***A Narrative of Frederick Douglass* COMPARE & CONTRAST ESSAY**

The purpose of the *A Narrative of Frederick Douglass* compare & contrast paper is to do all of the following: 1) Practice synthesizing ideas, analyzing text, and making information based connections, 2) Re-enforce time management strategies, and 3) Prepare you for college level thought and writing.

**WHERE TO BEGIN…**

**Step 1:** Read the quotes from *I Am Malala* & *A Narrative of* *Frederick Douglass* and look for similarities and differencesof how they meet the theme of Literacy (reading and writing OR being educated) being a form of power. **Complete the Brainstorm Activity.**

**Step 2:** Develop a strong thesis sentence! (Be sure to look at your thesis handout to help you.)

**Step 3:** Fill out the compare & contrast essay prompt outline.

**Step 4:** Write your paper. **BE SURE TO FOCUS ON THE THEME OF LITERACY BEING A FORM OF POWER.** Bring drafts (even if it is only a little at a time). Ms. Berti will read as many as you bring in! Also, do not allow for any spelling, grammar, or MLA format issues as points will be deducted (See rubric).

**IMPORTANT ASPECTS…**

1. The essay must be clearly organized, either **point-by-point method** or **block method** format (see attached paper).
2. Include a **minimum of three points** **of comparison & contrast**.
3. Focus on **smooth transitional words and sentences** that help illuminate and connect.
4. Type your paper in Times New Roman 12 point font, double-spaced, with 1” margins. Staple your essay in this order (from top to bottom): final draft with Works Cited page, prior draft, outline, then the rubric.

**BIG WARNINGS…**

* Computer and/or printer issues are *not* my problem. Plan ahead. Do not come to me to ask if you can go print out a paper. Papers are due at the beginning of the period. If you are concerned about your home computer/printer, finish early so you have a few days to problem-solve.
* The grading rubric *must* be attached to your paper. **No rubric, no grade.** I don’t make extra copies.
* Term papers are due on the due date regardless of an absence. **Absolutely NO late papers** will be accepted under any condition. If you are ill, find someone reliable to deliver the paper to the school and have it stamped with the date and time in the main office.
* NOT reading is not an option. NOT writing you own paper is not an option. Plagiarism is considered using someone else’s words or ideas, whether directly or indirectly, without giving the individual credit through proper citation. Plagiarism on any part of this paper (no matter how big or small) will result in 0/110 points (which would likely contribute to an F in the course) and a school referral. You will be required to submit your paper through turnitin.com *prior* to turning in a paper copy on the due date. I do not take this lightly and neither should you. DO YOUR OWN WORK.

**WRITING A COMPARE & CONTRAST ESSAY**

Here is some general information about the organization for this type of essay:

* A**comparison essay** *notes either similarities,* or *similarities* and *differences.*
* A **contrast essay**notes only *differences.*

The**thesis**can present the subjects and indicate whether they will be compared, contrasted, or both.

**Basics of a Good Thesis Statement or Topic Sentence:**

1. It fits the size of the assignment.
2. It states a single main point or position about the narrowed topic.
3. It is specific.
4. It is an idea you can show, explain, or prove.
5. It is a forceful statement written with confidence. (See handout for further details)

The **same points** should be discussed for both subjects; it is not necessary, however to give both subjects the same degree of development.

Use detailed topic sentences and the following transitions to make the relationship between your subjects clear to your reader:

**Transitions That Show Comparison (Similarities):**

 In addition… Correspondingly…  Compared to…

 Similarly…  Just as…  As well as…

 Likewise… Same as…  At the same time…

**Transitions That Show Contrast (Differences):**

However…  On the contrary… On the other hand… Even though…  In contrast… Although…

Unlike…  Conversely… Meanwhile…

Some common **organizational** structures include: (see chart below)

1. Point by point
2. Block method (subject by subject)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Point-by-Point Method** | **Block Method** |
| **INRODUCTION** | * Introduction of general topic * Specific topic * **Thesis** = areas to be covered in this essay: *Both cats and dogs make excellent pets, but an appropriate choice depends on the pet owner’s lifestyle, finances, and household accommodations* | * Introduction of general topic * Specific topic * **Thesis** = areas to be covered in this essay: *Both cats and dogs make excellent pets, but an appropriate choice depends on the pet owner’s lifestyle, finances, and household accommodations.* |
| **BODY PARAGRAPH 1** | **Topic Sentence - Aspect 1**  *Cats make less of an impact on an owner’s lifestyle.*  **Topic 1 - Aspect 1:** Cats  • **Detail:** Don’t have to be watched during the day  • **Detail:** Easier to get care if owner travels  **Topic 2 - Aspect 1**: Dogs  • **Detail:** Pack animals shouldn’t be left alone  • **Detail:** Harder to get care when away  **Transition Sentence** | **Topic Sentence – Topic 1**  *Cats are easier and less expensive to care for.*  **Aspect 1:** Lifestyle  • **Detail:** Don’t have to be watched during the day  • **Detail:** Easier to get care if owner travels  **Aspect 2:** Cost  • **Detail:** Food and health care are usually less expensive  • **Detail:** Less likely to cause property damage  **Aspect 3:** House accommodations  • **Detail:** Don’t take up much space  • **Detail:** Less intrusive  **Transition Sentence** |
| **BODY PARAGRAPH 2** | **Topic Sentence - Aspect 2**  *Cats are less expensive to own and care for.*  **Topic 1 - Aspect 2:** Cats  • **Detail:** Food and health care are usually less expensive  • **Detail:** Less likely to cause property damage  **Topic 2 - Aspect 2:** Dogs  • **Detail:** Food is more expensive  • **Detail:** Over-breeding causes some health  problems  **Transition Sentence** | **Topic Sentence – Topic 2**  *Dogs are active and loyally engaging pets.*  **Aspect 1 –** Lifestyle  • **Detail:** Pack animals shoudn’t be left alone  • **Detail:** Harder to get care when away Need more living space  **Aspect 2 –** Cost  • **Detail:** Food is more expensive  • **Detail:** Over-breeding causes some health problems  **Aspect 3 –** House accommodations  • **Detail:** Often need yard and fence  • **Detail:** Require more safety and protective measures  **Transition Sentence** |
| **BODY PARAGRAPH 3** | **Topic Sentence - Aspect 3**  *Cats need few special house accommodations*.  **Topic 1 - Aspect 3:** Cats  • **Detail:** Don’t take up much space  • **Detail:** Less intrusive  **Topic 2 - Aspect 3:** Dogs  • **Detail:** Often need yard and fence  • **Detail:** Require more safety and protective measures  **Transition Sentence** | **OPTIONAL** |
| **CONCLUSION** | **Summary of main points**  • **Evaluation** and/or possible future developments  • **Significance** of topic to author: *When considering adopting a pet, a prospective owner must consider the lifestyle, finances, and household accommodations that the pet would require. Owners who neglect to compare these aspects will often not care for their pet in a safe manner*. | **Summary of main points**  • **Evaluation** and/or possible future developments  • **Significance** of topic to author: *When considering adopting a pet, a prospective owner must consider the lifestyle, finances, and household accommodations that the pet would require. Owners who neglect to compare these aspects will often not care for their pet in a safe manner.* |