

Reading Comprehension Worksheet | Compare and contrast (characters)

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

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

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



The Farmer and the Thief

Once upon a time, in a quiet village, there was a hardworking farmer. He woke up every morning before sunrise to tend to his fields, planting seeds, watering his crops, and harvesting them at the right time. Though the farmer had little, he was content with his simple life and loved the land that provided for him.

One day, a thief came into the village. He sneaked around, looking for anything to steal. The thief was clever, always making sure he wasn't caught, and he took whatever he could find to sell. He didn't care for the work of farming and preferred to take what he wanted without effort.

One evening, the thief came across the farmer's barn. He quietly opened the door, grabbed a few bags of grain, and left without making a sound. The farmer, hearing a noise, rushed to the barn and saw the thief running away with his crops. He called out to the village guard, but by the time they arrived, the thief had escaped.

The next day, the farmer went to the marketplace and found the thief trying to sell the stolen grain. The farmer told the guard and the thief was caught. The farmer felt both sad and angry, but he knew that justice had been done.

Some of the following details apply to only one character in the story, some apply to both, and some do not apply to either. Read each detail carefully and select the best answer."



1. ... woke up early every day

- A. The farmer only
- B. The thief only
- C. Both characters
- D. Neither character

2. ... worked hard to get what they wanted

- A. The farmer only
- B. The thief only
- C. Both characters
- D. Neither character

3. ... was involved in stealing

- A. The farmer only
- B. The thief only
- C. Both characters
- D. Neither character

4. ... was caught after trying to sell stolen goods

- A. The farmer only
- B. The thief only
- C. Both characters
- D. Neither character

5. ... showed kindness to others

- A. The farmer only
- B. The thief only
- C. Both characters
- D. Neither character

6. ... experienced a sense of justice at the end of the story

- A. The farmer only
- B. The thief only
- C. Both characters
- D. Neither character

7. What is one other detail that is alike or different in the two characters?
