



Compare and contrast

Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Practice

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

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

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

<p style="text-align: center;">Foreign Lands</p> <p>Up into the cherry tree Who should climb but little me? I held the trunk with both my hands And looked abroad in foreign lands.</p> <p>I saw the next door garden lie, Adorned with flowers, before my eye, And many pleasant places more That I had never seen before.</p> <p>I saw the dimpling river pass And be the sky's blue looking-glass; The dusty roads go up and down With people tramping in to town.</p> <p>If I could find a higher tree Farther and farther I should see, To where the grown-up river slips Into the sea among the ships,</p> <p>To where the roads on either hand Lead onward into fairy land, Where all the children dine at five, And all the playthings come alive.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Robert Louis Stevenson</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Where Go the Boats?</p> <p>Dark brown is the river, Golden is the sand. It flows along forever, With trees on either hand.</p> <p>Green leaves a-floating, Castles of the foam. Boats of mine a-boating— Where will they come home?</p> <p>On goes the river And out past the mill. Away down the valley. Away down the hill.</p> <p>Away down the river, A hundred miles or more, Other little children Shall bring my boats ashore.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Robert Louis Stevenson</p>
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Some of these details are true of just one of the two poems. Some are true of both poems. Some are not true of either poem. Read each detail, and select the best answer.

1. The person in the poem is a child.
A. "Foreign Lands" only C. Both poems
B. "Where Go the Boats" only D. Neither poem

2. The person in the poem climbs a tree.
A. "Foreign Lands" only C. Both poems
B. "Where Go the Boats" only D. Neither poem

3. The person in the poem sails toy boats.
A. "Foreign Lands" only C. Both poems
B. "Where Go the Boats" only D. Neither poem

4. The person in the poem imagines more than can really be seen.
A. "Foreign Lands" only C. Both stories
B. "Where Go the Boats" only D. Neither poem

5. The person in the poem imagines a land of make-believe.
A. "Foreign Lands" only C. Both poems
B. "Where Go the Boats" only D. Neither poem

6. The person in the poem imagines children in far-away places.
A. "Foreign Lands" only C. Both poems
B. "Where Go the Boats" only D. Neither poem

7. The person in the poem thinks about what cities look like.
A. "Foreign Lands" only C. Both poems
B. "Where Go the Boats" only D. Neither poem

8. The authors purpose for writing the poem was to provide the reader with factual information.
A. "Foreign Lands" only C. Both poems
B. "Where Go the Boats" only D. Neither poem

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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. A

3. B

4. C

5. A

6. C

7. D

8. D

9. Accept any reasonable responses.