

# Comparison-Contrast Essay: Write an A+ Comparison or Contrast Paper

it's a typical Saturday at the mall you're trying on new jeans let's see slim cut or relaxed fit stone washed or dark at work on Monday your boss asked you to research and recommend a notebook computer for the entire sales staff by Friday that night in criminal justice class you're reminded that you have a term paper due comparing organized crime in modern Italy Japan and Russia hmm busy week the act of comparing and contrasting is basic to our lives at home and work and at school in these examples comparing and contrasting is being done for purposes such as making a decision solving a problem or finding an answer when writing this type of essay from [cheapest essay writing service](#) it's important to avoid comparisons and contrasts that do not serve a purpose therefore when writing this type of paper one of your first important tasks is to determine what purpose the comparisons in the contrast will serve consider this example dumb or just illiterate two essays about the internet let's say you've been asked to write a compare and contrast essay about two articles is Google making us stupid by Nicholas Carr and three tweets for the web by Tyler Cohen both essays discussed the same topic the effects of the internet on our intelligence so the potential list of similarities and differences is long but what purpose will the list serve this is where the thesis comes in the overall point you wish to make as you conduct a compare or contrast analysis for our example your purpose could be to assure readers that the Internet does not pose a danger to their IQ or emotional stability to teach the fearful how the Internet can benefit their lives to satirize fears expressed by parents teachers and experts about the so called declines caused by the internet once you have a clear thesis then and only then can you go about the important task of outlining your essay as you select and arrange details that allow you to achieve your writing purpose in order for the reader to believe that you're balanced in your treatment of the subjects it's important that you follow the rules of fair play rule number one when analyzing your subjects use the same criteria for each if you talk about attention span information literacy and brain rewiring for the first essay you must also discuss those same three criteria for the second essay in the same order rule number two don't try to tilt the outcome it's fine to have a preference but it's not fine to omit or puff up information conduct the comparison in a balanced objective manner and let the facts speak for themselves rule number three recognize that any comparison will produce both similarities and differences what you write should reflect to some extent this reality so for example if your paper will focus mainly on the differences between the two essays you could perhaps begin by first pointing to a similarity between the two you find these fair play rules at work in the two arrangements most often used in compare contrast essays the subject by subject pattern and the point-by-point pattern the subject by subject pattern focuses on each subject one at a time for example after an introduction paragraph that provides the thesis of the comparison the essays are discussed separately note that the same criteria are used for each essay in the same order a point-by-point pattern on the other hand provides a side-by-side analysis of the

two essays note that the same criteria for discussion now have their own paragraphs attention span information access and brain rewiring also note that is Google making us stupid always comes first in the discussion followed by three tweets for the web the pattern you choose subject by subject or point by point depends on two factors length of the paper and complexity of the subject matter a subject by subject approach provides a strong overview and simple organization however in a more complex analysis the point by point approach helps to keep both subjects in clear view and makes technical analyses more understandable by breaking them down point by point finally don't forget the key transition words and phrases that you will need as you weave back and forth in your analysis likewise in comparison in contrast on the other hand however on the contrary and many more help your reader follow along as you navigate between the topics and your compare and contrast essay