

Compare and Contrast

Question 1 .**Passage 1****Fighter Writer**

The world was asleep. The silence was deep.
She was awake with a promise to keep.
The moon wasn't bright all through the night.
And howls were heard, giving her a fright.

She wrote and wrote till her fingers were blue.
Her eyes were bloodshot—head was weary, too.
Because she had to prove she was right
She wasn't going to give up the fight.

Passage 2**Possession**

You're mine, you're mine
Like flowers on a vine
And the vine on a tree
To you I'm bound
My heart isn't free

You're mine, you're mine
This love so divine
And devotion serene
In you I've found
Oh my little queen

You're mine, you're mine
Rain or sunshine

Which of these is true about the use of rhyme in these poems?

- ☐ **A.** In both poems, there are rhyming words within each line.

- ☐ **B.** In "Fighter Writer," the rhyming words reinforce the theme of persistence. In "Possession," the rhyming words convey the theme of love and cheer.
- ☐ **C.** In "Fighter Writer," the rhyming words generate a feeling of calm. In "Possession," the rhyming words produce a feeling of determination.
- ☐ **D.** In both poems, each pair of lines ends in the same rhyme.

Question 2 .**Passage 1**

(In this selection, Tom Sawyer has to whitewash his Aunt Polly's fence.)

But Tom's energy did not last. He began to think of the fun he had planned for this day, and his sorrows multiplied. Soon the free boys would come tripping along on all sorts of delicious expeditions, and they would make a world of fun of him for having to work. . . .

(Then Tom's friend Ben walks up.)

"Hello, old chap, you got to work, hey?"

Tom wheeled suddenly and said:

"Why, it's you, Ben! I warn't noticing."

"Say—I'm going in a-swimming, I am. Don't you wish you could? But of course you'd druther work—wouldn't you? Course you would!"

Tom contemplated the boy a bit, and said:

"What do you call work?"

"Why, ain't that work?"

Tom resumed his whitewashing, and answered carelessly:

"Well, maybe it is, and maybe it ain't. All I know is, it suits Tom Sawyer."

"Oh come, now, you don't mean to let on that you like it?" The brush continued to move.

"Like it? Well, I don't see why I oughtn't to like it. Does a boy get a chance to whitewash a fence every day?"

That put the thing in a new light. Ben stopped nibbling his apple. Tom swept his brush daintily back and forth—stepped back to note the effect—added a touch here and there—criticized the effect again—Ben watching every move and getting more and more interested, more and more absorbed. Presently he said:

"Say, Tom, let me whitewash a little."

Tom considered, was about to consent; but he altered his mind:

"No—no—I reckon it wouldn't hardly do, Ben. You see, Aunt Polly's awful particular about this fence—right here on the street, you know—but if it was the back fence I wouldn't mind and she wouldn't. Yes, she's awful particular about this fence; it's got to be done very careful; I reckon there ain't one boy in a thousand, maybe two thousand, that can do it the way it's got to be done."

"No—is that so? Oh come now—lemme just try. Only just a little—I'd let you, if you was me, Tom."

adapted from *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain

Passage 2

As Frank walked out the back door, he saw about eight or nine kids sitting with Brandon, his brother, watching the workers dig a hole for their new swimming pool. Brandon pulled his brother aside, saying, "These kids each paid two dollars to watch these guys dig the hole for the pool. If you want a cut, you won't say anything to Mom."

"Why would Mom care?" asked Frank.

"Well," said Brandon, "I told the kids that there might be dinosaur bones in the hole and that for two dollars, they get to keep whatever the workers find."

"But," said Frank, "there aren't any dinosaur bones out there. If there were, Grandpa would have found them when he replaced all the pipes a few years ago."

"They don't know that," Brandon responded as he pointed to the kids gathered on the porch. "And besides, remember those chicken bones I told you to bury in there last night? I'm going to tell the kids they came from a prehistoric bird."

