



Year 5 Reading Skills Sessions

Compare, comment, contrast

What does 'compare', 'comment', 'contrast' mean?

You may have to compare different parts of the text or give your opinion about the text.

You may have to compare characters or events in a text. This means that you will need to think carefully about what you have read and use evidence from the text to support your answers.

It can also mean giving your opinion and showing that you have understood changes in the text.

Some of the kinds of CCC questions you may encounter are:

Cassie the Commentator might ask...

Look at the section entitled _____. Why has this been included in this text?

Look at the front cover of this book. What sections would you expect to find in this book?

Explain how the character's behaviour/appearance has changed over the book. Why/how has this happened?

What is the purpose of _____?

How does the layout help to _____?

Compare one character to another. How are they different or similar?

When might someone choose to read this book?

In what ways, is _____ like _____?

How has the author organised the text? Why?

How does the organisation of this text help us to better understand the information?

In what ways do diagrams, photographs or illustrations help us to enjoy/understand the text?

Who has the author written this text for?

Compare how the characters are reacting to this problem. Who deals best with the situation?

How has the character changed during the text?

Which is the most important section in this book? Justify your choice.

Compare one setting to another in the book. Why are the two settings significant to the story?

What can you tell about the viewpoint/opinion of the author on this topic?

How have your feelings about _____ changed?

What's different now about _____?

What, overall, is the effect of _____?

What was the most effective/thought-provoking moment of the story?



'Your Choice' Questions

BACK

The 'Your Choice' Question

2. Space travellers have to learn to live in special circumstances.
Based on what you have read, tick whether you think being an astronaut would be:

fun

difficult

strange

Give reasons, using information from the text.

2 marks

34. The whole booklet is called 'Arctic Adventures'.
Who do you think had the more exciting adventure?

Tick one

Roald Amundsen

Lizzie Greenwood

Explain your answer.

2 marks

32. Do you think Jackson enjoyed the treasure hunt?

Tick one

yes no yes and no

Explain your answer.

2 marks

This type of question will ask for your **opinion**.
For these questions, you must use your opinion to select and tick the correct number of boxes. Underneath, you must explain **why** you have chosen that answer.

'Why do you think?' Questions

The 'Why Do You Think' Question

15b. Why do you think he did this?

1 mark

31. Why do you think Lizzie says
*the penguins must have been holding their wings over
their ears?*

1 mark

This type of question will ask you to give your opinion about why you think something in the text has happened. These questions require a short answer. You will need to think carefully about the text before answering.

'Compare' Questions

The '**Compare**' Question

3. Think about everything you have read in *Footprints in Space*.

Helen and Oran were both explorers on different journeys.

In what ways were their experiences similar?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

3 marks

16. At the end of the story, in what ways was the sand horse like the white horses?

.....
.....

1 mark

This type of question will ask you to **compare** characters or events within the text.

Sometimes, you may be asked to say why characters or events were **different**.

Make sure to read the question **carefully** so that you know what you have been asked to compare.

'Layout' Questions

The 'Layout' Question

12. Look at this page from the reading booklet. Write one label in each space to show what the arrows are pointing to.

introduction subheading title bullet point

2 marks

9.

Look at this text from page 5. Why has the text been presented like this?

Tick one

to show it is another step in the instructions

to give you another Useful Tip

to show it is an example of directions

to tell you how to make the map

1 mark

This type of question will ask you to discuss the **layout** of a text and to think about how it is helping the reader.

Compare, Comment, Contrast

Improving Your Reading with Cassie the Commentator: The King of the Polar Bears



The king of the polar bears lived among the icebergs in the far north of the country. He was old and monstrosly big; he was wise and friendly to all who knew him. His body was thickly covered with long, white hair that glistened like silver under the rays of the midday sun. His claws were strong and sharp; perfect both for walking safely over smooth ice and for tearing apart the fish he fed upon.

The seals were afraid when he drew near and would work hard to avoid him. The seagulls loved him as he often left scraps for them to feast on. Often, his subjects (the polar bears) came to him for advice when ill or in trouble. However, the wolves, who sometimes came as far north as the icebergs, whispered among themselves; they thought that the king of the polar bears was either a magician or under the protection of a powerful fairy for nothing seemed to be able to harm him. He never failed to secure plenty of food and he grew bigger and stronger day by day and year by year... until the men came.



Read the extract from 'The King of the Polar Bears' and answer the questions on the following slides.

Compare, Comment, Contrast

1)

1. **...until the men came.**

Why do you think it says this right at the end?

2)

2. Compare the feelings of the seagulls and the seals towards the king of the polar bears.

3)

3. Which character's opinion of the bear do you agree with? Tick one.

the seagulls

the seals

the wolves

Explain your answer.

Compare, Comment, Contrast

4)

4. Why do you think that other polar bears would go to the king of the polar bears for advice when they were ill?

5) Do you think that the fact the king of the polar bears is 'monstrously big' is a good or a bad thing?

Yes

No

Yes and No

Explain your answer.

Compare, Comment, Contrast ANSWERS

1)

1. ...until the men came.

Why do you think it says this right at the end?

e.g. The men are going to be the first to injure the bear.

e.g. It's at the end to make you keep reading to discover if the bear is OK.

2)

2. Compare the feelings of the seagulls and the seals towards the king of the polar bears.

e.g. The seagulls like the king of the polar bears whereas the seals fear him.

3)

3. Which character's opinion of the bear do you agree with? Tick one.

the seagulls

the seals

the wolves

Explain your answer.

e.g. I agree with the seals because polar bears are strong and violent and the seals are right to be afraid of him.

Compare, Comment, Contrast ANSWERS

4)

4. Why do you think that other polar bears would go to the king of the polar bears for advice when they were ill?

e.g. Because he is old so probably knows a lot and he is also described as friendly.

5) Do you think that the fact the king of the polar bears is 'monstrously big' is a good or a bad thing?

Yes

No

Yes and No

Explain your answer.