

Name _____

Title of Essay _____

Comparison Essay

Criteria for Grade

Main idea

Is the main idea clearly stated, interesting, and well-worded? Is the topic discussed in an engaging, forceful and aesthetic way?

Organization and Development of Paragraphs and Supporting Detail

Did you follow the comparison essay format? Is the main idea of the essay supported by interesting anecdotes, illustrations or analogies? Are the details of the paragraphs well-organized, clearly stated and fluid? Is the introduction arresting and well-developed? Does the conclusion provide a satisfying, non-repetitious and logical cadence or closing to the essay?

Sentence Structure

Are the sentences forceful and free of unnecessary words, phrases and clauses? Are they natural and free from awkward expressions and slang? Do they express ideas concretely, definitely and specifically? Are the sentences aesthetic?

Word Choice

Are the words fitting, interesting and aesthetic?

Grammar, Usage and Spelling

Are there any errors in grammar, punctuation, usage or spelling?

Content

Are the ideas expressed in the essay original and well thought out?

Check List

- The composition contains a main idea at the end of the introduction, which gives the necessary background information for the reader to understand your topic.
- The composition contains transitions between points of comparison, such as “another difference (or similarity) between” and “a second difference between...”
- Each of the three body paragraphs contains a topic sentence (first sentence), which is explained by talking about the first subject of comparison and then the second.
- The two people, places, things or ideas being compared in the composition are connected using transitions. (“Unlike our old house, our new residence”; “In contrast to the previous commander-in-chief, our current president”; “Edward III, however, was not spendthrift”)

Main idea _____ (15)

Format/Organization and Development of Supporting Detail _____ (15)

Sentence structure (see opposite page) _____ (15)

Word choice _____ (15)

Grammar, Usage and Spelling (see opposite page) _____ (15)

Content _____ (25)

Score _____