

Comparing Texts

KS3 English · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Practice

Show your working. The marks tell you how much is expected.

1. What does it mean to 'compare' two texts? What four things do examiners usually want you to compare? [3]

2. Give three comparative connective phrases you can use when comparing texts. [2]

3. In which year was Owen's poem written? Write the year. [1]

4. Give one comparative connective that shows a difference. [1]

5. Give one comparative connective that shows a similarity. [1]

6. Text A describes a storm using the phrase 'the sea roared like a wounded beast'. Text B describes the same storm as 'the sea rolled quietly beneath a sky of steel'. Compare how the two writers present the storm. [5]

7. A non-fiction text uses statistics and formal register; a poem uses personal voice and imagery. [4]
Compare the writers' purposes and how structure reflects this.

8. What does Owen compare the soldiers to in the first line of Text A? [1]

9. Name one word from Text B that presents the war positively. [1]

10. Both texts explore the theme of loss. Text A is an 18th-century elegy; Text B is a modern news report. Compare how each text presents loss, considering language, tone and purpose. [6]

11. Explain the difference between comparing how writers USE language and comparing what writers ARE SAYING (content). Why does the distinction matter for marks? [4]

12. Write a comparison sentence about the PURPOSE of the two texts, using 'whereas'. [2]

13. Compare how sound is used: Owen's 'stuttering rifles' rapid rattle' versus Text B's smooth, formal sentences. [3]

14. Why is it useful to compare texts written at the same time for different purposes?

[2]

2. Before you hand it in

Writing one paragraph about Text A, then one about Text B, with no links.

Compare in every paragraph: a point about A, a connective, a matching point about B.

Comparing only what the texts are about.

Compare methods (language, structure, tone) and purposes, not just topics.

Only finding differences.

Look for at least one similarity, even between very different texts.

Using 'whereas' without a second half.

Whereas Text A..., Text B...: always finish the comparison.