"Oh," said Frank, "that's why you wanted me to bury them." He was a little disappointed in his brother. He was proud of Brandon for coming up with such a clever idea, but he was also bothered by the fact that Brandon was being so dishonest. After all, the kids on the porch were their friends. Why would Brandon want to lie to their friends?

Brandon looked over at Frank and said, "Why don't you make yourself useful. Go find some more kids. I'll give you twenty cents for each one you bring back."

Frank nodded. He went off to find more kids, bothered by the fact that he was doing all the work but getting little in return.

Which of the following statements accurately contrasts the characters of Brandon and Frank in passage 2?

- ☐ A. Brandon does all the footwork, and Frank develops the plan and reaps the profits.
- ☐ B. Brandon is the clever one, and Frank does the footwork for a share of the profits.
- ☐ C. Brandon and Frank are equally clever, taking turns coming up with a plan.
- ☐ D. Brandon always gets in trouble, even though Frank is the brain behind their mischief.

Question 3 .**Passage 1****The Beginning**

by J. Robbins

After turning in his books to the principal's office, Jake rolled his wheelchair down the hallway of his high school and looked around him. For the past four years, he had dreamed of the day he would graduate and leave high school behind. Now graduation day had arrived, and he felt a pang of sadness. The years had passed quickly and led to the inevitable end of his childhood. Memories flooded his mind as he wheeled himself past the long row of lockers.

Jake touched the dent on the door of his locker and remembered the day two bullies had shoved his wheelchair into his locker and pushed him to the floor. The captain of the football team had chased the bullies off and helped Jake back into his chair. Now all that was left of that day was the memory of a Good Samaritan helping him and a small dent in a blue locker. The next student to use this locker would probably wonder how the dent was made.

As Jake rolled out into the afternoon sunshine, he felt the sadness lift away like a cloud. This was not a day for looking back but for looking forward. He could not stay in high school forever. As always, time marched on. He had earned top grades and won a scholarship to college. Next year, he would be rolling his wheelchair onto the campus of an Ivy League college. After college, he was determined to become a lawyer specializing in legal aid for persons with disabilities. His dreams were far from over—they were just beginning.

Passage 2**Nothing Gold Can Stay**

by Robert Frost

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.

What is one difference between the story and the poem?

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- ☐ **A.** The story presents endings as hopeful, and the poem presents endings as a source of despair.
- ☐ **B.** The story shows the effect of time on nature, and the poem shows the effect of time on people.
- ☐ **C.** The story's mood is one of sadness and despair, and the poem's mood is one of optimistic happiness.
- ☐ **D.** The story's events take place in the future, and the poem only speaks of events in the past.

Question 4 .**Passage 1****The Beginning of the Armadillos**

One beautiful night on the banks of the turbid Amazon, Painted Jaguar found Stickly-Prickly Hedgehog and Slow-Solid Tortoise sitting under the trunk of a fallen tree. They could not run away, so Stickly-Prickly curled into a ball, and Slow-Solid drew in his head and feet into his shell.

"Now attend to me," said Painted, "because this is very important. My mother said when I meet a Hedgehog, I am to drop him into the water, and then he will uncoil, and when I meet a Tortoise, I am to scoop him out of his shell with my paw. Now which of you is Hedgehog and which is Tortoise?"

"Are you sure of what your Mummy told you?" said Stickly-Prickly Hedgehog. Perhaps she said that when you uncoil a Tortoise, you must shell him out of the water with a scoop, and when you paw a Hedgehog, you must drop him on the shell."

"I don't think it was at all like that," said Painted Jaguar, but he felt a little puzzled. "But please, say it again more distinctly."

"When you scoop water with your paw, you uncoil it with a Hedgehog," said Stickly-Prickly. "Remember that because it's important."

"You are making my spots ache," said Painted Jaguar, "and besides, I didn't want your advice at all. I only wanted to know which of you is Hedgehog and which is Tortoise."

"I shan't tell you," said Stickly-Prickly. "But you can scoop me out of my shell if you like."

