

Compare and Contrast: Artistic Option

Guiding Questions:

- Evaluate: How am I (and the people who I spend time with) similar to the people who I researched? How am I different from the people who I researched?
- How do I define myself? How do others define me? How do I want to be perceived?
- How am I part of a “group,” and how does my “group” relate to society as a whole?
- What do I learn about myself and others from looking at cultural groups?

Task: For this compare contrast option, you will create a visual representation which compares you to your group (see sample image below from Sherman Alexie’s book *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian*).

STEPS:

Step 1: Compare the subculture that you observed with yourself/your group of friends. Make your basis of comparison narrow. For example: the Geo Metro and the Ford F-150 are both vehicles, but that’s way too general. Go beyond the obvious, don’t summarize.

Step 2: Brainstorm and Plan. Create a graphic organizer

(ex: 2-column notes, square Venn diagram).

- List the meaningful characteristics that you’ll compare and contrast. Include information from your secondary research about characteristics of the subculture. (Make sure you cite the information that you get from secondary sources.)

Step 3: Using your own drawing or a body template, draw features and characteristics that show the differences between you and the group you’re studying. Even if you aren’t a fantastic artist, the image should be thoughtful, neat, and presentable. Take time to create a high-quality product.

MORE INFORMATION ON THE BACK



For full points, the image should contain the following:

- Minimum of 6 physical points of comparison that show something about you and your subculture. This includes clothing, accessories, and any other physical items that show a comparison.
 - The comments on these items should be balanced on each side.
 - For example, if I was comparing the my teacher-self to someone in the skater culture, I might show our bags and point out the skateboard and Red Bull in one and the grading and healthy snack in the other.
- Minimum of 3 points of comparison that look at the bigger picture of your comparison.
 - This should compare larger ideas rather than physical characteristics.
 - For example, again comparing myself/a teacher to someone in the skater culture, I might balance “A college education and enough sense to know better” with “The excitement of youth and a willingness to take risks.”

Step 4: Write a short explanation of the image that highlights the differences/similarities you point out in your illustration. Include a quote from your secondary research article to reinforce the information you put into your drawing. Minimum of 75 words.

FORMAT:

- 75-100 words (proofread for conventions).
- Clean, neat drawing with legible labels
- 6 points comparing physical characteristics (clothing, speech, interactions with others, etc.)
- 3 points comparing abstract characteristics (personality, attitude, motivations)
- At least one relevant quote/characteristic/idea from a **secondary source**.
- Heading at top (or on back)