



Student Tasks:

- Reflect on their reading or chosen topics.
- Complete the compare and contrast chart graphic organizer.
- Discuss their findings with a partner, exploring various interpretations.
- Engage in a class discussion to clarify and enhance their understanding of the similarities and differences between the subjects.

Online ThinkCERCA Modules:

- Complex texts
- Tools for scaffolding reading (focus mode, translation, picture dictionary, online glossary, audio support, syllabication, part of speech, etc.)

Compare and Contrast Chart

Exploring Similarities and Differences

Suggested Time 20 Minutes

Strategy

The Compare and Contrast Chart strategy helps students visually identify and organize the similarities and differences between two or more subjects, such as characters, events, or ideas in a text. By mapping out these relationships, students gain a deeper understanding of the material, enhancing their critical thinking skills as they analyze details and recognize key points of comparison.

Optimal Application Notes:

This strategy supports deeper analysis and encourages students to think critically about the relationships between different subjects. Teachers should model the process, using examples that highlight both similarities and differences.

Before:

- Select a text or topics that contain clear points for comparison and contrast.
- Prepare compare and contrast graphic organizers for each student, using formats such as Venn diagrams, T-charts, or double bubble maps.
- Ensure students have access to the text or resources for reference during the activity.

During:

- Distribute the compare and contrast charts to students after they finish reading.
- Instruct students to fill out the chart by identifying:
 - **Similarities:** List traits, actions, or themes that are alike between the subjects.
 - **Differences:** Note the distinct characteristics or events that set the subjects apart.
- Encourage students to support their comparisons with textual evidence, citing specific examples or quotes.
- Pair students to discuss their findings, prompting them to explain their observations and insights on the similarities and differences they identified.

After:

- Facilitate a class discussion where students share their charts, focusing on different perspectives and insights regarding the subjects.
- Emphasize the value of comparing and contrasting in literature to deepen understanding of themes, character development, and plot dynamics.

Compare and Contrast T-Chart

Exploring Similarities and Differences

Instructions: Use the compare and contrast chart to identify key similarities and differences between the subjects you are studying. Be sure to discuss your findings with a partner to explore different perspectives and deepen your understanding!

Topics:	
Similarities	Differences

Compare and Contrast

Double Bubble Map

Exploring Similarities and Differences

Instructions: Use the double bubble map to effectively compare and contrast the topics. Begin by writing the names of the topics in the outer bubbles, then list their similarities in the overlapping area of the map. In the outer sections, note the unique differences of each topic. Once you've completed your map, engage in a discussion with a partner to share your observations. This conversation will allow you to explore different perspectives and gain a deeper understanding.