"Aha!" said Painted Jaguar. "Now I know you're Tortoise." Painted Jaguar darted out his paddy-paw just as Stickly-Prickly curled himself up, and of course Jaguar's paddy-paw was filled with prickles. Worse than that, he knocked Stickly-Prickly away into the woods and the bushes, where it was too dark to find him.

adapted from Just So Stories by Rudyard Kipling

Passage 2**The Eagle and the Arrow**

by Aesop

An eagle was soaring through the air when suddenly it heard the whiz of an arrow and felt itself wounded to death. Slowly, it fluttered down to the earth with its life-blood pouring out of it. Looking down upon the arrow with which it had been pierced, it found that the shaft of the arrow had been feathered with one of its own plumes.

adapted from "The Eagle and the Arrow" by Aesop

Which of the following statements describes a difference between the stories' themes?

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- ☐ **A.** Both stories deal with the theme of deception. In the first, the jaguar is deceived by the hedgehog, and in the second, the eagle is deceived by the hunter.
- ☐ **B.** The first story is about the foolishness of asking your enemy for advice; the second is about how you sometimes give your enemies the means for your destruction.
- ☐ **C.** The first story's theme advises a person to trust an enemy who is smarter; the second story's theme advises a person to never trust an enemy.
- ☐ **D.** The first story is about getting tricked by your enemies when you trusted them; the second story deals with getting tricked by your enemies when you didn't trust them.

Question 5 .**Passage 1****Wounded**

by J. Robbins

White Feather looked down at her ankle and groaned. She knew her fall down the hill had broken it, and the pain throbbed through her whole body. Her father had always warned her about her tendency to rush through the forest without paying attention to her surroundings. I wish I had listened to him, she thought.

Suddenly, a figure appeared at the top of the hill. Her heart began to pound when she realized that the stranger was wearing the ceremonial war paint of a rival tribe. I am as good as dead, she thought in despair. No warrior would hesitate to kill a wounded enemy. The pain in her ankle could not compare to the pain in her heart as the stranger approached her.

White Feather tried to drag herself along the ground to escape the warrior, but he quickly caught up with her and knelt beside her. She watched in amazement as he placed his hunting gear on the ground and gestured for her to be still. The warrior gently placed a bundle of herbs on her ankle, and the pain immediately receded from White Feather's wound. She could not believe her eyes as the stranger picked up his gear and disappeared into the forest.

Passage 2**Brains**

by J. Robbins

Mary Abbott walked into the cafeteria and hoisted her heavy science project onto the table. The room was filled with students' excited voices as they set up for the annual science fair. Mary ignored all possible distractions as she prepared her project. She had worked for months—and had even given up her summer vacation—to guarantee that she would win the first place trophy and scholarship money. Right, she thought with a grin. I can convince everyone else that I want the prize, but the truth is I want to beat Pierre. That's all that matters.

"Well, Mary-Mary-quite-contrary," mocked Pierre, interrupting her concentration. Mary winced and turned to face the boy who seemed determined to annoy her at every turn. He was trying to peer over her shoulder to see her project, but she blocked it from his view.

"You really should be setting up, Pierre," Mary told him through gritted teeth. "The judges don't like to wait on tardy contestants." Pierre grinned and wagged his finger in her face.

"No worries," he said confidently. "Once the judges see my solar powered battery farm, they will send everyone else home." Mary's face fell as she heard his words. A solar powered

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battery farm? she worried. That's exactly the kind of thing the judges love.

"Contestants, to your places," called one of the judges over the loudspeaker. "The first project to be judged will be Mary Abbott's." Here we go, she told herself, and she pushed thoughts of Pierre out of her mind.

How is the conflict in Passage 1 different from the conflict in Passage 2?

- ☐ **A.** The conflict in Passage 1 is based on a cultural rivalry; the conflict in Passage 2 is based on an intellectual rivalry.
- ☐ **B.** The conflict in Passage 1 is created by a character's prejudice; the conflict in Passage 2 is resolved by tolerance.
- ☐ **C.** The conflict in Passage 1 shows the horrors of war; the conflict in Passage 2 shows the importance of peace.
- ☐ **D.** The conflict in Passage 1 takes place in a character's imagination; the conflict in Passage 2 takes place in reality.

