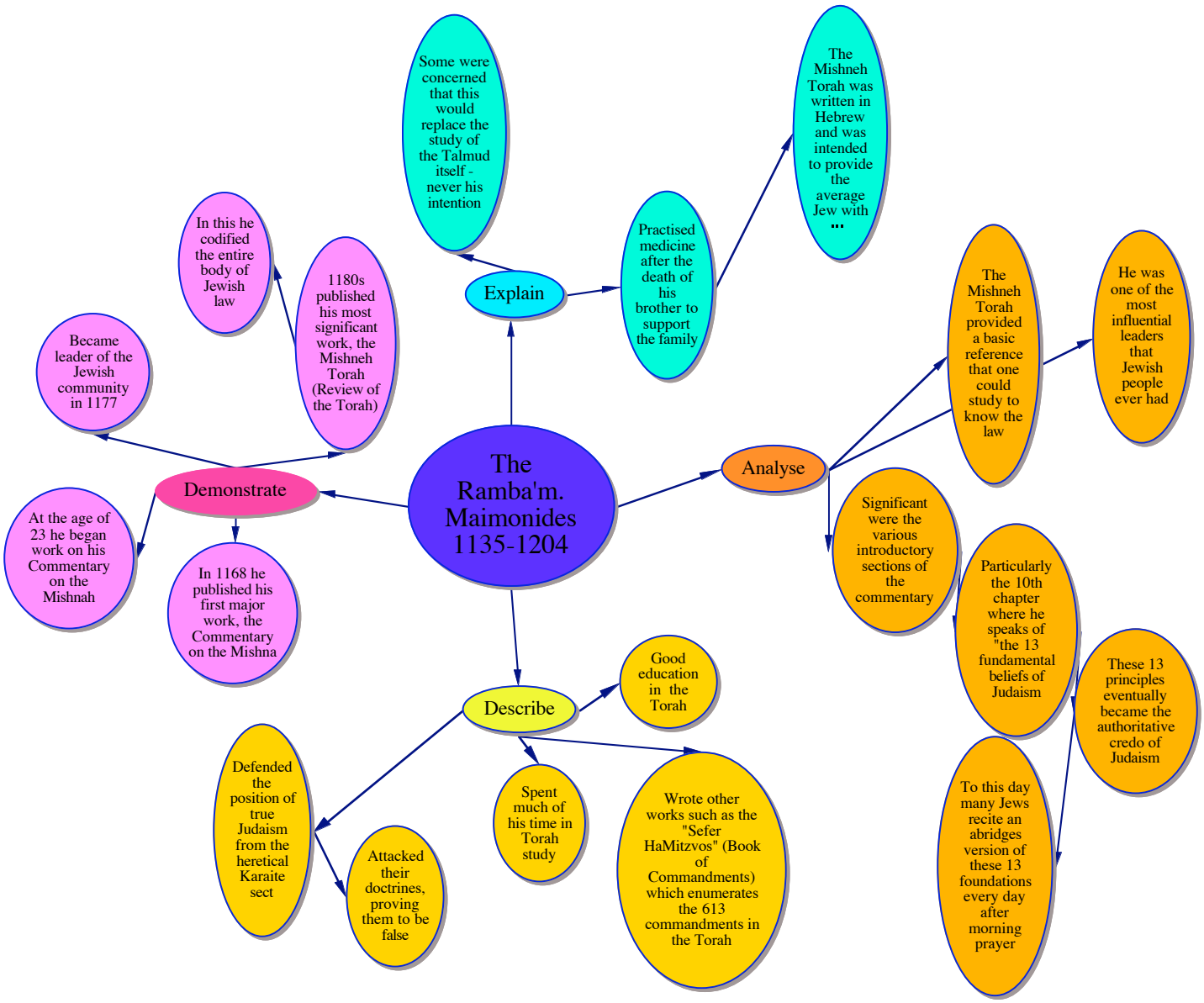
The Ramba'm. Maimonides 1135-1204
Explain
Some were concerned that this would replace the study of the Talmud itself - never his intention
Practised medicine after the death of his brother to support the family
The Mishneh Torah was written in Hebrew and was intended to provide the average Jew with ...
Demonstrate
Became leader of the Jewish community in 1177
1180s published his most significant work, the Mishneh Torah (Review of the Torah)
In this he codified the entire body of Jewish law
At the age of 23 he began work on his Commentary on the Mishnah
In 1168 he published his first major work, the Commentary on the Mishna
Analyse
The Mishneh Torah provided a basic reference that one could study to know the law
He was one of the most influential leaders that Jewish people ever had
Significant were the various introductory sections of the commentary
Particularly the 10th chapter where he speaks of "the 13 fundamental beliefs of Judaism
These 13 principles eventually became the authoritative credo of Judaism
To this day many Jews recite an abridges version of these 13 foundations every day after morning prayer
Describe
Good education in the Torah
Defended the position of true Judaism from the heretical Karaite sect
Attacked their doctrines, proving them to be false
Spent much of his time in Torah study
Wrote other works such as the "Sefer HaMitzvos" (Book of Commandments) which enumerates the 613 commandments in the Torah