

FICTION

5TH GRADE

RL.5.9

COMPARE & CONTRAST

stories in the same genre



Detective Sunny "Sharp-Eyes" Sh...
with a particularly interesting case of
interested in petty vandalism, but this
The vandal of Ashville was quick

The Case of the Missing Books

On the morning of Jerome's tenth birthday, he woke in his bed to an immediate sense that something wasn't right. He opened his eyes to the morning sun and peered around his room. Something had changed. Something was missing.

He realized quite quickly what it was. He normally kept a stack of books piled high in the corner of his bedroom next to his cupboard. The books were mostly detective



WHAT'S INSIDE?

PRINTABLE PDFs and **DIGITAL** Google Slides covering the 4th and 5th grade text complexity band with Certified Lexile Levels.

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*This product includes 12 certified Lexile® Common Core Text Complexity Band.

1. Genre Anchor Chart/Journal Page
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3. The Last Sword of Miatas- 820L /
4. Fantasy Chart
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6. Historical Fiction Chart
7. Back to the West- 740L / The C
8. Mystery Chart
9. The Case of the Missing Book-
10. Science Fiction Chart
11. The Invisible Planet- 840L / V
12. Test
 - Realistic Fiction Chart
 - The Cherub and the Tr



The Google Slides are a copy

[CLICK HERE TO](#)

* You MUST have a need help setting

860L

Compare & Contrast Stories in Genres

Name: _____

Date: _____

The Cat Goddess

Amina's family was moving to a new town, and they'd started to pack up their things. Amina was in the middle of sorting through her bedroom when her parents called her into the kitchen to talk.

"As you know, we're moving to a big city," said her mother. "We'll be living in an apartment instead of a house. Don't worry. You and your brother won't need to share a room, but we do have some bad news. We can't take Lila with us."

Lila was Amina's cat, a beautiful tabby that she'd had since she was a toddler. Not only that, but Lila was Amina's best friend. There was no way that she was moving without her, and she told her parents this firmly.

"Lila's an indoor cat!" Amina protested. "She doesn't even like going outside. She'll be happy in an apartment."

"I'm afraid that the Robinsons, the owners of the building, won't allow it, honey," said Amina's dad. "We're really sorry."

That night, Amina lay in bed weeping with Lila in her arms.

"I wish I could convince the Robinsons to let you come," she said. "There has to be a way."

Suddenly, Lila lunged away from Amina and leaped out the open window. "Lila!" Amina exclaimed. This was unbelievable. Lila never went outside. Amina leaned out the window, craning her neck to see where Lila had gone. Suddenly, she found herself falling...and falling...and falling...

When Amina landed, she didn't hit the soft grass in her back yard. Instead, she felt dry sand beneath her feet. When she opened her eyes, which she didn't even know that she'd clenched shut, the first thing she saw was the towering figure of a pyramid in the distance. It looked like she was in Ancient Egypt, but that was impossible.



