

Name: _____ Period: _____ Class: _____

Compare and Contrast Essay Worksheet

Part 1 CHOOSE 2 WORKS OF ART: Go to my web site, <http://schools.lwsd.org/lwhs/users/staff/wyatt/>, click on **writing requirements** and select 2 images to use as the subjects for this paper. Choose one image from Column A and the other from Column B.

Gather background information: Fill out the table below for both of your selected works. For additional background information visit Art Cyclopedia or try my links page. <http://www.artcyclopedia.com/>

Piece A:	Required Information	Piece B:
	Artist Full Name	
	Title	
	Year Created	
	Media	
	Subject	
	Dimensions In inches	
	Associated Art Movement	

Cover page requirements:

- Your name, date, period, and Compare/Contrast essay heading.
- Images of both selected works, and all the required information from the table above.
- 12 pt. Times New Roman, double spaced

Thesis Prompt:

Evaluate how you respond, or feel about, the 2 works of art you have chosen to write about. Next, argue which piece is more compelling based on the elements of art and compositional strategies used.

Every work of art or design should elicit a particular response, looking at the lists below, **choose 2 or more words which best describe the visual impact** of your selections. You may come up with your own descriptions; use these (or other) words in the development of your thesis.

<p>Visual Impact</p> <p>What is the mood or atmosphere created by this piece? Does it make you reflect upon a particular subject or theme?</p>	Upsetting	Reflective	Judgmental	Awed	Confused	Disillusioned
	Confusing	Peaceful	Faithful	Inspired	Incredulous	Startling
	Disgusting	Sympathetic	Relaxing	Hardened	Incongruous	Distressing
	Rational	Belligerent	Philosophical	Symbolic	Insufficient	Uplifting
	Petrifying	Pugnacious	Depressing	Agitating	Inadequate	Joyous
	Relieving	Contentious	Quarrelsome	Indignant	Manipulated	Judgmental
	Inquisitive	Passive	Spiritual	Appalling	Satisfying	Combative
	Tantalizing	Calming	Contemplative	Blissful	Beguiling	Disturbing
	Insistent	Fulfilling	Harsh			

Elements Worksheet: This information will be used to create 3 body paragraphs.

1. Focal point – what do you notice or respond to first?
2. Visual movement – how does your eye move through the elements?
3. Style – What is distinctive about this work?

Study both works before circling the words which best describe the elements in each piece.

Piece A				Elements	Piece B				
Hue Brightness Muted Neutral Shocking Complementary Analogous Monochromatic Warm Cool Pale	Startling Vivid Saturated Bright Lavish Profuse Stark Faint Lively Intense Modest	Faded Dull Vibrant Simple Deep Rich Subtle Neutral Unpretentious Sumptuous Extravagant Distinctive		Color	Hue Brightness Muted Neutral Shocking Complementary Analogous Monochromatic Warm Cool Pale	Startling Vivid Saturated Bright Lavish Profuse Stark Faint Lively Intense Modest Deep	Faded Dull Vibrant Simple Rich Subtle Neutral Unpretentious Sumptuous Extravagant Distinctive		
Stroke Mark Precise Blended Hatched Gradual Long Short Soft Hard Bold Agitated	Straight Angular Contour Mechanical Intermittent Harsh Irregular Unintentional Wispy Decisive Dominant Continuous	Curving Hesitant Elegant Geometric Repetitive Jagged Random Wandering Organic Interrupted Calligraphic Expressive			Line	Stroke Mark Precise Blended Hatched Gradual Long Short Soft Hard Bold Agitated	Straight Angular Contour Mechanical Intermittent Harsh Irregular Unintentional Wispy Decisive Dominant Continuous	Curving Hesitant Elegant Geometric Repetitive Jagged Random Wandering Organic Interrupted Calligraphic Expressive	
Repetitive Rough Shiny Jagged Patterned Smooth Scabrous Scurfy	Squishy Subtle Slick Irregular Spongy Furry Hairy	Harsh Rugged Uneven Bumpy Moderate Scaly Knotty Corrugated				Texture	Repetitive Rough Shiny Jagged Patterned Smooth Scabrous Scurfy	Squishy Subtle Slick Irregular Spongy Furry Hairy	Harsh Rugged Uneven Bumpy Moderate Scaly Knotty Corrugated
Linear perspective 1 point perspective 2 point perspective 3 point perspective 3 dimensional Elliptical perspective Atmosphere Perspective Claustrophobic Proportion	Vista View Scale Roomy Shift Lying Deep Vast Flat	Range Panoramic Cityscape Landscape Infinite Crowded Overlapping Expanding Contracting		Space			Linear perspective 1 point perspective 2 point perspective 3 point perspective 3 dimensional Elliptical perspective Atmosphere Perspective Claustrophobic Proportion	Vista View Scale Roomy Shift Lying Deep Vast Flat	Range Panoramic Cityscape Landscape Infinite Crowded Overlapping Expanding Contracting
Contrasting Light Source Complete Dramatic Abstract Convincing Non-descript Dominating 3 Dimensional Realistic Representational Expanding	Established Curved Angular Geometric Organic Ordered Bulk Volume Mass Precise Sculpted Mechanical Geometric	Light Heavy Massive Edges Textured Modeled Stable Solid Curved Scattered Random Positive Negative			Shape or Form		Contrasting Light Source Complete Dramatic Abstract Convincing Non-descript Dominating 3 Dimensional Realistic Representational Expanding	Established Curved Angular Geometric Organic Ordered Bulk Volume Mass Precise Sculpted Mechanical Geometric	Light Heavy Massive Edges Textured Modeled Stable Solid Curved Scattered Random Positive Negative
Light Surface Chiaroscuro Dramatic	Minimal Graduated Medium Controlled	Changing Dominant Established Transitioning	Deep Slight Dark Light			Value	Light Surface Chiaroscuro Dramatic	Minimal Graduated Medium Controlled	Changing Dominant Established Transitioning

THE BODY - Write one paragraph for each of the following topics: Focal Point, Visual Movement, and Style. Use these terms and elements selected in the elements worksheet when answering the following questions. Each paragraph should end with a small judgment to support your conclusion regarding which piece is more compelling.

