

Informational Writing purpose: Create a comparison paper looking at two sides of a critical issue found in our world.

Focus: You must focus your paper around the prompt. Never lose sight of what you are supposed to be writing about.

Organization: Make sure that your ideas are organized. Use paragraphing and transition words so that your reader can easily follow your comparison. Include organizational techniques, such as, headings, charts, or graphs to make your point.

Development: Include well-chosen facts, quotes, and statistics. You are the expert of your paper!

Language: Proofread for spelling, punctuation, and capitalization mistakes. Look for run-ons and sentence fragments. Try to include varied sentence structure. Include strong, grade appropriate vocabulary words.

	4	3	2	1	0
Focus	Creative way of addressing the prompt Sophisticated thesis statement	All aspects of the prompt are covered Clear and well written thesis statement	Prompt is addressed, but not in depth Introduces topic in a thesis statement	Some attention is focused around the prompt Thesis statement is weak and the topic is unclear	Barely focused around the prompt Lacks a thesis statement and a clear topic
Organization	Introduction is skillfully written and sets up the paper Thoroughly developed ideas Conclusion reflects on the information from the paper and draws meaningful connections Purposeful use of organizational techniques	Introduction previews the topic and what information is coming Relevant information Conclusion supports the information found in the paper Transition words help the flow of the paper Organizational techniques found throughout	Introduction attempts to set up the paper Body paragraphs lack sufficient information Conclusion only partially addresses the information from the paper Some transition words and organizational techniques are used	Introduction is flawed and does not set up the paper Minimal body paragraphs Weak conclusion Limited transition words Lacking any organizational techniques	Lacking an introduction Fails to develop a topic Conclusion is missing No transition words used Ideas are scattered and unfocused
Development	Skillfully develops the topic using well-chosen facts and information Sources are integrated throughout the paper Strong understanding and connections found to the topic	Well-chosen facts and information Sources are included effectively Shows developed understanding of the topic	Weak use of information and facts Sources are not included effectively Only basic understanding of the topic is shown	Minimal evidence to support the topic Incorrectly cites sources Shows limited understanding of the topic	Little to no evidence to support the topic Did not use or cite sources Topic is confused
Language	Purposeful use of varied sentence structure Little to no errors Strong and sophisticated word choice	Correct and varied sentence structure Few minor mistakes Strong, grade appropriate word choice	Use of some varied sentence structures Some errors found throughout the paper	Basic word choice, numerous errors cause some confusion	Grammar and vocabulary choices affect the ability to understand your paper

16 = 4 (100%) 12 = 3.0 (75%) 8 = 2.0 (50%) 4 = 1 (25%)
 15 = 3.8 (95%) 11 = 2.8 (70%) 7 = 1.8 (45%) 3 = 0.8 (20%)
 14 = 3.5 (88%) 10 = 2.5 (63%) 6 = 1.5 (38%) 2 = 0.5 (13%)
 13 = 3.3 (83%) 9 = 2.3 (58%) 5 = 1.3 (33%) 1 = 0.3 (8%)

Total points earned _____

Percentage _____