

Expository Compare and Contrast Writing: Checklist, Grades 5-12

Refer to this checklist when writing and revising your practice essays. This checklist may not be used during the writing assignment session. This is a checklist for a five paragraph essay.

Did you...

Show your understanding of the writing assignment?

- Write an essay that **explains** about a topic?
- Write at least **five** paragraphs to include an introduction and conclusion paragraph?
- Write about the topic of the **writing assignment**?

Show the organization of the introduction paragraph?

- Begin your introduction paragraph with a hook sentence to interest the reader about the topic?
- Indent the first sentence of your paragraph?
- Write a sentence about the topic of the essay?
- Write a sentence giving the three main ideas you plan to present about your topic?

Show the organization of body paragraph #1?

- Write one main idea sentence in support of your topic sentence?
- Indent the first sentence of your paragraph?
- Write two example or explanation detail sentences about the main idea?
- Show appropriate use of precise and interesting transition words?

Show the organization of body paragraph #2?

- Write one main idea sentence in support of your topic sentence?
- Indent the first sentence of your paragraph?
- Write two example or explanation detail sentences about the main idea?
- Show appropriate use of precise and interesting transition words?

Show the organization of body paragraph #3?

- Write one main idea sentence in support of your topic sentence?
- Indent the first sentence of your paragraph?
- Write two example or explanation detail sentences about the main idea?
- Show appropriate use of precise and interesting transition words?

Show the organization of the conclusion paragraph?

- Restate the thesis topic sentence from your introduction paragraph in another way?
- Indent the first sentence of your paragraph?
- Restate the three main ideas from your introduction paragraph in another way?
- Restate the hook in a “wrap-it-all-up” concluding sentence?

Vary your sentences?

- Use at least one subject-verb sentence?
- Use at least one compound sentence or sentence other than a subject-verb sentence?
- Use language that is precise and interesting?

Explain about the topic of the assignment?

- Write a topic sentence consistent with the topic of the writing assignment?
- Write main idea sentences consistent with the topic?
- Write example and explanation sentences consistent with the main ideas?

Use correct grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling?

- Use the correct verb tense for each subject?
- Capitalize the first word of each sentence and end each sentence with punctuation?
- Check each word for correct spelling?