Question 6 .**Passage 1**

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"Hello, old chap, you got to work, hey?"

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Tom contemplated the boy a bit, and said:

"What do you call work?"

"Why, ain't that work?"

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"Oh come, now, you don't mean to let on that you like it?" The brush continued to move.

"Like it? Well, I don't see why I oughtn't to like it. Does a boy get a chance to whitewash a fence every day?"

That put the thing in a new light. Ben stopped nibbling his apple. Tom swept his brush daintily back and forth—stepped back to note the effect—added a touch here and there—criticized the effect again—Ben watching every move and getting more and more interested, more and more absorbed. Presently he said:

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Tom considered, was about to consent; but he altered his mind:

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In contrasting the character of Tom Sawyer in passage 1 and Brandon in passage 2, how do the motivations of the two characters differ?

- ☐ A. Tom Sawyer in passage 1 wants to get out of doing work; Brandon in passage 2 wants to make a profit.
- ☐ B. Brandon in passage 2 is just showing off; Tom Sawyer in passage 1 wants to get out of doing work.
- ☐ C. Tom Sawyer in passage 1 is lazy and would rather watch someone else work; Brandon in passage 2 is hardworking.
- ☐ D. Brandon in passage 2 uses psychology to outwit his friends; Tom in passage 1 preys on the kids' curiosity.

Question 7 .**Passage 1****Slow Food**

Eat-in and Slow Food are quietly becoming new trends in food movement. As the names suggest, the idea is about sitting down to enjoy food slowly as opposed to driving through a fast-food eatery. Mostly organic food is served in such eating events on recyclable paper plates. But, don't think of Slow Food as just another fad. It is a part of a massive global movement with 100,000 members in 150 countries. And, the movement has been gaining strength since the Italian writer Carlo Petrini and his fellow friends protested the arrival of McDonald's in Rome in 1986.

Proponents of Slow Food movement all aim for food that is "good, clean, and fair." The movement is increasingly becoming a political one as it aims to protect the rights of food workers. Urban farms and farmers' markets increasingly get support from Slow Food. In addition, the movement is involved in improving school lunches and in promoting sustainable agriculture. Although many people still cannot afford wholesome food which is a component of Slow Food, the way people eat and serve food may slowly be changing for the better of mankind. The greatest result of such a revolution is the sense of community between food workers and food lovers.

Passage 2**Why Organic?**

There are many reasons to buy organic foods. Organic fruits and vegetables are not raised using manmade chemical pesticides, fossil-fuel or sewage-based fertilizers, or genetically modified seeds. Organic meat indicates that the feed meets the same standards and that the animals are not exposed to hormones and antibiotics. Organic foods are more sustainable and healthier for the environment, the farm workers, and the consumers. In addition, organic foods are beneficial because the produce has more nutrients than conventional produce. Because all of us cannot buy 100% organic food every time we shop, we can choose to buy foods that are not tarnished with pesticides, additives, and hormones. The Environmental Working Group maintains that consumers can reduce their exposure to pesticides by up to 80% if they choose "clean" fruits and vegetables.

Which idea is common to both passages?

- ☐ A. reducing pesticide exposure

- ☐ **B.** the promotion of organic food
- ☐ **C.** the politics of the food revolution
- ☐ **D.** creating a sense of community

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Identify the idea that is unique to Slow Food.

- ☐ **A.** the rights of food workers

- ☐ **B.** genetically modified seeds
- ☐ **C.** organic feed for animals
- ☐ **D.** the support for conventional food

Question 9 .**Passage 1****The Frog-Prince**
by the Grimm Brothers

A princess was playing with her golden ball when she accidentally dropped it in the spring. Fearing that she would never see her ball again, the princess began to weep.

Suddenly, a frog appeared and said, "If you will let me live with you, eat off your golden plate, and sleep upon your bed, I will bring you your ball."

