

Compare Two Texts Graphic Organizer

Compare what two texts say, how they support ideas, and where the important similarities or differences are.

Name: _____

Date: _____

TEXT A	TEXT B
MAIN IDEA / MESSAGE	MAIN IDEA / MESSAGE
KEY EVIDENCE / DETAILS	KEY EVIDENCE / DETAILS
IMPORTANT SIMILARITY	
IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE	
SYNTHESIS What do you understand better after reading both texts together?	

Compare Two Texts — Guided

GUIDED VERSION

Name: _____ Date: _____

SHARED TOPIC

What topic or question connects both texts?

TEXT A

Central idea + strongest evidence.

BOTH

What information or conclusions do they share?

TEXT B

Central idea + strongest evidence.

SYNTHESIS

What can you understand better after using both?

Compare Two Texts — Completed Example

Two original source notes on the same topic · Compare ideas and evidence before writing a synthesis.

PRACTICE TEXT / CONTEXT

Shared topic: Should a school start a small garden? Text A describes garden-based science lessons and emphasizes observation. Text B focuses on maintenance and argues that a garden needs a realistic watering and summer-care plan.

TEXT A

Main idea: a school garden can provide hands-on science observations. Evidence: students can track plant growth, insects, soil moisture, and seasonal change.

BOTH

Both texts treat the garden as an ongoing project rather than a one-day activity. Both imply that regular attention matters.

TEXT B

Main idea: the garden is only workable if maintenance is planned. Evidence: watering, tool storage, and care during school breaks need assigned responsibility.

IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE

Text A emphasizes instructional benefits; Text B emphasizes operational constraints. They answer different parts of the same decision.

SYNTHESIS

A school garden could support hands-on learning, but the educational benefit depends on a maintenance plan that keeps the garden usable throughout the year.