

# To the Student

In *FOCUS on Comparing and Contrasting, Book D*, you will read passages and answer questions. You will practise using the reading strategy called Comparing and Contrasting. You will learn about the strategy on the Learn About pages. You will see a sample passage, sample questions and sample answer choices on the Lesson Preview pages. Then you will practise using the strategy in twenty lessons.

Each lesson has a passage and five questions. After you finish reading the passage, answer the five questions. For the first four questions, fill in the correct answers on the Answer Form on page 53. Or, you may fill in the correct answers directly on the page. For the fifth question, write the answer on the lines provided on the page. Fill in the circle on the Answer Form to show that you have completed the fifth question.

Use the Tracking Chart on page 47 to show when you have finished each lesson and to show the number of questions that you answered correctly. After each group of five lessons, you will complete a self-assessment to see how you are doing.

So . . . FOCUS and enjoy!

## Acknowledgments

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Originally published by

**CURRICULUM ASSOCIATES®, INC.**

Published in Australia by

**hawker brownlow.**  
publishing

PO Box 40, Southland Centre, Vic 3192

Phone: (03) 8518 6600

Website: [www.hawkerbrownlow.com](http://www.hawkerbrownlow.com)

Email: [orders@hawkerbrownlow.com](mailto:orders@hawkerbrownlow.com)

© 2006 Curriculum Associates, Inc.

© 2023 Hawker Brownlow Publishing

Printed in Australia

Code: CA10144

ISBN: 978 1 923147 82 9

1223

HBP edition

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# Learn About

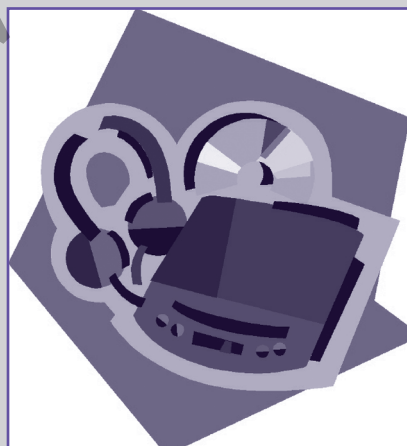
## Comparing and Contrasting

**Comparing and contrasting** is finding out how things are *alike* or *different*. Comparing is finding how things are alike. Contrasting is finding how things are different. Two or more people, places, objects and events can be compared and contrasted.

When you read a passage, think about the people, places, objects or events that you read about. Ask yourself, “How are they similar or alike? How are they different?”

Read this paragraph to find out how two styles of music are alike and different.

Rock and rap are *both* styles of music. Rock music was inspired by rhythm and blues and by country music. Most rock songs are short and have simple words that are sung to music with a heavy beat. *Whereas* rock became popular in the 1950s, rap became popular in the 1980s. *Unlike* rock music, rap was inspired by disc jockeys, or DJs, in Jamaica. Rap music has rhyming words that are spoken or chanted to music with a heavy beat.



	Rock Music	Rap Music
<b>Alike</b>	a style of music	a style of music
<b>Alike</b>	has a heavy beat	has a heavy beat
<b>Different</b>	became popular in 1950s	became popular in 1980s
<b>Different</b>	words are sung	words are spoken or chanted

Compare the two musical styles in the paragraph. Think about how the styles of music are alike. Ask yourself, “How are rock music and rap music alike?”

Both rock and rap are popular styles of music.  
Both rock and rap have a heavy beat.

Contrast the two kinds of music in the paragraph. Think about how the styles of music are different. Ask yourself, “How are rock and rap music different?”

Rock became popular in the 1950s. Rap became popular in the 1980s. Rock has lyrics that are sung. Rap has words that are spoken or chanted.

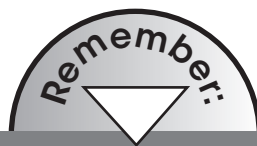
**Clue words** can signal comparisons and contrasts in what you read.

For comparisons, look for clue words that signal how things are alike. The words *same*, *both*, *like*, *alike*, *also* and *similar* signal ways in which things are similar or alike.

For contrasts, look for clue words that signal how things are different. The words *but*, *unlike*, *different*, *however* and *whereas* signal ways in which things are different.

What three clue words are used in the paragraph about rock and rap music? The clue words *both*, *whereas* and *unlike* are used.

If there are no clue words, think about how things are alike or different.



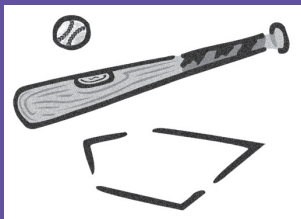
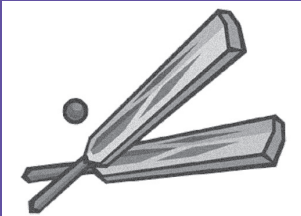
Remember that comparing is finding how things are alike.  
Contrasting is finding how things are different.

# Lesson

## Preview

*Read this sample passage about two sports. As you read, think about the ways in which cricket and baseball are alike. Think about the ways in which they are different. Look for clue words.*

### Cricket and Baseball



Cricket and baseball are alike in some ways. Both are popular sports. Both are played with bats and balls. Both are played by two teams. Each team takes a turn batting or fielding. Like a baseball game, a cricket match is won by the team that scores the most runs.

Cricket is most popular in Australia and England, as well as other countries. In cricket, eleven players play on a round or oval grass field that has a wicket at each end. A wicket is made up of three wooden stumps with two sticks resting on top. A bowler bowls a ball to a batter on the opposite team. A run is scored if the batter hits the ball with the flat bat and then runs safely from one wicket to the other before fielders hit the wickets with the ball. A cricket match may go for one to five days. Teams may score hundreds of runs.

