

Paragraph Types

Type 03 : Compare and /or Contrast Paragraph

A compare and/or contrast paragraph is required if you are asked to examine similarities and/or differences. A comparison shows how people or things are similar however a contrast shows how they are different. In both , you must identify topics and their point of comparison that can be compared or contrasted.

The form of Compare and/or Contrast Paragraph :

We have two (2) possible forms in this type of paragraphs:

1. **Format 01** : Whole to Whole

Topic sentence : introducing the items to be compared or contrasted , noting similarity or difference.

Supporting sentences: examination of the topic , we start by the first topic then the second one.

➤ Topic 1 :

- Point A
- Point B
- Point C

➤ Topic 2 :

- Point A
- Point B
- Point C

Concluding Sentence : summaries ad interpret the similarities or the differences discussed.

Example 1 :

Topic sentence : differences between online learning and traditional learning.

Supporting sentences :

➤ **Topic 1** : Online learning

- Point A : Online learning offer flexibility to student .
- Point B: Online learning need to be a highly motivated .
- Point C : Interaction happens via videos or through online discussion posts and this may kill students oral productivity.

➤ **Topic 2** : Traditional learning

- Point A : traditional students do have only some flexibility in their scheduling.
- Point B : Students in traditional classes have more opportunities to be reminded of their responsibilities to do .
- Point C : traditional education is still likely the better option for those who thrive on face-to-face communication. Seeing and interacting with your instructors on a regular basis can be motivating for some.

Concluding sentence : Traditional and online learning differ on the amount of time you dedicate for school , the students self-motivation and the level of social interaction.

2. **Format 02** : Point to Point

Topic sentence : introducing the items to be compared or contrasted , noting similarity or difference.

Supporting sentences : examination of topics

➤ Point A :

- Topic 1
- Topic 2

➤ Point B:

- Topic 1
- Topic 2

➤ Point C

- Topic 1
- Topic 2

Concluding sentence : summaries and interpret the similarities or the differences discussed.

Example 2 :

BMW (Bayerische Motoren Werke) and Mercedes Benz is the most popular European car of this century.(Topic sentence)

Basic difference between BMW and Mercedes Benz is that BMW targeted its sales to the younger market whereas Mercedes Benz is more focused on its mature market. The customer base of BMW was male in the age around 46 years old, married with no children, and had a median income of about \$150,000. Moreover, the Internet was used by 85% of customers before buying a BMW (Hespos, 2002). Mercedes Benz customer base was more to male or female in the age above 50 years old, with a classy taste and wanted to show that they are successful. And most of the buyers of BMW are person who prefers to drive because, by driving, the driver can feel the performance of the car while buyers of Mercedes Benz are those who prefer to sit back and enjoy the comfort of Mercedes Benz. (**Supporting sentences : point to point format**)

BMW and Mercedes Benz can be seen as direct competitors because of the certain reasons mainly for its market target, design, and engine. (**Concluding sentence**)

Useful transitional words and phrases

- For comparison: similar to, similarly, in the same way, like, equally, again, also, too, each of, just as . . . so,
- For contrast : in contrast, on the other hand, different from, whereas, while, unlike, however, but, although, however, conversely, yet, unlike

Practice :

Compare or contract between studying languages or sciences.

Miss : BOUSSOUM Afaf

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Remark :

All the students are obliged to do the activities and send them to my email address.