

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## WHAT TO KNOW!

### Compare and Contrast Paragraphs

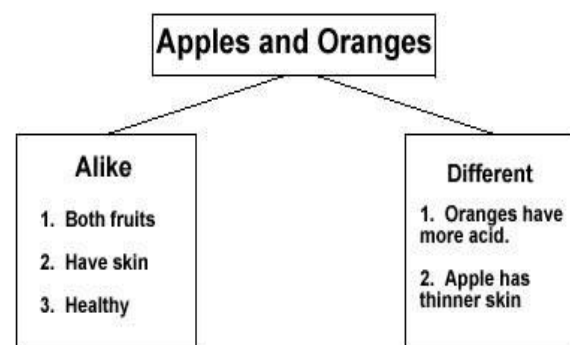
**Compare and Contrast** is a text structure or pattern of organization where the similarities and differences of two or more things are explored. It is important to remember that with the compare and contrast text structure the text should be discussing similarities *and* differences. If the text only discusses similarities, it is only comparing. Likewise, if it only discusses ways that the things are different, it is only contrasting. The text must do both to be considered compare and contrast.

#### Example:

Apples and oranges are both fruits, which means that they have seeds inside of them. Each has a skin, but orange skins are thick and easy to peel. Apple skins are thinner and do not peel easily. Oranges also contain more acid than apples, but both fruits are delicious.

Identifying when the writer is comparing and contrasting is usually not difficult because the speaker will bounce back and forth between two subjects and this pattern is generally pretty easy to recognize. However, here are some **signal words** that may indicate that the text is written using the compare and contrast organizational pattern:

### Compare and Contrast



<b>Compare</b>	also, as well as, both, comparatively, in the same way, in addition, just as, like, similarly, the same as, too
<b>Contrast</b>	although, besides, but, conversely, differ, even though, however, in contrast to, instead, on the other hand, otherwise, rather than, unlike, while, yet

Example of a sentence that is comparing:

***Birds and insects both fly around my backyard.***

Example of a sentence that is contrasting:

***A bird has two legs, but an insect has six.***

Example of a sentence that compares and contrasts:

***Birds and insects are both animals, but only birds are vertebrates.***



**Directions:** Tell whether each sentence is comparing two things, contrasting two things, or both. Write the word **compare**, **contrast**, or **both** on each line.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Maya's bicycle is pink, but William's is red.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ These loaves of bread are both fresh, but this one is a day older.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ The purple sweater is too large and the polka dot one is too small.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ The summer season brings about more happy memories than the rainy season.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Samantha has her mother's beautiful, long hair.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Vanilla and chocolate ice cream are both delicious, but the strawberry ice cream tastes funny.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Unlike Abbie, Kendra completes her homework every night.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Pio has big feet, just like his father.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Frogs, toads, and salamanders are all amphibians, but only frogs and toads hop.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Ben and Ally both bought new mobile phones for their online classes.



**A. Directions:** read each paragraph. A graphic organizer is used to show the structure of the text. Fill in the missing boxes with the appropriate info.

1. Dinosaurs can be carnivores or herbivores. Carnivores have sharp teeth. Herbivores have round teeth. Carnivores eat meat. Herbivores eat plants. Now you can look at a dinosaur's teeth and you will know which type it is.

### Carnivores

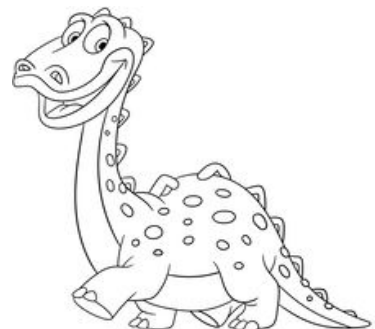
1. Have sharp teeth.

2.

### Herbivores

1.

2. Eat plants.



2. Some dinosaurs are bipeds. Bipedal dinosaurs walk on two legs. They may use claws on their hands to attack. Other dinosaurs are quadrupeds. That means that they walk on four legs. This helps them move faster.

### Bipeds

1.
2.

