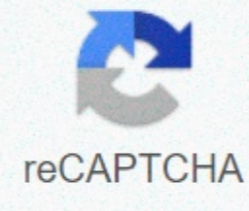




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Use compare and contrast in a sentence

This section will help you determine the purpose and structure of comparison/contrast in writing. Comparison in writing discusses elements that are similar, while contrast in writing discusses elements that are different. A compare-and-contrast essay, then, analyzes two subjects by comparing them, contrasting them, or both. The key to a good compare-and-contrast essay is to choose two or more subjects that connect in a meaningful way. The purpose of conducting the comparison or contrast is not to state the obvious but rather to illuminate subtle differences or unexpected similarities. For example, if you wanted to focus on contrasting two subjects you would not pick apples and oranges; rather, you might choose to compare and contrast two types of oranges or two types of apples to highlight subtle differences. For example, Red Delicious apples are sweet, while Granny Smiths are tart and acidic. Drawing distinctions between elements in a similar category will increase the audience's understanding of that category, which is the purpose of the compare-and-contrast essay. Similarly, to focus on comparison, choose two subjects that seem at first to be unrelated. For a comparison essay, you likely would not choose two apples or two oranges because they share so many of the same properties already. Rather, you might try to compare how apples and oranges are quite similar. The more divergent the two subjects initially seem, the more interesting a comparison essay will be. The Structure of a Compare/Contrast Essay The compare-and-contrast essay starts with a thesis that clearly states the two subjects that are to be compared, contrasted, or both and the reason for doing so. The thesis could lean more toward comparing, contrasting, or both. Remember, the point of comparing and contrasting is to provide useful knowledge to the reader. Take the following thesis as an example that leans more toward contrasting: Thesis Statement: Organic vegetables may cost more than those that are conventionally grown, but when put to the test, they are definitely worth every extra penny. Here the thesis sets up the two subjects to be compared and contrasted (organic versus conventional vegetables), and it makes a claim about the results that might prove useful to the reader. You may organize compare-and-contrast essays in one of the following two ways: According to the subjects themselves, discussing one then the other According to individual points, discussing each subject in relation to each point The organizational structure you choose depends on the nature of the topic, your purpose, and your audience. Given that compare-and-contrast essays analyze the relationship between two subjects, it is helpful to have some phrases on hand that will cue the reader to such analysis. Phrases of Comparison and Contrast Comparison Contrast one similarity one difference another similarity another difference both conversely like in contrast likewise unlike similarly while in a similar fashion whereas Writing an Compare/Contrast Essay First choose whether you want to compare seemingly disparate subjects, contrast seemingly similar subjects, or compare and contrast subjects. Once you have decided on a topic, introduce it with an engaging opening paragraph. Your thesis should come at the end of the introduction, and it should establish the subjects you will compare, contrast, or both as well as state what can be learned from doing so. The body of the essay can be organized in one of two ways: by subject or by individual points. The organizing strategy that you choose will depend on, as always, your audience and your purpose. You may also consider your particular approach to the subjects as well as the nature of the subjects themselves; some subjects might better lend themselves to one structure or the other. Make sure to use comparison and contrast phrases to cue the reader to the ways in which you are analyzing the relationship between the subjects. After you finish analyzing the subjects, write a conclusion that summarizes the main points of the essay and reinforces your thesis. Comparing and Contrasting London and Washington, DC By Scott McLean in Writing for Success Both Washington, DC, and London are capital cities of English-speaking countries, and yet they offer vastly different experiences to their residents and visitors. Comparing and contrasting the two cities based on their history, their culture, and their residents show how different and similar the two are. Both cities are rich in world and national history, though they developed on very different time lines. London, for example, has a history that dates back over two thousand years. It was part of the Roman Empire and known by the similar name, Londinium. It was not only one of the northernmost points of the Roman Empire but also the epicenter of the British Empire where it held significant global influence from the early sixteenth century on through the early twentieth century. Washington, DC, on the other hand, has only formally existed since the late eighteenth century. Though Native Americans inhabited the land several thousand years earlier, and settlers inhabited the land as early as the sixteenth century, the city did not become the capital of the United States until the 1790s. From that point onward to today, however, Washington, DC, has increasingly maintained significant global influence. Even though both cities have different histories, they have both held, and continue to hold, significant social influence in the economic and cultural global spheres. Both Washington, DC, and London offer a wide array of