

Subject Area: English Language Arts Unit Title: Understanding Comparison and Contrast Essays Grade Level: 9-12 Lesson Number: 1 of 5 Duration: 5 days Date: September 1-5, 2024 Teacher: Ms. Johnson Room: 101

## **Curriculum Standards Alignment**

### **Content Standards:**

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.2
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.3

### **Skills Standards:**

- Critical Thinking
- Analytical Skills

### **Cross-Curricular Links:**

- History
- Science

## **Essential Questions & Big Ideas**

### **Essential Questions:**

- What are comparison and contrast essays?
- Why are comparison and contrast essays important?

### **Enduring Understandings:**

- Comparison and contrast essays help develop critical thinking and analytical skills.
- Comparison and contrast essays are essential in academic and professional settings.

## **Student Context Analysis**

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### **Class Profile:**

- Total Students: 25
- ELL Students: 5
- IEP/504 Plans: 3
- Gifted: 2

### Learning Styles Distribution:

- Visual: 40%
- Auditory: 30%
- Kinesthetic: 30%



## **Pre-Lesson Preparation**

### **Room Setup:**

- Arrange desks in a U-shape
- Set up whiteboard and markers

### **Technology Needs:**

- Computer with internet access
- Projector and screen

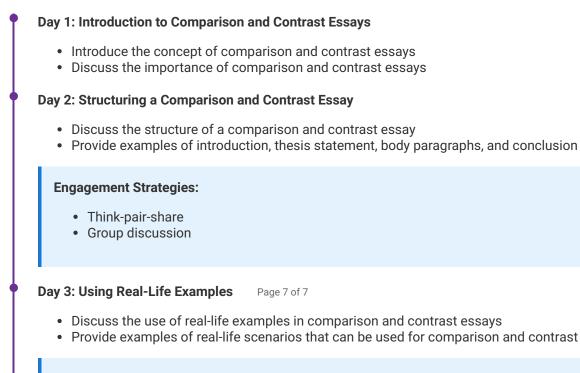
### **Materials Preparation:**

- Handouts with guided notes
- Whiteboard markers

### **Safety Considerations:**

- · Ensure students have a clear path to exit
- · Keep materials organized and tidy

## **Detailed Lesson Flow**



### Checking for Understanding:

- Formative assessment
- Exit tickets

### Day 4: Writing a Comparison and Contrast Essay

- Have students write a comparison and contrast essay using a real-life example
- Provide guidance on using transitional phrases, organizing the essay, and using evidence

## Scaffolding Strategies:

- Graphic organizer
- Writing workshop

### **Day 5: Conclusion and Review**

- Review the key elements of comparison and contrast essaysDiscuss the importance of practice in mastering the skill of writing comparison and contrast essays



# **Differentiation & Support Strategies**

### For Struggling Learners:

- Provide additional support with graphic organizers
- Offer one-on-one instruction

### For Advanced Learners:

- Provide additional challenges with complex texts
- Encourage independent research

### **ELL Support Strategies:**

- Provide visual aids and graphic organizers
- Offer bilingual resources

### **Social-Emotional Learning Integration:**

- Encourage self-reflection and self-assessment
- · Model and teach empathy and respect

## **Assessment & Feedback Plan**

### Formative Assessment Strategies:

- Class discussions
- Exit tickets

### Success Criteria:

- · Students can define comparison and contrast essays
- Students can identify the structure of a comparison and contrast essay

### Feedback Methods:

- Verbal feedback
- Written feedback

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## **Homework & Extension Activities**

### Homework Assignment:

Write a comparison and contrast essay using a real-life example

### **Extension Activities:**

- Create a multimedia presentation comparing and contrasting two topics
- Write a reflective essay on the challenges and benefits of writing comparison and contrast essays

### Parent/Guardian Connection:

Encourage parents/guardians to ask their child about their learning and provide feedback

# **Teacher Reflection Space**

### **Pre-Lesson Reflection:**

- What challenges do I anticipate?
- Which students might need extra support?
- What backup plans should I have ready?

## **Post-Lesson Reflection:**

- What went well?
- What would I change?
- Next steps for instruction?



## What are Comparison and Contrast Essays?

Comparison and contrast essays are a type of academic writing that aims to explore similarities and differences between two or more subjects.

These essays are crucial in academic and professional settings as they help in decision-making, critical thinking, and analytical skills.

## The Importance of Comparison and Contrast Essays

Comparison and contrast essays are essential in various aspects of life, including academia, profession, and personal decision-making.

They help individuals develop critical thinking and analytical skills, which are vital in evaluating information, identifying patterns, and making informed decisions.



# Introduction

The introduction should introduce the subjects and provide background information.

The thesis statement should outline the purpose of the comparison and the main points to be discussed.

## **Body Paragraphs**

The body paragraphs should discuss the similarities and differences between the subjects. Each paragraph should have a clear topic sentence, evidence, and analysis.

## Conclusion

The conclusion should summarize the main points and reiterate the thesis.

The conclusion should also provide a final thought or call to action.



# Why Use Real-Life Examples?

Real-life examples make the learning process more engaging and relevant.

Real-life examples provide tangible and relatable subjects for comparison, making it easier for students to understand the concepts.

# How to Use Real-Life Examples

Choose real-life scenarios that are relevant to the students' lives.

Use visual aids and graphic organizers to help students organize their thoughts and ideas.



# **Choose Relevant Topics**

Choose topics that have enough similarities and differences to make for an interesting comparison. Choose topics that are relevant to the students' lives and interests.

## **Use Transitional Phrases**

Use transitional phrases and words to connect ideas and signal the start of a comparison or contrast. Use transitional phrases and words to provide a clear and logical flow of ideas.

# **Organize Your Essay**

Use a point-by-point or block organization method to structure your essay.

Use an introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion to provide a clear and logical flow of ideas.