

Assignments

18

choice

8. In contrast to Nhan, my brother Hung believes that science and technology serve human beings and that the West defeated the East because the West was further advanced in these fields. Therefore, each person must compete with nature and with other people in the world in order to acquire different conveniences such as cars, washing machines, and television sets. Hung is affected by the Western theories of real values; consequently, he always works hard to make his own money to satisfy his material needs.
9. In accordance with the morality of the culture of my country, I cannot say which one of my brothers is wrong or right. But I do know that they both want to improve and maintain human life on this earth. I am very lucky to inherit both sources of thought from my two older brothers.

1. What is the thesis of the essay? What are its points of comparison?
2. Does the essay focus more on comparison or on contrast?
3. Which pattern of organization does the writer follow? Why was this pattern selected?
4. Does the essay have topic sentences that state the controlling idea for each point of comparison? If so, what are they?
5. Is the conclusion logical?
6. Make an outline of the essay.

EXERCISE 6

WRITING Choose one of the following topics for a comparison and contrast essay. Then brainstorm a list of similarities and a list of differences. Use your lists to choose three or four points of comparison. Write a thesis statement with a controlling idea that relates to these points of comparison. Draft the essay using Pattern A to organize your essay.

1. Two educational systems that you are familiar with, such as the university system in two different countries, or high school as opposed to college.
2. Two people or two products (such as two different automobiles, cameras, cell phones, or mp3 players).

EXERCISE 7

In "My Old Neighborhood," the writer evokes the feelings of disappointment that come from seeing favorite childhood memories through adult eyes. Read the essay and answer the questions that follow.

My Old Neighborhood

1. Several years ago, I returned to Washington, D.C., and visited one of my old neighborhoods. I had not been on Nash Street for more than 20 years and as I walked along the street, my mind was flooded by waves of nostalgia. I saw the old apartment building where I had lived and the playground where I had played.

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