Comparative Analysis

Organization methods and sample outlines

Point-by-Point Method

Explain one point of comparison before moving on to the next. The two items are combined in each paragraph but contrasted using specific points.

- I. Introduction
- II. Characters in the book versus the movie
- III. Setting in the book versus the movie
- IV. Themes in the book versus the movie
- V. Conclusion

Block Method or Whole-to-Whole

Say everything about one item and then everything about the other. Use a separate section or paragraph for each item.

- I. Introduction
- II. Book (Characters, Setting, Themes)
- III. Movie (Characters, Setting, Themes)
- IV. Commentary on the results of these similarities and differences
- V. Conclusion

Similarities and Differences

In this structure, you explain the similarities and then the differences

- I. Introduction
- II. Similarities
- III. Differences
- IV. Why these similarities and differences matter/How they change the interpretation of the work
- V. Conclusion

Transitional Words and Phrases to Compare

- Also
- Another
- · In the same way
- Likewise
- Moreover
- Similarly
- · By comparison

Transitional Words and Phrases to Contrast

- Although
- · Even though
- However
- · On the other hand
- Unlike
- Yet
- Conversely
- Nonetheless
- · On the contrary



Georgia College Writing Center writing.center@gcsu.edu Mon. - Thur. 9am - 7pm | Fri. 9am - 2pm Sat. 2pm - 4pm | Sun. 2pm - 4pm*

Schedule an appointment through the Unify portal

*All Writing Center appointments are virtual for Spring 2021

