

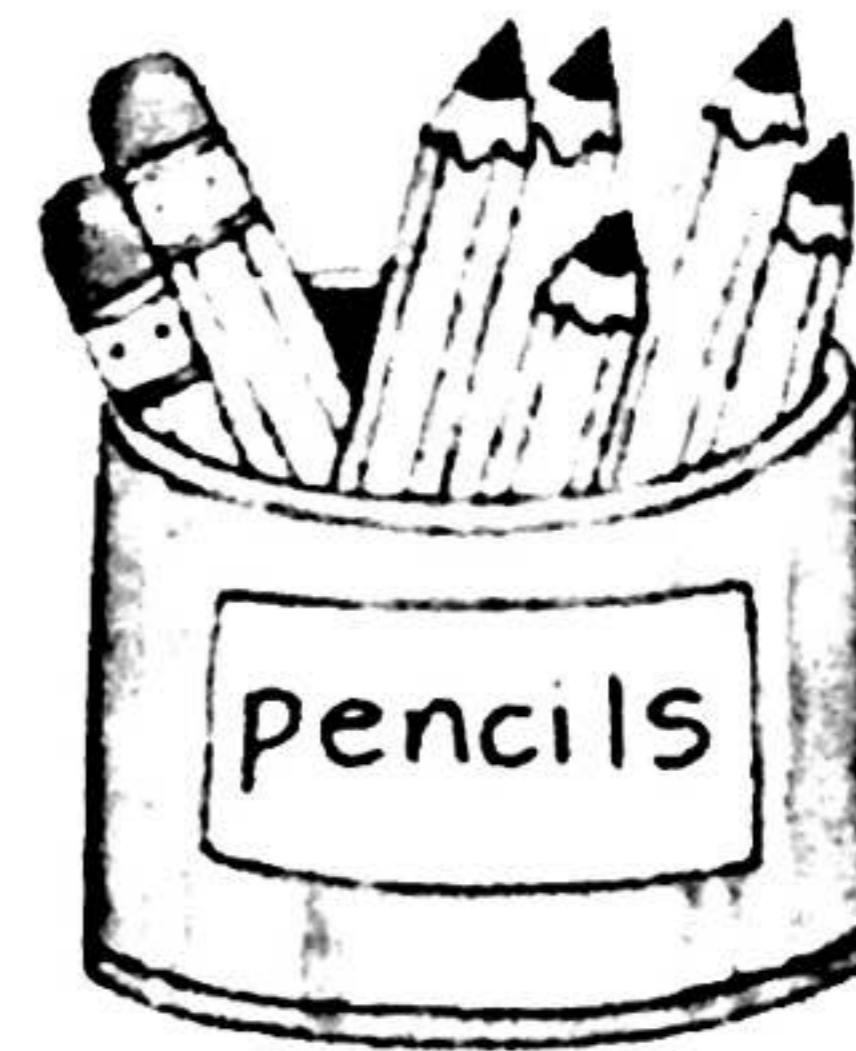
## WRITING FORMS

# Compare and Contrast Paragraphs

**Compare and contrast paragraphs** tell how two things are alike and different. Details help explain the similarities and differences.

## Parts of Compare and Contrast Paragraphs

- An introduction tells what will be compared and contrasted
- Details tell how the subjects are alike and different
- Linking words connect the ideas
- A conclusion sums up the paragraph



### Introduction

Tells the subjects of the paragraph

### Earth and Mars

→ In science today, we learned that Mars is like Earth in some ways but different in other ways.

Both planets orbit, or travel around, the sun.

### Details

Show how the subjects are the same and how they are different

→ Like Earth, Mars has four seasons. Another way the planets are alike is that Earth and Mars have about the same amount of dry land.

However, Mars is only about half as big around as Earth. So, most of Mars is desert, but most of Earth is covered with water. The biggest difference is

### Linking Words

Show how ideas are connected

→ that humans can live on Earth. Humans can't breathe the air on Mars, so we can't live there.

### Conclusion

Wraps up the ideas in the paragraph

So, even though the planets are alike in some ways, there are important differences between Earth and Mars.

→

### Other Words to Compare and Contrast

Alike  
Differ from  
However  
Unlike  
Same  
Similar  
On the other hand



## **Squid and Octopus....Same or Different?**

Both **squid** and **octopus** are aquatic animals with eight long arms. In addition to their eight arms, squid also have two long tentacles. They also have two fins on their head, unlike the octopus. Whereas an octopus has no hard shell or bone in its body, squid have a stiff backbone-like structure called a pen.

A **squid** is any of a variety of cephalopod with a long, soft, thin body and 10 arms (eight shorter arms and two long tentacles) and two fins on its head. Squid vary in size from very small to over 65 feet in length. They prey upon fish and crustaceans. Some squid have the ability to emit an inky cloud as a defense mechanism. Their tentacles may have hooks, suckers, or sucker rings. They live in the open ocean.

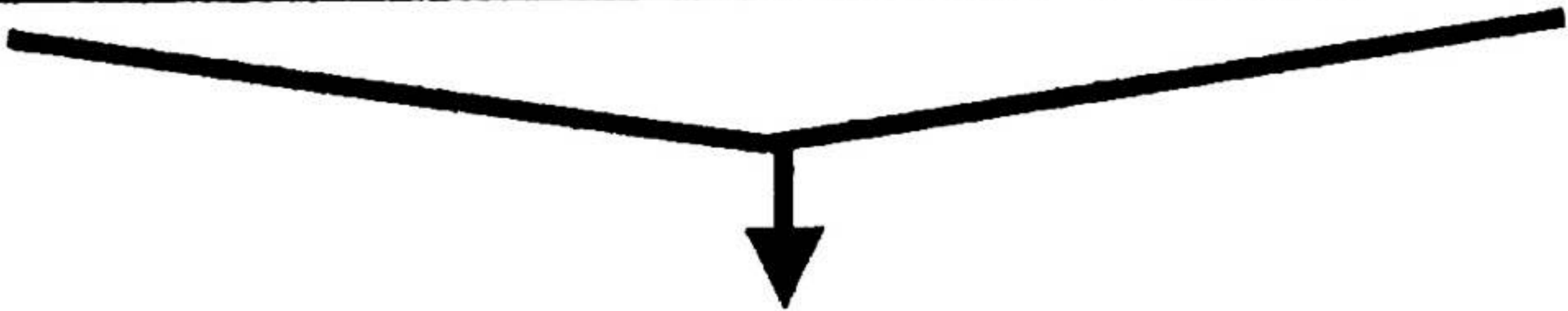
An **octopus** is any of a variety of cephalopod with a round head, soft body and 8 strong tentacles, each with two rows of suckers. Octopi range from 1 cm to over 5 meters in length. They live on the sea floor and obtain food by piercing it and injecting it with venom.



# Compare and Contrast Chart Graphic Organizer

Item #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Item #2 \_\_\_\_\_



**How are they alike?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**How are they different?**



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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Follow your teacher's directions to complete the frame.



Two subjects we have learned about this year are \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

One thing these have in common is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_. Another \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

However, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Unlike \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

So, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



On a separate sheet of paper, write paragraphs that compare and contrast two story characters.



On a separate sheet of paper, use your prewriting plan to write compare and contrast paragraphs, or make a new plan to write about two activities you enjoy.