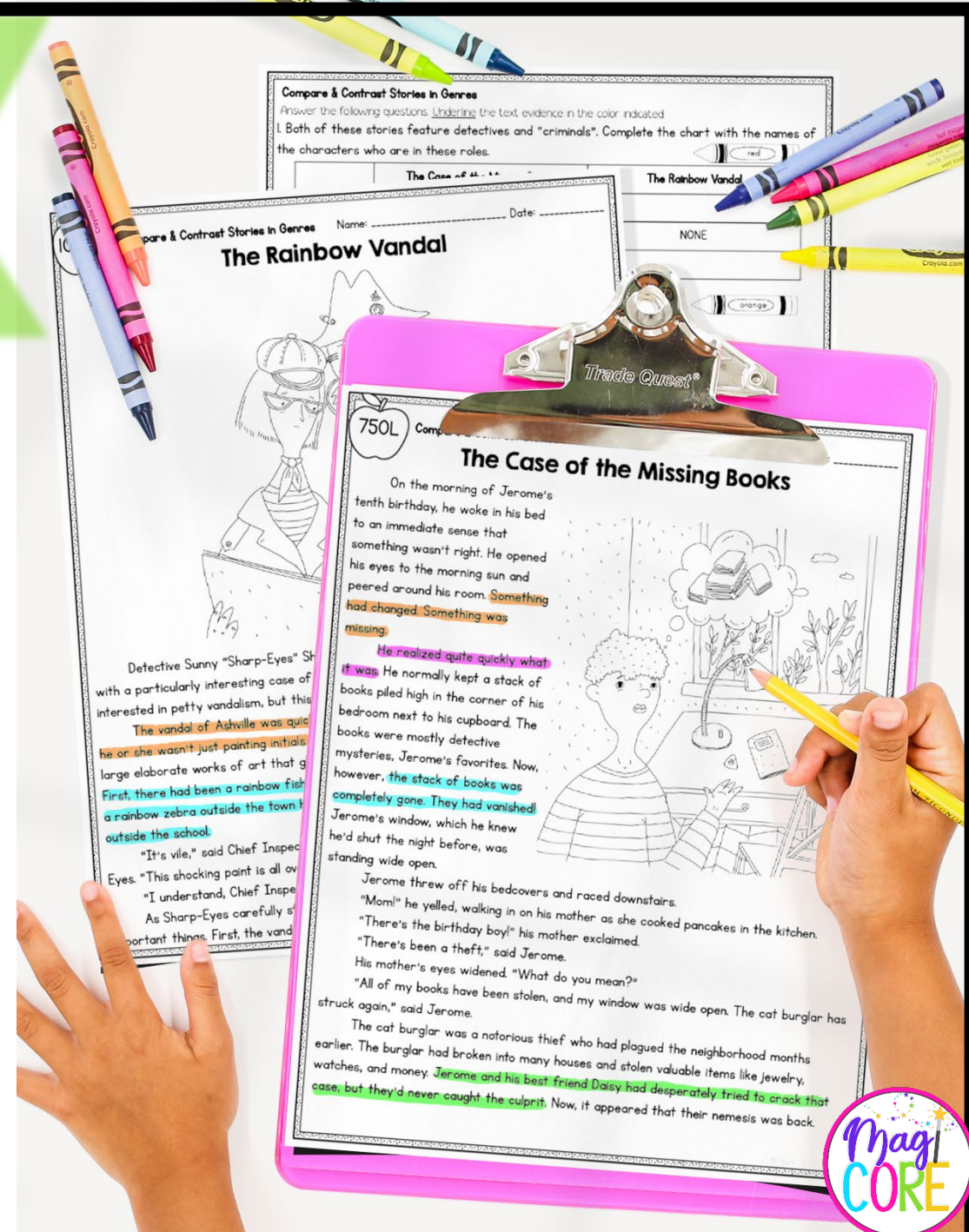
- Anchor charts and question sets
- Color coding to encourage students to use text evidence
- AND two assessments on nonfiction reading passages

Printable and
Google
Slides Included



5 SETS OF PAIRED PASSAGES

- Learn in color! Visual cues reinforce text evidence
- Teachers can quickly check student work.
- Variety of text structures to spark comprehension AND curiosity.
- Dive into literary texts including realistic, historical, and science fiction.



QUESTIONS

- Skill-focused, scaffolded questions
- Multiple choice and short answer
- Preps students for state testing
- Rigorous and research-based approach to questioning

Mystery

A mystery is a suspenseful story where a person investigates clues to solve a crime.

Common Elements in Mysteries:

- **Common protagonists:** detective, suspects, victims, witnesses
- **Common settings:** everyday settings
- **Common themes:** missing objects or people, secrets, unexplained events

To compare & contrast stories in the same genre, ask yourself:

1. How are the **protagonists** similar or different?
2. How are the **settings** similar or different?
3. How are the **plots** similar or different?
4. What **similar topics and themes** do the stories address?

