

Compare and Contrast

Critical Reading Strategy

Purpose

- To show the similarities between two passages
- To show the differences between two passages
- To inform
- To explain
- To analyze
- To evaluate
- Conduct careful and thoughtful comparative analyses
- Read two passages against each other, find common themes and identify important differences

Comparison

- The similarities between two things.
- How are Minions and Smurfs similar?
- They are both cartoon characters.
- They are both short.
-

Contrast

- The differences between two things.
- How are Minions and Smurfs different?
- Minions are yellow.
- Smurfs are blue.
- Minions speak gibberish.
- Smurfs speak English.

Four Phases

1. Describe each item using criteria.
2. Use a Top Hat Organizer to record similarities and differences.
3. Discuss findings and draw conclusions.
4. Synthesize learning.

Description

- Describe two things based on criteria.
- Describe the items separately during this phase.

Minions	Criteria	Smurfs
overalls and goggles	Attire	white pants and white hat
speaks gibberish	Speech	Speaks English
Works clumsily and hard for Gru	Work Ethic	Works hard for Papa Smurf

Comparison

- Search for important similarities and differences.
- Fill out Top Hat Organizer.

Minions	Smurfs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• wear overalls and goggles• speak gibberish	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• wear white pants and hat• speaks English
Similarities	
Works hard, but for different leader	

Conclusion

- Analyze information and draw conclusions:
 - Are the two items more alike or more different?
 - What is the most important difference? Think of some causes and effects of this difference.
 - What conclusions can you draw?