

**Purpose:** The purpose is to illustrate similarities and/or differences between two topics.

There are two different styles for this type of paper: block arrangement and point-by-point arrangement.

**Block Arrangement:** Each paragraph discusses one of the two topics to be compared and/or contrasted, stating all of the similarities/differences of that one topic.

Ex.: I. Introduction states the purpose: to discuss the differences between face-to-face and online courses.

II. Body paragraph 1 states the components of face-to-face courses.

- A. Teacher-student interaction
- B. Student-student interaction
- C. Grading process

III. Body paragraph 2 states the components of online courses.

- D. Teacher-student interaction
- E. Student-student interaction
- F. Grading process

IV. Conclusion restates the main points of comparison and/or contrast and offers no further points about the topic. It points out the importance of the compare/contrast shown throughout the essay.

## **Point-by-Point Arrangement**

I. Introduction states the purpose: to discuss the differences between face-to-face courses and online ones.

II. Body paragraph 1 states the contrast of teacher-student interaction in face-to-face courses and online courses.

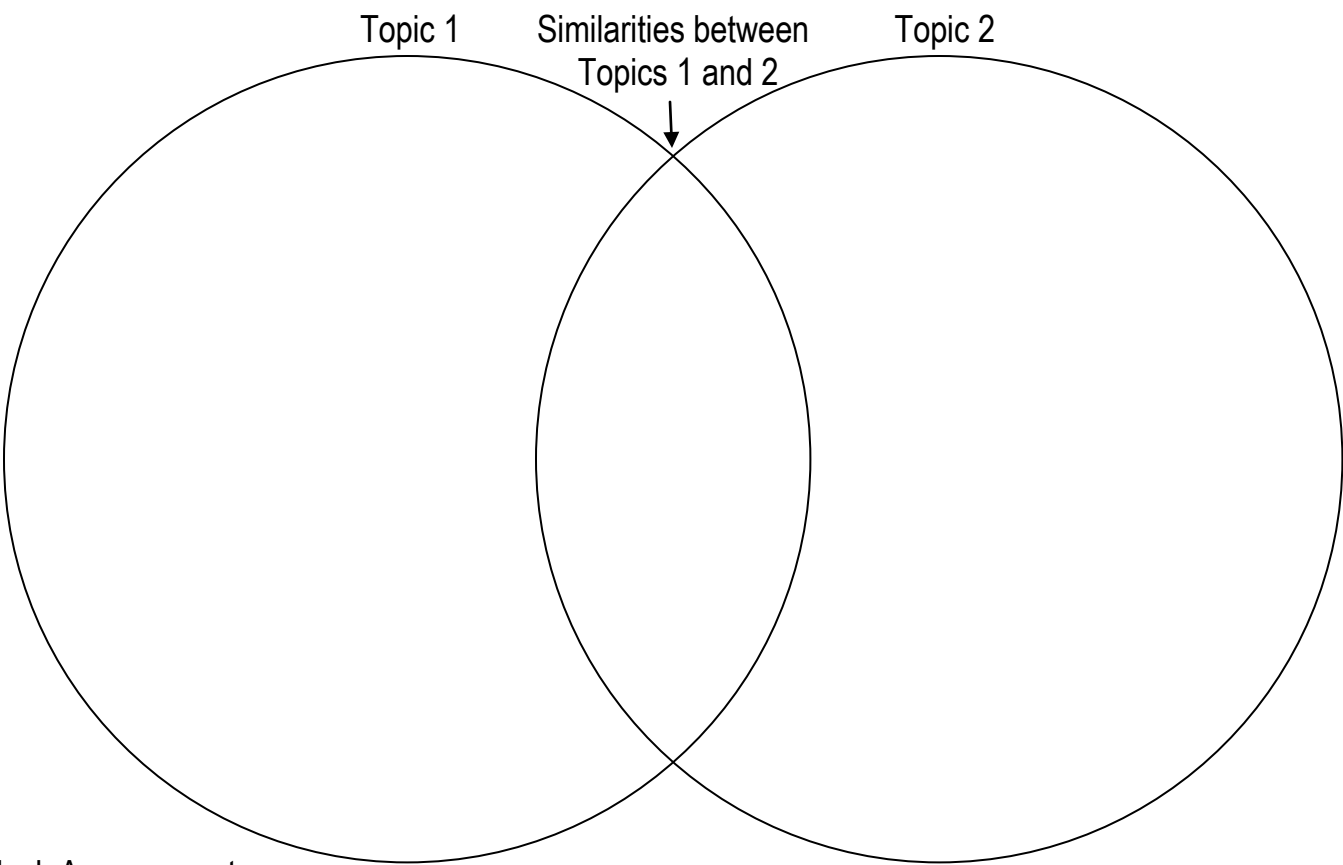
III. Body paragraph 2 states the contrast of student-student interaction in face-to-face courses and online courses.

IV. Body paragraph 3 states the contrast of the grading process in face-to-face courses and online courses.

V. Conclusion restates the main points of comparison and/or contrast and offers no further points about the topic. It points out the importance of the compare/contrast shown throughout the essay.

**Additional Help with Compare/Contrast Essay:**

Fill out the Venn diagram with your ideas.



Block Arrangement:

	Comparison/Contrast 1	Comparison/Contrast 2	Comparison/Contrast 3
Topic 1			
Topic 2			

Point-by-Point Arrangement:

	Topic 1	Topic 2
Comparison/Contrast 1		
Comparison/Contrast 2		
Comparison/Contrast 3		