

Name:	Date:
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Compare and Contrast

Practice

When you **compare and contrast** two people or things, you tell about the similarities and differences between them. When you compare and contrast two characters, you look for similarities and differences in these categories:

- **characters' appearance and personal qualities**—what each character is like. For example, one character might be weak, while the other is strong.
- **characters' background**—what each character's past life has been like. For example, one character might come from a rich family, while the other comes from a poor family.
- **characters' actions**—what each character does. For example, one character might go to college, while the other goes to work.
- **characters' motives**—the reasons the character has for doing things. For example, one character might want to get a lot of money. The other character might want to help others.
- **characters' fate**—what happens to each character. For example, one character might end up winning, while the other character loses.

Read each item about Sally and Beth. Then, explain what similarity or difference between them is shown in the item. Finally, circle the category of the similarity or difference you wrote about.

1. **Sally:** grew up with Beth in a wealthy family
Beth: grew up with Sally in a wealthy family

appearance/personality	background	actions/feelings	motives	fate
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2. **Sally:** invents a medicine to cure a deadly disease
Beth: steals the formula for the medicine so that she can make money

appearance/personality	background	actions/feelings	motives	fate
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3. **Sally:** wins a prize for her invention
Beth: goes to jail

appearance/personality	background	actions/feelings	motives	fate
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Compare and Contrast

Assess

A

Read each item about Richard and Ralph. Then, explain what similarity or difference between them is shown in the item. Finally, circle the category of the similarity or difference you wrote about.

1. **Richard:** is friendly and outgoing
Ralph: is shy but smart

appearance/personality background actions/feelings motives fate

2. **Richard:** wants to be popular at school
Ralph: wants to win a prize at the Science Fair

appearance/personality background actions/feelings motives fate

3. **Richard:** goes along with the popular kids when they make fun of Ralph
Ralph: stands up for himself and tells them they are being rude

appearance/personality background actions/feelings motives fate

4. **Richard:** apologizes to Ralph for making fun of him
Ralph: accepts Richard's apology

appearance/personality background actions/feelings motives fate

5. **Richard:** is happy when he forms his own small group of friends and no longer worries about being popular
Ralph: is happy when he wins first prize at the Science Fair

appearance/personality background actions/feelings motives fate

B

On a separate sheet of paper, write a paragraph in which you compare Richard and Ralph. Conclude your paragraph with a sentence or two answering this question: What lesson does the comparison of these characters teach?