Piece A	Question	Piece B
	<p>Focal Point Describe the focal point in each piece – why and how is your eye drawn there</p> <p>The artist usesto draw the viewer into the work in contrast to who employs...</p>	
	<p>Visual Movement What path does your eye follow as you travel through the work?</p> <p>Literally, describe your movement from element to element.</p> <p>The artist uses...to keep the viewer's eye moving.</p> <p>Unlike who uses to create visual movement though...</p>	
	<p>Style</p> <p>What is distinctive about this work? How does the artist hold the work together and make it distinguishable from other artists?</p> <p>The artist uses short, choppy brush strokes to create a feeling of energy and restlessness.</p>	

**This section provides alternatives to overused words
Make at least 2 selections to use in your essay**

Composition	Establish Organic Schemes Untitled Variety Design Aspect Appearance	Accidental Intentional Interaction Interacting Juxtapose Arrange Align Rhythmic	Exacerbate Complex Simple Straight forward Invent Devise Original Awkward	Formal Formed Informal Unique Unified Details Balanced Imaginative	Look Develop Appropriate Asymmetrical Enormous Aesthetics Harmonious	Component Compare Symmetrical Simulates Jarring Principles Elements
Artwork	Piece Work Drawing	Print Surface Montage	Collage Sculpture Format	Monotype Photograph Lithograph	Painting Picture Plane Photograph	
Bring out	Notable Remarkable Assert	Contrast Juxtapose Intensify	Apparent Emphasize Draw attraction to	Highlight Spotlight Assert	Focal point Area of emphasize Emerge	Detail Strikingly
Looks like	Appears Represents	Emanates Seems	Show Presents	Simulates Visible	Semblance Poses	Resembles
Lots	Abundant Copious	Extravagant Crowded	Thick Significant	Profuse Lavish		
Few	Minimal Scant	Rare Uncommon	Insufficient Inadequate	Sparse Infrequent	Meager	
Really Very	Especially Pervasive Exceedingly Extremely	Exceptionally Hugely Highly Greatly	Mightily Notably Much Significantly	Increasingly Constantly Especially Consistently	Insistent	
Interesting	Compelling Captivating	Persuasive Provoking	Convincing Gripping	Thought provoking		

Paper format and cover page

Name
Class
Date

Title (Compare Contrast Art Essay)

Vincent VanGogh, *The Starry Night*, 1889. Oil on Canvas, Landscape. 28.75 x 36.5 inches. Post Impressionism.



Images of both selected art works and all the required information from the first page of this packet must appear on the cover page of your essay. The essay should be double spaced, 12 pt, Times New Roman font.

Introductory Paragraph

- Provide the requested background material from Part I to open the paragraph.
- End the introductory paragraph with your **answer** to the “Thesis Question.”

Evaluate how you respond, or feel about, the 2 works of art you have chosen to write about. Next, argue which piece is more compelling based on the elements of art and compositional strategies used.

Main Body Paragraph 1

- Open your paragraph with your first topic, “Focal point.” In this case it might look something like this: “The first thing I respond to is.....” or “How the artist draws the viewer into their work is largely determined by the establishment of a focal point...” or “The first way the artists contributed to my response was through their use of the works focal point.”
- Next, use your given “starter” sentence for the first artist with “The artist (give the name) uses (place the term or element here) to create a strong contrast.” Now provide the necessary description to explain the term or element in the work itself.
- Move to the second artist by writing the second “starter” sentence for comparison by writing “Unlike (give the first artist’s name) who uses (repeat the previous term or element given) to create an area of emphasis, (give the next artist’s name) uses (give the new term or element).”
- Finish the paragraph with a comparison statement or **judgment** about the two works.

Main Body Paragraph 2

- Open your paragraph with your first topic, “Visual Movement.” In this case it might look something like this: “One of the first ways that the artists elicited my response to their works was through the visual movement or rhythm of the works.”
- Follow the same pattern you used for the first paragraph only use the “starter” sentences for this topic and adjust your final comparison thought to fit this topic

Main Body Paragraph 3

- Open your final paragraph with the topic of style. Consider opening the paragraph with “I find myself responding strongly to the _____ style of painting employed by_____”
- Again follow the same pattern you have used for the first two paragraphs only use the “starter” sentences for this topic and adjust your final comparison thought to fit this topic.

Conclusion

- Try opening with “So why is this information compelling when comparing these two artists’ works? One reason appears to be . . . (you fill in the **judgments**).” or “Though both works are compelling, _____ is the more compelling of the two.”
- Present your assessment of why you have a stronger reaction to one over the other.
- Don’t summarize or repeat the introduction.