

JOURNAL WRITING:

In seven to ten sentences, write down the similarities and differences between the first day of school and your present day of school. Elaborate on your response. Make text to self, text to text, or text to world connection.

CRAFTING THE LESSON:

(Me)(We) The teacher will say, "When readers compare two things, they look for similarities or ways the things are alike. When they contrast, they look for differences." The teacher will explain that comparing and contrasting can be stated (listed) or implied (must look for). Through comparing and contrasting, a reader may be able to see the relationship or distinctions between a characters and other elements in a literary work. Call upon volunteers to share their journal writing responses. As the students share, complete the Venn diagram and discuss how the information is related or different.

COMPOSING MEANING

(Two) Pair the students and give them worksheet 26. They will write the characters' differences, or their unique traits, in these areas. Afterwards, they will discuss the questions at the bottom of the worksheet.

(You) Give the students worksheet 27. Have them select a set of characters and scan the book, *Blinded by Colors*, to find information about the two characters. They will use the Venn diagram to compare and contrast the two characters.

Compare means to find similarities or likeness. Contrast is when you find the difference. Use the Venn diagram to compare and contrast Sammy and Bruce in *Blinded by Colors* by Deborah Grate Frink.

Lynn and Johnny walked back to the porch and sat on the steps. They gazed to see if Mama was ready for them to eat. Sammy was not the typical thirteen-year-old. He was tall and scrawny, just a tad bit larger than Lynn. He wore a short Afro because Mama couldn't afford a haircut, but he kept it neatly picked.

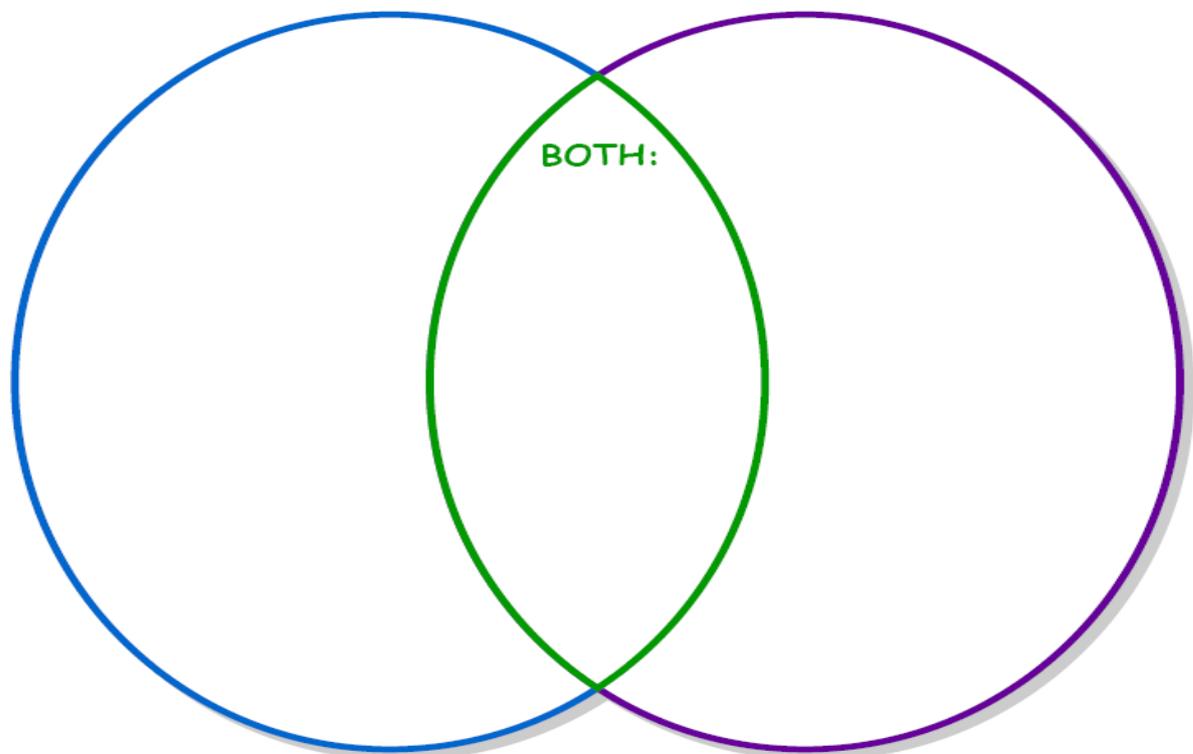
Tediously, his eyes scanned the area. Sammy snapped his fingers and picked up a ball. "I'll play fetch with Bruce," he quietly insisted. Running around the house, Sammy unleashed his dog.

Bruce was a mixed breed. His mother was a chow, and his dad was a German shepherd. He had thick brown fur and razor sharp teeth. And he stood about three feet. Bruce looked vicious with his long fangs showing all the time, and his thunderous bark was frightening. His paws shattered the ground beneath his feet, and his hideous face resembled a monster from a horror movie. Even though he was a scary sight, Bruce would not hurt a fly. He only liked doing tricks and playing fetch. He was a baby who was just starting to teethe and drooling on anything in his reach.

With Sammy's hand gripped around his collar, Bruce ran towards the road. Sammy let go, narrowed his beady eyes, and held a ball high in the air. Cheerfully, Bruce jumped for it. Sammy leaned back and threw the ball towards the highway. Bruce ran after it and came back with the ball in his mouth. His tail swayed from side to side with pleasure. Sammy tossed the ball again, and Bruce happily brought it back. He threw the ball one last time and looked up to a car speeding down the road.

He took off after Bruce, shouting from the top of his voice. The louder he cried, the faster Bruce ran.

TOPIC 1: _____ TOPIC 2: _____



Compare and Contrast

Select a set of characters and scan the book, *Blinded by Colors*, to find information about the two characters. You will use the Venn diagram to compare and contrast the two characters. Use the information to answer the question.

1. Johnny and Lynn
3. Mr. Frank and Mama
5. Sammy and James
7. Lynn and Mama

2. Johnny and Mr. Frank
4. Pa and Mr. Frank
6. Mollie and Lynn
8. Mama and Pa

TOPIC 1: _____ TOPIC 2: _____

