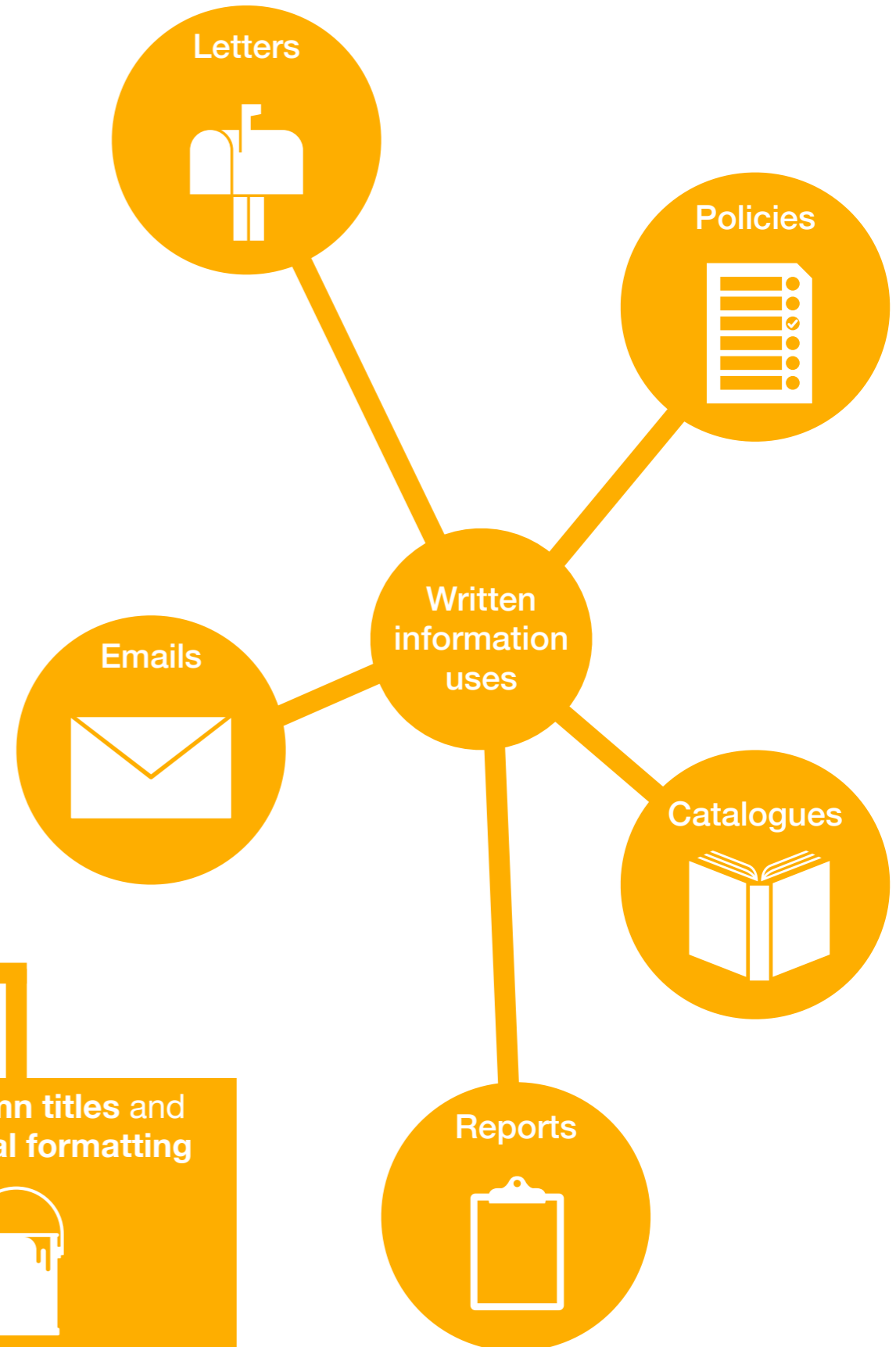


Label the diagram

System diagrams can use icons or just text boxes.


05 Tables

Tables	vs	Charts
Useful information can be located and extracted easily.		Provides a visually appealing representation of data.
Can be manipulated electronically (e.g. through Excel).		Shows trends at a glance without the need for analysis.



How can a table design be improved?

Consider what data is needed and reference it



Give the table a clear and descriptive title



Use column titles and conditional formatting