The princess agreed, not really intending to do such things at all, and the frog dove down into the waters. Soon, he reappeared with the golden ball in his mouth. She was so overjoyed to have it in her hand again that she forgot about the frog and ran away.

That afternoon, just as the princess sat down to dinner, there was a knock at the door. The princess ran to the door and opened it, and there was the frog. Frightened, she shut the door as fast as she could and came back to her seat. The king asked her what was the matter.

"There is a nasty frog," said she, "at the door that lifted my ball for me out of the spring this morning. I told him that he should live with me here, thinking that he could never get out of the spring, but there he is at the door."

"As you have given your word, you must keep it. Go and let him in." The young princess reluctantly did as she was told, and the frog sat next to her at the table.

"Put your plate nearer to me so that I may eat," the frog said. This she did, and when he had eaten as much as he could, he said, "Now I am tired. Carry me upstairs, and put me on your bed." And the princess, though very unwilling, took him and put him upon the pillow of her bed, where he slept all night long.

But when the princess awoke on the following morning, she was astonished to see a handsome prince.

He told her that he had been changed into a frog by a fairy and that the spell would only be broken if some princess let him eat from her plate and sleep on her bed. The princess had broken the cruel charm, and now he wished to marry her.

The princess delightedly agreed, and they lived happily ever after.

adapted from "The Frog-Prince" by the Grimm Brothers

Passage 2

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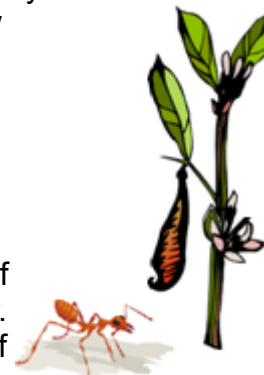
The Ant and the Chrysalis

by Aesop

An ant running about in the sunshine in search of food came across a chrysalis. The chrysalis moved its tail and attracted the attention of the ant, who then saw for the first time that it was alive. "Poor, pitiable animal!" cried the ant. "What a sad fate is yours! While I can run anywhere at my pleasure and ascend the tallest tree, you lie imprisoned here in your shell, with power only to move a joint or two of your scaly tail." The chrysalis heard all this but did not reply.

A few days after, when the ant passed that way again, nothing but the shell remained. Wondering what had become of its contents, he felt himself suddenly shaded and fanned by the gorgeous wings of a beautiful butterfly. "Behold in me," said the butterfly, "your much-pitied neighbor! Boast now of your powers to run and climb as long as you can get me to listen." So saying, the butterfly rose in the air and was soon lost to the sight of the ant forever.

adapted from "The Ant and the Chrysalis" by Aesop



What is the theme in both selections?

- ☐ A. One can prove one's enemies wrong.
- ☐ B. Things are not always as they appear.
- ☐ C. Do not take pity on the unfortunate.
- ☐ D. It's better to be wise than beautiful.

Question 10 .**Passage 1**

The morning sun kissed the surrounding meadow with light. Corinne woke up to the gentle tingling of warmth as she laid there on the ground surrounded by dew-soaked, velvety grass. She had somehow managed to fall asleep on the silky undergrowth. She sleepily sat up and wiped her crusty eyes. Then, suddenly, Corinne remembered and thought, Oh no! Mom is going to be so mad right now. She's probably so worried about me. How am I supposed to explain this?

Corinne stood up and sprinted out of the meadow; she ran the entire mile and a half in a full sprint. Her whole body was sticky with perspiration, and her chest closed up like a trap upon her lungs from the lack of oxygen. Corinne opened the door. And there, she saw her mom standing at the doorway.

Passage 2

Abram stared through the window at Novella restaurant on the corner of 5th and Congress. He would come by every day just to watch customers enjoy their food. Sometimes, when the door opened, Abram would be greeted with the sweet scent of fresh oven-baked bread. Its yeasty and fragrant aroma brightened his mood whenever he felt down. Other times, Abram would be welcomed by an intoxicating waft of seared steak freshly placed on the charcoal grill and perfumed basmati rice.