Compare & Contrast Stories in Genres

1000L Compare & Contrast Stories in Genres Name: _____

The Rainbow Vandal

Detective _____

with a part interested _____

The _____

he or she _____

large elabor _____

First, then _____

a rainbow _____

outside the _____

"It's _____

Eyes: "This _____

"I _____

As _____

important _____

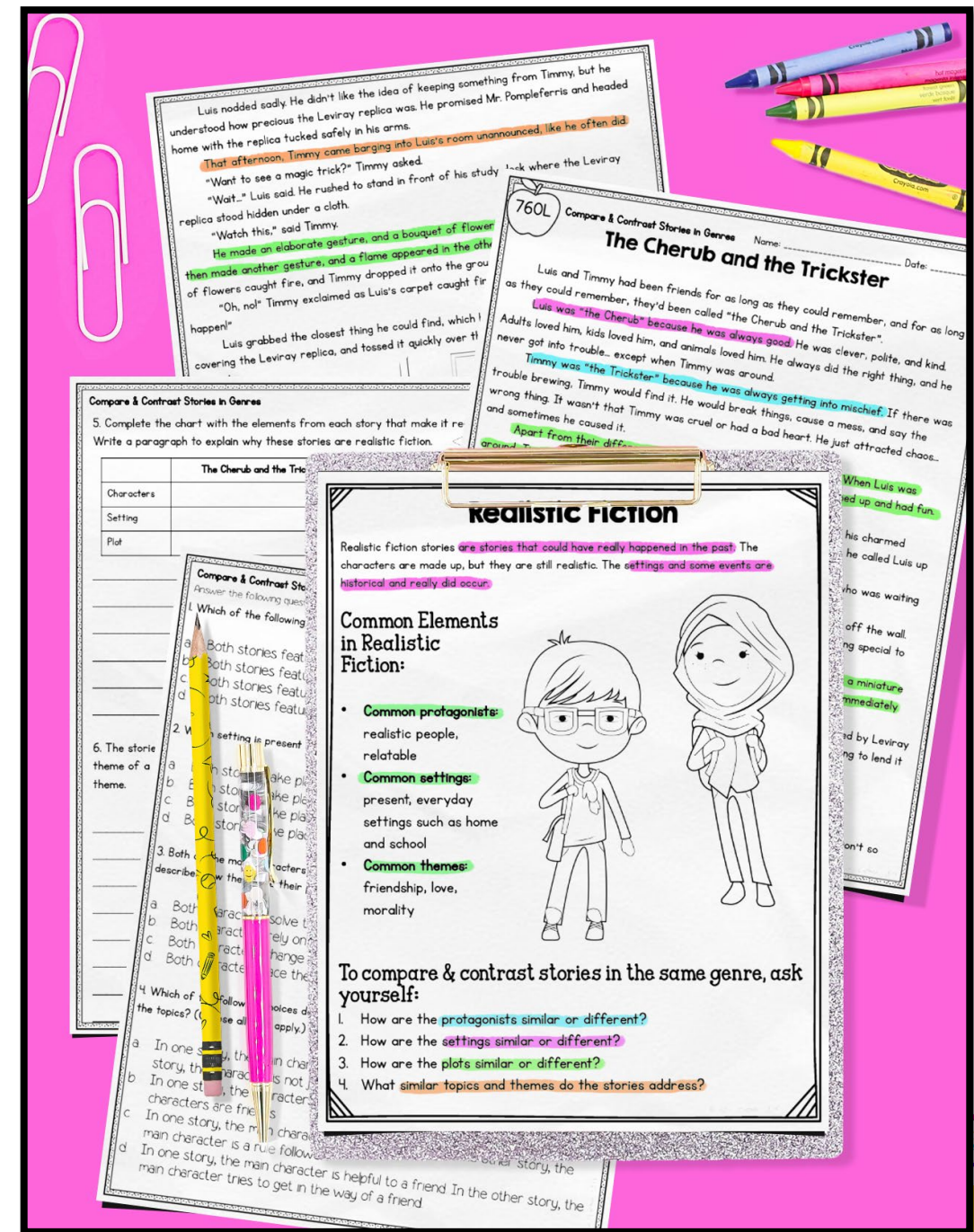
5. The stories "The Case of the Missing Books" and "The Rainbow Vandal" share the common theme of the mystery of crime. Identify at least two details from each story that support this theme.

6. What are the intentions of the "criminals" in "The Case of the Missing Books" and "The Rainbow Vandal"? How are the "criminals" intentions similar? Use at least two details from the text to support your answer.

Magi CORE

ANCHOR CHARTS

- **Anchor charts**
 - **Action & Adventure**
 - **Fantasy**
 - **Historical Fiction**
 - **Mystery**
 - **Science Fiction**
 - **Realistic Fiction**
- **Use to introduce the skill**
- **Students reference throughout the unit**
- **Use in student journal as a reference**



ASSESSMENTS

- Same format as practice
- Two tests with different Lexile levels
- Color-coding
- Follows best practices for standardized assessments

Compare & Contrast Stories in Genres

5. Complete the chart with the elements from each story that make it realistic fiction. Write a paragraph to explain why these stories are realistic fiction.

