

Compare and Contrast

- When you **compare** and **contrast** two or more things, you show how they are alike and different.
- Clue words such as *but* or *however* show contrasts. The clue words *like* and *as* show comparisons.
- Sometimes, writers do not use clue words when they compare and contrast things.

Directions Read the following passage. Fill in the columns below based on Jorge and Ed’s friendship before and after the tornado touched down.

<p>Jorge and Ed grew up on opposite ends of the same street. They went to the same school, and they were sometimes in the same classroom. They were always friendly to each other, but Jorge and Ed didn’t really know each other very well.</p> <p>On the night the tornado touched down, things changed between Jorge and Ed. The</p>	<p>roof of Ed’s house was blown off. Jorge and his parents were the first people there to help Ed’s family. They worked together all night to help clean up Ed’s house.</p> <p>That night, Jorge and Ed began to know each other a lot better. They became good friends.</p>
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Before	After
<p>1. They lived _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>2. They worked _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>3. They were sometimes _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>4. They became _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

5. On a separate sheet of paper, compare and contrast one of your friendships now with what it was like at the beginning. How has it changed? How has it remained the same?

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Home Activity Your child compared and contrasted *before* and *after* details from a short passage. Read a favorite story with your child. Identify an important event in the story and compare and contrast what happened before and after that event.

Compare and Contrast

Directions Read the passage. Then answer the questions below.

Early in the Civil War, state and local governments provided some of the uniforms for soldiers. Rich citizens donated others. The result was a confusing array of styles and colors on both sides. In time, blue became the official color for the North, while the Confederates wore gray. The colors helped distinguish Union soldiers from Confederate soldiers.

In the North, both officers and enlisted men wore long coats, called sack jackets, and short coats, called shell jackets.

Confederate soldiers also wore these. Some Southern men would have worn a waist-length coat called a roundabout. Union soldiers wore blue pants, often with a colored stripe down the side, depending on the soldier's rank. Confederate soldiers wore similar pants, but in a shade of gray. Likewise, both Union and Confederate soldiers wore caps called kepis. These popular caps had a small bill. High-ranking officers on either side might have worn a fully brimmed hat.

1. How were the uniforms of the Union and Confederate soldiers alike?

2. How were the uniforms of the Union and Confederate soldiers different?

3. How were the uniforms of high-ranking officers different from the lower-ranking soldiers?

4. List some of the clue words that show the writer is comparing and contrasting.



Home Activity Your child compared and contrasted details from a short passage. Discuss with your child two places that your family has visited. Ask your child to make a list of their similarities and differences.