

**WRITE Institute**  
**Rubric for Compare/Contrast**

A compare/contrast essay explains how the features of two subjects are alike and different. The writer of the essay supports a clear thesis statement and topic sentences with details and examples. Typically, writers organize the essay using one of four organizational frameworks for comparison/contrast: by similarities and difference, subject-by-subject, feature-by-feature, or compare/contrast/connect.

**Scoring Range**

Each category is worth 0-6 points.

0 = off topic/no evidence	4 = proficient
1 = minimal evidence of proficiency	5 = exceeding expectations
2 = some evidence of proficiency, but weak	6 = outstanding
3 = developing proficiency	

Directions: Total points and divide by 10 to yield a score of 0-6.

**CONTENT & ORGANIZATION**

- \_\_\_\_\_ The thesis statement clearly identifies the subjects to be compared and contrasted.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The thesis statement is supported by topic sentences.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The topic sentences are supported by details and examples.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer clearly communicates how the subjects are alike.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer clearly communicates how the subjects are different.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer uses compare/contrast words and phrases appropriately.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer uses transitions to establish coherence between paragraphs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The conclusion revisits the thesis and may also provide a commentary and/or a personal reflection.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The essay is organized logically.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer uses an appropriate level of conventions such as sentence structure, grammar and mechanics.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total** (divided by 10) = \_\_\_\_\_ **Score**