The Cherub and the Trickster	
Characters	
Setting	
Plot	

Realistic Fiction

Realistic fiction stories are stories that could have really happened in the past. The characters are made up, but they are still realistic. The settings and some events are historical and really did occur.

Common Elements in Realistic Fiction:

- **Common protagonists:** realistic people, relatable
- **Common settings:** present, everyday settings such as home and school
- **Common themes:** friendship, love, morality

To compare & contrast stories in the same genre, ask yourself:

1. How are the protagonists similar or different?
2. How are the settings similar or different?
3. How are the plots similar or different?
4. What similar topics and themes do the stories address?

The Cherub and the Trickster

Luis and Timmy had been friends for as long as they could remember, and for as long as they could remember, they'd been called "the Cherub and the Trickster". Luis was "the Cherub" because he was always good. He was clever, polite, and kind. Adults loved him, kids loved him, and animals loved him. He always did the right thing, and he never got into trouble... except when Timmy was around. Timmy was "the Trickster" because he was always getting into mischief. If there was trouble brewing, Timmy would find it. He would break things, cause a mess, and say the wrong thing. It wasn't that Timmy was cruel or had a bad heart. He just attracted chaos. Sometimes he caused it. Apart from their differences, they were both good friends.

Compare & Contrast Stories

Answer the following questions.

1. Which of the following are true?

- a. Both stories feature a main character.
- b. Both stories feature a side character.
- c. Both stories feature a setting.
- d. Both stories feature a plot.

2. Which setting is present in both stories?

- a. In one story, the main character is a boy.
- b. In one story, the main character is a girl.
- c. In one story, the main character is a boy.
- d. In one story, the main character is a girl.

3. Both stories describe the main characters' friendship. How do they describe it?

- a. Both characters solve the problem.
- b. Both characters rely on each other.
- c. Both characters change the situation.
- d. Both characters face the problem.

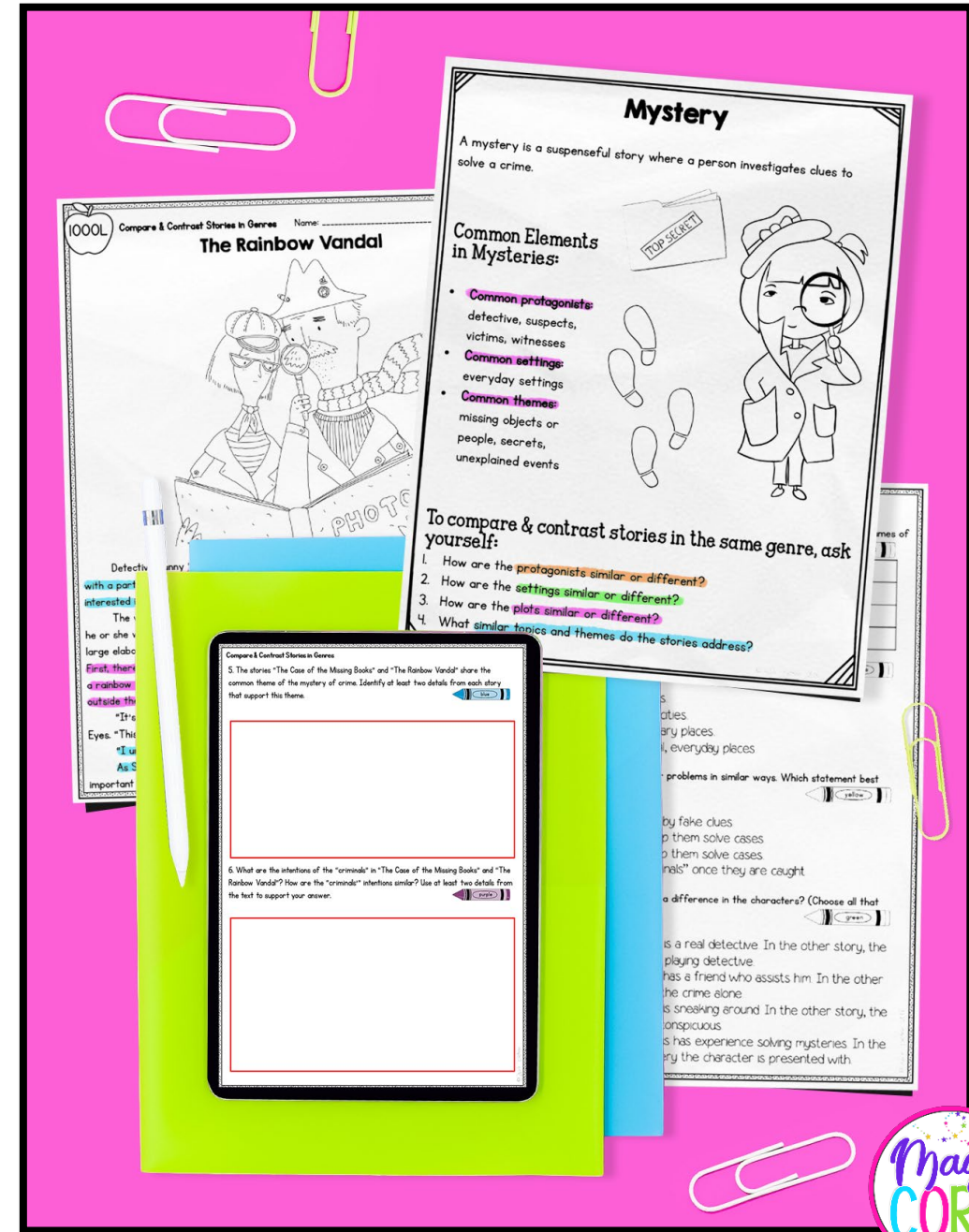
4. Which of the following are true?

