

WRITER'S WORKSHOP Comparison / Contrast Essay

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Prewriting: Gather Information

Use this chart to help you compare and contrast the two works you are writing about.

- ◆ Write the names of the two works you are going to compare and contrast under the headings **Work #1** and **Work #2**.
- ◆ In the **Elements** section of the chart, find the column for the type of works you are going to write about. Cross out the other two columns.
- ◆ For each element listed for the type of work you're writing about, fill in the information for **Work #1** and **Work #2**. For example, if your two works are stories, fill in the information about the stories' subjects, themes, plots, and so on.

	ELEMENTS		Work #1	Work #2
Stories	Essays	Poems		
Subject	Subject	Subject		
Theme	Main idea	Theme		
Plot	Purpose	Imagery		
Conflict	Subjective/ Objective Writing	Figures of Speech		
Characters	Tone	Speaker		
Point of View	Language	Tone		
Setting		Form		
Tone		Rhythm and Meter		
Language		Other Sound Effects		

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Evaluating and Revising: Peer Editing

DIRECTIONS: Use the following questions to evaluate a classmate's comparison/contrast essay. Then, share your responses with the author of the paper to help him or her revise.

<p>If you hadn't read the works, would this essay get you interested in them and give you a good idea of what they're about?</p>	
<p>What do you learn from the essay about the writer's views?</p>	
<p>What does the essay leave you wishing you knew more about?</p>	

COLLECTION 9

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WRITER'S WORKSHOP Comparison / Contrast Essay**Pupil's Edition page 580****Evaluation Scale:** 1 = Not at all 2 = To some extent 3 = Successfully**DIRECTIONS:** Circle 1, 2, or 3 below to indicate the evaluation of each item.**Introduction**

- ◆ The essay's introduction clearly identifies the works being compared, gives all necessary background information, and contains a clear thesis statement. 1 2 3

Comparison / Contrast

- ◆ The writer thoroughly compares and contrasts at least two elements from the works in the body of the essay. 1 2 3

Organization

- ◆ The writer effectively expresses and logically organizes his or her ideas. 1 2 3

Support

- ◆ The writer effectively supports the essay's general statements with specific details, examples, and quotations. 1 2 3

Conclusion

- ◆ The essay's conclusion accurately summarizes the main points, adds a new thought, or states the writer's response. 1 2 3

Spelling, Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics

- ◆ The essay has few errors in spelling, grammar, usage, and mechanics. 1 2 3