

Reading Comprehension Worksheet | Compare and contrast

When we **compare** - we tell how things are alike.

When we **contrast** - we tell how things are different.

Instructions: Read the two stories below. As you read, think about how the stories are alike, and how they are different. Then, answer the questions that follow. A parent or teacher should read along with the student, and help as needed.



Rabbit and Squirrel

Rabbit loved to dig deep burrows in the ground, while Squirrel preferred to build cozy nests high up in the trees. One day, they decided to try each other's homes to see which was better. Rabbit hopped up the tree to Squirrel's nest, but it felt wobbly, and Rabbit didn't like being so high. Squirrel tried to dig a burrow but found the dirt too heavy, and the darkness below scared him. They both realized that each had their own perfect home. Rabbit returned to the earth to dig his burrows, and Squirrel climbed back to the treetops to build his nests. They happily agreed that "low or high, our homes are just right."



Owl and Penguin

Owl, who loved the nighttime sky of the south, and Penguin, who adored the icy lands of the north, were curious about each other's environments. Owl suggested they switch places for a day. Owl flew to the cold north, but the darkness and cold made him shiver. Penguin glided down to the south, but the bright sunlight and warm weather were too much for him. They met in the middle and decided that their original habitats are best for them. Owl returned to the nighttime sky, and Penguin waddled back to the chilly ice. They chuckled together, realizing that "night or day, warm or cold, we should live where we feel comfortable."



Read each detail below, and select the best answer. Some of the details are true of just one of the two stories. Some are true of both stories. Some are not true of either story.



1. The characters are people.

- A. "Rabbit and Squirrel" only
- B. "Owl and Penguin" only
- C. Both stories
- D. Neither story

2. The characters are animals.

- A. "Rabbit and Squirrel" only
- B. "Owl and Penguin" only
- C. Both stories
- D. Neither story

3. One character was scared of the dark.

- A. "Rabbit and Squirrel" only
- B. "Owl and Penguin" only
- C. Both stories
- D. Neither story

4. The characters preferred their original way of living.

- A. "Rabbit and Squirrel" only
- B. "Owl and Penguin" only
- C. Both stories
- D. Neither story

5. One character didn't like the warm weather.

- A. "Rabbit and Squirrel" only
- B. "Owl and Penguin" only
- C. Both stories
- D. Neither story

6. The story takes place indoors.

- A. "Rabbit and Squirrel" only
- B. "Owl and Penguin" only
- C. Both stories
- D. Neither story

7. What is another detail that is similar in the two stories?

8. What is another detail that is different in the two stories?