Baseball is most popular in the United States and Japan, as well as other countries. Unlike cricket, baseball has nine players, who play on a grass diamond. There are four bases, one at each corner of the diamond. A pitcher throws a ball to a batter on the opposite team. A run is scored if the batter hits the ball with the rounded bat and then runs safely around the four bases before fielders catch the ball or the runner. A baseball game lasts nine innings.

1. What is one way that cricket and baseball are alike?

- Ⓐ Both are most popular in England.
- Ⓑ Both are played with bats and balls.
- Ⓒ Both have nine players.
- Ⓓ Both were first played in the 1300s.

2. Which of these statements about cricket and baseball is true?

- Ⓐ Cricket is played with a rounded bat, but baseball is played with a flat bat.
- Ⓑ Both cricket and baseball are played on a round or oval grass field.
- Ⓒ Both cricket and baseball last nine innings.
- Ⓓ Cricket players run from one wicket to the other, but baseball players run around bases.

*Look at the answer choices for each question.  
Read why each answer choice is correct or  
not correct.*

**1. What is one way that cricket and baseball are alike?**

- Ⓐ Both are most popular in England and Australia.

*This answer is not correct because cricket is most popular in England and Australia, whereas baseball is most popular in the United States and Japan.*

- Both are played with bats and balls.

*This answer is correct because the passage states that both cricket and baseball are played with bats and balls.*

- Ⓒ Both have nine players.

*This answer is not correct because baseball has nine players, but cricket has eleven players.*

- Ⓓ Both were first played in the 1300s.

*This answer is not correct because the passage does not contain any information about when either cricket or baseball was first played.*

**2. Which of these statements about cricket and baseball is true?**

- Ⓐ Cricket is played with a rounded bat, but baseball is played with a flat bat.

*This answer is not correct because cricket players hit the ball with a flat bat, but baseball players hit the ball with a rounded bat.*

- Ⓑ Both cricket and baseball are played on a round or oval grass field.

*This answer is not correct because cricket is played on a round or oval grass field, but baseball is played on a grass diamond.*

- Ⓒ Both cricket and baseball last nine innings.

*This answer is not correct because even though a baseball game lasts nine innings, a cricket match can go for one to five days.*

- Cricket players run from one wicket to the other, but baseball players run around bases.

*This answer is correct because the passage states that cricket players run between the two wickets, but baseball players run around the four bases.*

# Lesson 1

*Read this story about two brothers who help their parents. As you read, ask yourself, "How are the two brothers alike? How are they different?". Look for clue words.*

## In the Kingdom of Leaves

**D**rew looked out the window and sighed.

"Have you seen all the leaves that blew down last night in the storm?" he asked his brother.

"Nope. What's the big deal?" replied Frank.

Stepping to the window, Frank whistled. "Wow! There's almost a metre of leaves out there!" he said in disbelief.

The boys' house was ringed with towering eucalypts and introduced oak trees. Every autumn, leaves rained down onto the lawn, the roof, the front steps, the verandah and the narrow brick path to the street. Today, the front yard was littered with green gum leaves and red, gold and brown oak leaves.

The brothers had already planned today's activities. Drew was going to ride his ten-speed bike to the swamp, and Frank had planned to play a game of

footy with some friends. This Saturday, though, they decided to help their parents instead. Their father had been working late hours at the office, and their mother was tired from her shifts at the hospital and from taking care of their baby sister.

"Why don't you rake? I'll use the leaf blower," offered Drew.

Frank started raking leaves with a wooden rake, piling them into large mounds. The garden was dotted with leaf piles that looked like blobs of paint. Little by little, patches of green grass appeared.

Drew put on work gloves, plastic eyeglasses and ear guards for protection. Whereas Frank quietly raked leaves into piles, Drew fired up a noisy gas-powered leaf blower to blow leaves into the bushland around the house. The blower kicked up clouds of dust, leaves

and small pebbles. After a couple of hours, the boys had cleared the leaves from most of the lawn.

"Wow. The garden already looks excellent," declared Frank.

While Frank took a break, Drew raked the cone-shaped leaf mounds onto a large square of heavy plastic. Then both brothers hauled it into the bush and dumped out the leaves.

When the Dunhams arrived home from the supermarket, they were shocked and pleased. "What happened to our kingdom of leaves?" asked Mrs Dunham. She looked proudly at her two exhausted sons on the verandah. Drew smiled happily, but Frank was sound asleep on the banana lounge wicker rocking chair. A single green leaf fluttered near his head.

*Answer these questions about the story.*

**1. What did the two brothers do that was the same?**

- Ⓐ Both used rakes.
- Ⓑ Both used a leaf blower.
- Ⓒ Both hauled leaves into the bush.
- Ⓓ Both fell asleep on the verandah.

**3. Before seeing the leaves, Drew had planned to ride his bike to the swamp. What had Frank planned to do?**

- Ⓐ Frank had planned to ride his bike to the swamp, too.
- Ⓑ Frank had planned to play footy.
- Ⓒ Frank had already planned to rake leaves.
- Ⓓ Frank had made no plans.

**2. What did the two brothers do that was different?**

- Ⓐ Drew used a leaf blower. Frank used a rake.
- Ⓑ Drew fell asleep. Frank finished the job alone.
- Ⓒ Drew was hurt by flying pebbles. Frank was not hurt.
- Ⓓ Drew raked leaves. Frank hauled them away.

**4. In the eighth paragraph, which clue word signals the different ways the brothers cleared away the leaves?**

- Ⓐ but
- Ⓑ whereas
- Ⓒ unlike
- Ⓓ however

**5. Tell how Drew and Frank were alike in their decision to clean up the leaves. Use a clue word in your answer.**

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