



## Compare and contrast

### Reading Comprehension Worksheet

#### Practice

A parent or tutor should read along with the student, helping as needed.

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When we **compare** two things, we tell how they are *alike*.

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When we **contrast** two things, we tell how they are *different*.

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Here are two stories. As you read, think about how the stories are *alike*, and how they are *different*.

#### Cat and Fox

Cat was sitting in the shade of a tree cleaning her paws when a fox came along. Fox sat down and started bragging to Cat about his many clever ways of escaping from Farmer Brown's big dog. "I have a whole bag of tricks," he said, "which contains a hundred ways of escaping that beast."

"I have only one," said Cat. "But I can usually manage with that." Just at that moment they heard Farmer Brown's big dog barking. It sounded like he was coming their way, and Cat quickly ran up the tree and hid herself in the branches. "This is my plan," said the Cat. "What are you going to do?"

Fox thought first of one plan, then another, and while he was debating the dog came closer and closer. When the dog came in sight, Fox took off running for dear life, while Cat continued to clean her paws in safety.

#### Dog and Donkey

Dog and Donkey sat in the barnyard, enjoying the morning sun. "The Farmer likes me best," said Dog, thinking to start some fun.

"Nay," said Donkey. "You know I am his favorite."

"Well, here he comes now," said Dog. "We will just see about that."

When the Farmer came into the barnyard, Dog began to dance around, and lick the Farmer's hand. The Farmer laughed, and sat down on the bench so Dog could sit on his lap. The Farmer gave Dog a nice biscuit.

Seeing this, Donkey hopped up and started a prancing imitation of Dog. He put his front feet up on the Farmer's shoulders, and tried to get up into his lap. The Farmer pushed Donkey away, and gave him a scolding. And he didn't give Donkey the apple he had brought in his pocket for him.

Some of these details are true of just one of the two stories. Some are true of both stories. Some are not true of either story. Read each detail, and select the best answer.

1. Two of the characters are animals.  
A. "Cat and Fox" only                      C. Both stories  
B. "Dog and Donkey" only                  D. Neither story
  
2. One of the characters is sad in the beginning.  
A. "Cat and Fox" only                      C. Both stories  
B. "Dog and Donkey" only                  D. Neither story
  
3. One character says that he is very clever.  
A. "Cat and Fox" only                      C. Both stories  
B. "Dog and Donkey" only                  D. Neither story
  
4. One character brags about something in the beginning.  
A. "Cat and Fox" only                      C. Both stories  
B. "Dog and Donkey" only                  D. Neither story
  
5. The characters agree about something in the beginning.  
A. "Cat and Fox" only                      C. Both stories  
B. "Dog and Donkey" only                  D. Neither story
  
6. One character tries to copy the other one.  
A. "Cat and Fox" only                      C. Both stories  
B. "Dog and Donkey" only                  D. Neither story
  
7. One character tricks another.  
A. "Cat and Fox" only                      C. Both stories  
B. "Dog and Donkey" only                  D. Neither story
  
8. Both animal characters are happy in the ending.  
A. "Cat and Fox" only                      C. Both stories  
B. "Dog and Donkey" only                  D. Neither story

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9. What is one other detail that is *alike* or *different* in the two stories?

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## **Answer Key**

1. C
2. D
3. A
4. C
5. D
6. B
7. B
8. D
9. Accept any reasonable response.