Every time Abram caught a whiff of Novella's rich food, he was comforted. The bouquet of scents would remind him of his mother's array of dishes back home. He had not been home in 10 years, and his daily stop at Novella eased the ache in his heart for home.

Both authors use imagery to develop their passages. How are their approaches to imagery different?

- ☐ A. In passage 1, the imagery focuses on the development of the character. In passage 2, the imagery focuses on the people in the restaurant.
- ☐ B. In passage 1, the imagery does not address the setting. In passage 2, the imagery fully describes the setting.
- ☐ C. In passage 1, the imagery helps explain why Corinne wakes up in the meadow. In passage 2, the imagery helps conceal why Abram enjoys spending time at Novella.
- ☐ D. In passage 1, the imagery appeals to the sense of touch. In passage 2, the imagery appeals to the sense of smell.

Answers

1. B
2. B
3. A
4. B
5. A
6. A
7. B
8. A
9. B
10. D

Explanations

1. In "Fighter Writer," the poet repeats the rhyme in the words "night," "fight," "fright," and "right." These rhyming words help reinforce the theme of persistence in dealing with an obstacle. Think about the emotion these words generate by themselves and when repeated. In "Possession," the poet repeats the rhyme in the words "mine," "divine," "vine," and "sunshine." These rhyming words help generate the feeling of love and cheer.
2. In passage 2, Brandon develops the plan to charge kids money for watching the workers dig the swimming pool. He then tells Frank to round up more kids for a percentage of the profits (only twenty cents for every 2 dollars they take in—so Brandon gets most of the money). You can assume from this selection that Brandon is the clever one who comes up with the plan, and Frank is the one who does the footwork.
3. The story shows Jake thinking about the end of his high school years, and during the story, he moves past his initial sadness to a feeling of hope. The poem gives the reader the image of endings as a source of grief or despair.
4. The question asks you to contrast the themes of the two stories, to determine how they are different. The jaguar in the first story trusts the hedgehog's advice and ends up with a paw full of prickles. The eagle in the second story realizes as it is dying that it had provided its enemy, the hunter, with the means for its death—a feather to make the arrow that killed it.
5. The conflict in Passage 1 involves White Feather's fear of a member of a rival tribe. The two tribes are involved in a cultural rivalry, and this creates the conflict in the story. In Passage 2, Mary and Pierre are involved in an intellectual rivalry over who can win the science fair prize.
6. The key word to keep in mind here is motivations. Think about the reasons behind the two characters' actions—what makes them behave the way they do. Tom Sawyer has to whitewash a fence while his friend is on his way to go swimming. This suggests to the reader that Tom would rather not be working, and this motivates him to cleverly get his friend Ben to do the work for him. Brandon in passage 2 hopes to make money by charging his friends to watch the workers dig the pool. He is motivated by wanting to make a profit.

7. In Passage 1, the author mentions that mostly organic food is served on recyclable paper plates in the eating events. The central idea in Passage 2 promotes organic food.
8. Only Passage 1 addresses the rights of food workers as a political aspect of Slow Food movement. Although Passage 2 mentions farm workers, the author discusses them in terms of creating a healthy environment and not about their rights.
9. These stories take on a number of issues, but the only theme they both share is things aren't always as they appear. In the first story, the princess is surprised to discover that the nasty frog is actually a prince. In the second story, the ant is surprised to see the chrysalis turn into a beautiful butterfly.
10. Imagery is used by authors to create a picture in the reader's mind by using descriptive and figurative language. In this case, the authors of both passages approach their use of imagery differently. In passage 1, the author's use of imagery appeals to the sense of touch. He or she uses words and phrases such as "dew-soaked," "velvety," "silky," to help establish the setting. In passage 2, the author's use of imagery appeals to the sense of smell. He or she uses words such as "yeasty," "fragrant," "perfumed," and "bouquet" to describe the setting.