

Examples of Comparison/Contrast

Peer Example

Comparison Paragraph



Dan

“ I wrote this paragraph to point out the interesting similarities I saw in two TV sitcom characters I used to watch in reruns as a kid. It fascinated me to realize how similar these two characters were in spite of the different settings of the shows. ”

Flintstone and Kramden: Two Peas in a Pod

Fred Flintstone of *The Flintstones* and Ralph Kramden of *The Honeymooners* are remarkably similar. The first of these similarities is their appearance. Both have black hair and five o'clock shadows; in addition, both have large paunches and wear loud, baggy clothes. Their personalities are also similar. Both have large appetites, boisterous personalities, and a tendency to act before they think. Moreover, they both have best friends who play second fiddle to them: Barney Rubble for Fred and Ed Norton for Ralph. Additionally, both Fred's and Ralph's favorite activity on a Friday night is to go out bowling with the guys. Finally, when Fred and Ralph put down their bowling balls, they earn their living by working remarkably similar jobs. Fred drives a truck in a gravel pit, and Ralph drives a city bus. In spite of the differences in the two shows' settings, the main characters share a number of similarities.

Peer Example

Contrast Paragraph



Beth

“ I wrote this paragraph to show the differences between two popular kids' sports, soccer and football, and to persuade the reader that soccer is preferable because it's less expensive and less dangerous than football. ”

All Sports Are Not Created Equal

Although football and soccer are both popular sports for kids, football is more expensive and more dangerous than soccer. Because of the specialized equipment necessary for football, parents must pay well over one hundred dollars for a two-month season of peewee football. In addition to this fee, the shoes and protective gear each child must purchase can easily cost upwards of fifty dollars. On the other hand, a season of youth soccer, which runs for two months in the fall and two months in the spring, costs only seventy-five dollars. Soccer shoes, which generally cost between fifteen and twenty-five dollars, are recommended but not required. Not only is football more expensive than soccer, but it is also more violent and therefore more dangerous. Children tackle and block one another, and these maneuvers result in frequent bruises, strains, and pulls. More serious injuries such as fractures, broken bones, and concussions are not unusual. Soccer, on the other hand, is not a contact sport and is therefore less likely to result in injury. Children can fall and bump into one another, but these accidental contacts rarely result in anything more serious than grass stains or loss of breath. Given the differences in these two sports, there is no question that I would prefer my son to play soccer rather than football.