museums that harbor many of the world's most prized treasures. While Washington, DC, has the National Gallery of Art and several other Smithsonian galleries, London's art scene and galleries have a definite edge in this category. From the Tate Modern to the British National Gallery, London's art ranks among the world's best. This difference and advantage has much to do with London and Britain's historical depth compared to that of the United States. London has a much richer past than Washington, DC, and consequently has a lot more material to pull from when arranging its collections. Both cities have thriving theater districts, but again, London wins this comparison, too, both in quantity and quality of theater choices. With regard to other cultural places like restaurants, pubs, and bars, both cities are very comparable. Both have a wide selection of expensive, elegant restaurants as well as a similar amount of global and national chains. While London may be better known for its pubs and taste in beer, DC offers a different bar-going experience. With clubs and pubs that tend to stay open later than their British counterparts, the DC night life tend to be less reserved overall. Both cities also share and differ in cultural diversity and cost of living. Both cities share a very expensive cost of living—both in terms of housing and shopping. A downtown one-bedroom apartment in DC can easily cost \$1,800 per month, and a similar "flat" in London may double that amount. These high costs create socioeconomic disparity among the residents. Although both cities' residents are predominantly wealthy, both have a significantly large population of poor and homeless. Perhaps the most significant difference between the resident demographics is the racial makeup. Washington, DC, is a "minority majority" city, which means the majority of its citizens are races other than white. In 2009, according to the US Census, 55 percent of DC residents were classified as "Black or African American" and 35 percent of its residents were classified as "white." London, by contrast, has very few minorities—in 2006, 70 percent of its population was "white," while only 10 percent was "black." The racial demographic differences between the cities is drastic. Even though Washington, DC, and London are major capital cities of English-speaking countries in the Western world, they have many differences along with their similarities. They have vastly different histories, art cultures, and racial demographics, but they remain similar in their cost of living and socioeconomic disparity. A compare-and-contrast essay analyzes two subjects by either comparing them, contrasting them, or both. The purpose of writing a comparison or contrast essay is not to state the obvious but rather to illuminate subtle differences or unexpected similarities between two subjects. The thesis should clearly state the subjects that are to be compared, contrasted, or both, and it should state what is to be learned from doing so. There are two main organizing strategies for compare-and-contrast essays. Organize by the subjects themselves, one then the other. Organize by individual points, in which you discuss each subject in relation to each point. Use phrases of comparison or phrases of contrast to signal to readers how exactly the two subjects are being analyzed. Subscribe to get full access to the latest and best resources from esflow.com. There are no ads in the newsletter and you will receive entertaining, high quality, and up-to-date teaching resources regularly. And, if you subscribe, you will be supporting the esflow website. In order to continue enjoying our site, we ask that you confirm your identity as a human. Thank you very much for your cooperation. Jay asks "Compare with" = contrast; What are the circumstances by which one would use contrast as the verb instead? In general use, such as in writing a "compare/contrast" essay, compare means "find the similarities" and contrast means "find the differences." Definitions from the OED: compare: trans. To speak of or represent as similar; to liken. contrast: To set in opposition ... in order to show strikingly their different qualities or characteristics, and compare their superiorities or defects. Compare derives from Latin comparare "to liken, to compare." Contrast derives from Latin contra, "against" plus stare, "to stand." In Middle English the word was used in the literal sense "to withstand" or "fight against" as in battle. The word fell out of use until the end of the 17th century when it was reintroduced as an art term meaning to place in such juxtaposition as to bring strongly out differences of form, colour, etc., and thus to produce a striking effect. For differences in meaning between compare to and compare with, see Compared "to" or Compared "with". Want to improve your English in five minutes a day? Get a subscription and start receiving our writing tips and exercises daily! Keep learning! Browse the Expressions category, check our popular posts, or choose a related post below:45 Synonyms for "Food/Taser or Tazer? Tazing or Tasing? Quiet or Quite? Grammar-Quizzes > Clauses > Comparative Clauses > Comparisons Express similarity and difference (dissimilarity) Related pages: Parallel Phrasing, Like / As, Pop-Q "Like/ As" and Pop-Q Looks like. Lexical Categories — Also called "Word Categories" or "Parts of Speech" N – noun /pronoun; NP – noun phrase (the girl, the little girl, the girl who won) V – verb; VP – verb phrase (enjoys very much, hardly ever rests) Adj – adjective; AdjP – adjective phrase (really sharp, rather expensive) Adv – adverb; AdvP – adverb phrase (very slowly, much too quickly) P – preposition; PP – prepositional phrase Det – determiners — articles | quantifiers | demonstratives | possessives Expressions for Similarity and Differences Related pages: The same...as vs As...as | More than | Both and The comparative as...as expresses that two items have equivalent aspects (color, size, shape, taste, etc.). The first as modifies the quality (Adj) or manner (Adv) of the item being compared. The second as is a connective preposition which is followed by a noun or a clause. If it is a clause, it is shortened to just the subject and the auxiliary form of the verb. The paired expression the same...as expresses that two items are equal (but not necessarily the exact same item) —the same is followed by a noun such as size, weight, color (a measureable or comparable standard). The second as is a connective preposition which is followed by a noun or a clause. If it is a clause, it is shortened to just the subject and the auxiliary form of the verb. The expression like expresses "in a similar way" (sounds like, seems like, looks like). In traditional grammar, it is followed by a noun phrase [like + NP] only. That is, using like + clause is considered informal. However, language usage dating back to the 14th century and current usage does not support this rule. In linguistic description, like is a preposition that accepts a noun, a noun phrase or a clause as its complement. (Your apple looks like mine (N); Your apple looks like the one that I am holding (NP); Your apple looks like it fell on the floor (Cl). See Like vs. As and Grammar Notes for resources on this subject. Comparing qualities of nouns For practices, see More/-er...than | Most/-est | Much v. More | Fewer v. Less Also see Farther / Further. Comparative forms: much–more–most / many–more–most Error and Solution FOCUS This one is more bigger than that one. It look likes a good idea. The movie was similarly to the "Rocky". These cherries are not as sweeter as those. We had to drive further than we wanted to. That's more better. (mo' better "great" – slang) SOLUTION This one is bigger than that one. (Use one comparative form. In this case, just use the -er suffix for a one syllable word.) It looks like a good idea. (Place the -s after the verb as the 3rd person singular marker.) The movie was similar to "Rocky". (Use the adjective form of "similar" in this expression "similar to".) These cherries are not as sweet as those. (Use one comparative form. In this case, just use as...as .) We had to walk farther than we wanted to. (Adj) We drove a bit futher. (N) Azar, Betty Schramper. "Comparisons." Fundamentals of English Grammar, 2nd ed. Prentice Hall Regents, 1992, Ch. 13. Huddleston, Rodney D., and Geoffrey K. Pullum. "Comparative Constructions."The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language. Cambridge UP, 2002, Ch. 13. Murphy, Raymond. "Comparatives." English Grammar in Use, 5th ed., Cambridge UP, 2019, Units 105 – 107. Swan, Michael. "Comparison." Practical English Usage, 3rd ed., Oxford UP, 2005, pp. 135–141. Page 2 Grammar-Quizzes > Connectors > Coordinator > But / But still But / But still (disjunction/concession) concession – (grammar term) admitting that something doesn't logically fit, something is an exception, or something is conditioned contrary (Adj) – opposite in nature, character or reasoning; illogical contrast (N) – a difference, an unlikeness in comparison with something else in opposition – the action of opposing, resisting, or combating¹ Beginning a sentence with "and", "so" or "but" ²yet (Connective Adv) expresses concession, (1) shares some properties with a Coordinator (and, but, or), but (2) shares more properties with a subordinator. See Properties of Coordinators and Subordinators and Connective Adverbs. coordinators: and (conjunction), or (disjunction), but (contrast). See Properties of Coordinators and Subordinators. connective preposition: though [connective preposition] connective adverbs: however, yet [subordinator/connective adverb] Also see: Because vs. Though | But vs. though (implied meanings) | Conjunction, exclusion, disjunction. While, Whereas, But black coffee (expression) –coffee without sugar or milk "but — a coordinator (and, but, or, nor) cannot be placed before both of the coordinated clauses See FANBOYS coordinators for "fronting" and "reversibility" In contrast, In contrast to, However In contrast is a connective prepositional phrase. in contrast to is a prepositional phrase (PP) that links two similar elements (i.e., nouns, gerunds, prep. phrases) See Prep Complements. However is a connective adverb. Also see Connective Adverbs and Comparisons. On the one hand, On the other hand Sometimes, a speaker will use one half of this expression, and expect the listener to understand what the other part is without actually saying it. "On the one hand, we have a lot of work to do." Possible implication: "On the other hand, no one is doing it!" Also see Connective Adverbs and Comparisons. Expressing contrary logic vs. admitting an irregularity give way (verbal phrase) – yield, admit, concede, give in concession (N) – admit that something does not logically fit with the previous statement. illogical (Adj) – not logical; not following expected reasoning See Grammar Notes for terminology. Despite, Even so nevertheless – 1250–1300; Middle English; replacing natheles, notheles natheless Also see: Because/Though | Because of / In spite of... Punctuation—subordinators "I don't speak well" is a finite clause. / "disliking it" is a nonfinite clause (formerly called a phrase). Punctuation—Coordinators See Coordinator Properties. ► Show Grammar Notes and Works Cited ▼ Hide Grammar Notes Traditional / ESL and Linguistic Descriptions Works Cited Azar, Betty Schramper, and Stacy A. Hagen. 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