### Quadrupeds

1.
2. Can move faster.

3. Was T-Rex a scavenger or predator? A predator will hunt living animals. A scavenger will look for other sources of food. Predators have eyes on the front of their heads. Scavengers' eyes tend to be more to the side. T-Rex probably did both.

### Predators

1.
2.

### Scavengers

1.
2.

**B. Directions:** Read the story. Answer the questions that follow by writing the letter of the correct answer on the line.

### Flowers and Vegetables

A famous poet once said, “My love is like a red, red rose.”

I enjoy that poem because I also take red roses are beautiful. That’s why I grow them in my garden.

My brother, Jesse, doesn’t like flowers. He grows vegetables in his garden – peas, carrots, lettuce, and string beans. Jesse says that vegetables growing in a garden are the most beautiful sight on Earth.

Both Jesse and I enjoy working in our gardens. Our favorite time is early in the morning, when the weather is cool and dew covers every leaf.

This summer, I will enter my roses in the flower show. Maybe I’ll win first place! Jesse doesn’t like to enter contests, but he’s just as proud of his peas and carrots as I am of my roses.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. In the line, “My love is like a red, red rose,” the poet compares...
- |                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| A. love to a flower | C. a rose to a garden    |
| B. love to a garden | D. flowers to vegetables |

- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Both the narrator and the poet as quoted...
- |               |                           |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| A. like roses | C. grow vegetable gardens |
|---------------|---------------------------|

- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. One thing the narrator and Jesse have in common is that they both ...
- A. like vegetables                      C. grow gardens  
B. like flowers                          D. enter contests
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The clue word in the fourth paragraph that shows a comparison is ...
- A. favorite                                  C. early  
B. both                                      D. gardens
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. One word that describes both Jesse and the narrator is ...
- A. cruel                                      C. honest  
B. lazy                                        D. hardworking



**Directions:** Complete the following writing frames on a separate sheet of paper.

**A. Text 1. Informative Text / Non-fiction Text**

Start with how things are the same or similar	The _____ and the _____ are the same because they both _____
Add more details as needed.	In addition, they both _____
Explain how they are different. You can compare the same property or characteristic in the same sentence. Use “and”, “but”, or “whereas” to set up the contrast.	They are different because the _____, but the _____ does not.
Add more detail as needed.	Also, the _____, whereas the _____

**B. Text 2. Narrative Text / Fiction Text**

Even though \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
have similarities, they also have some differences.

First, they have several similarities.

They both have \_\_\_\_\_.

They also have \_\_\_\_\_.

Finally, they both \_\_\_\_\_.

Because of these similarities, \_\_\_\_\_.

Second, these two stories also have differences.

One difference is \_\_\_\_\_.

Another way they differ is \_\_\_\_\_.

These differences help us see \_\_\_\_\_.

In conclusion, that is how \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are  
similar and different.

**Self-Assessment: Discuss your opinion about each open-ended statement and agree on what you think will best complete the items. Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.**

1. What helped us with developing our compare and contrast paragraph is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. What we find difficult to do is \_\_\_\_\_.
3. We can improve writing compare and contrast paragraphs by \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Compare and contrast paragraphs are helpful because \_\_\_\_\_.

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## ANSWER KEY

### Compare and Contrast Paragraphs

Answers may vary.

Fly High:

- . A
- . A
- . C
- . B
- . D

Activity B:

Predators: 1. Will hunt for living animals 2. Have eyes on the front of their heads  
Scavengers: 1. Will look for other sources of food 2. Eyes tend to be more to the side

Passage 3

Bipeds: 1. Walk on two legs 2. Use claws on their hands to attack  
Quadrupeds: 1. Walk on four legs 2. Can move faster

Passage 2

Carnivores: 1. have sharp teeth 2. Eat meat  
Herbivores: 1. Have round teeth 2. Eat plants

Passage 1

Take Off: Activity A:

- . contrast
- . contrast
- . compare
- . both
- . contrast
- . compare
- . both
- . compare
- . both
- . contrast
- . contrast
- . compare
- . both
- . contrast
- . contrast