- a. In one story, the main character is a boy.
- b. In one story, the main character is a girl.
- c. In one story, the main character is a boy.
- d. In one story, the main character is a girl.

5. In one story, the main character is helpful to a friend. In the other story, the main character tries to get in the way of a friend.

WHY IT WORKS

- Certified Lexile measures
- High - interest texts to motivate readers
- Cross - curricular topics
- Scaffold approach will help your students meet grade level expectations.
- Classroom tested! Trusted by over 1,000 teachers... and counting!... To help students grow their reading skill



ALIGNS TO SCIENCE OF READING

Research shows that wide reading has the biggest impact on student reading progress.

Our passages provide that essential variety of nonfiction structures and topics.


Students need scaffolded instruction to access grade level texts. Without it, students are not exposed to linguistic and textural features, putting them further behind.

Our texts help students grow full-steam ahead. With certified Lexile levels in the Common Core text complexity band, students will 100% engage with appropriate text and sentence structures, vocabulary, and more. Plus, every passage provides teachers with opportunities to scaffold instruction.

Fun fact! From 2nd grade on, students make greater reading gains when taught from texts that are as much as two grade levels above their "instructional" reading level.

Lead the way! Our texts are leveled to master grade-level expectations and set students up for success.

ABOUT LEXILE LEVELS


 MagiCore Learning, LLC is a certified Lexile® Partner. These texts are officially measured and approved by Lexile and MetaMetrics® to ensure appropriate rigor and differentiation for students.

The Lexile Framework® for Reading measures are scientific, quantitative text levels. When the Lexile of a text is measured, specific, measurable attributes of the text are considered, including, but not limited to, word frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion. These are difficult attributes for humans to evaluate, so a computer measures them.

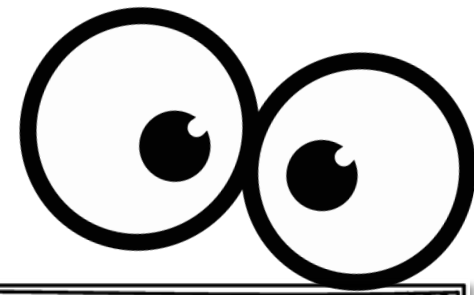
Common Core State Standards uses Lexile level bands as one measure of text complexity. Text complexity ranges ensure that students are college and career ready by the end of 12th grade. Lexile measures help educators scaffold and differentiate instruction, as well as monitor reading growth.

Grade Band	Lexile® Bands Aligned to Common Core Expectations
K-1	190L-530L
2-3	420L-820L
4-5	740L-1140L
6-8	

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that support to reach text at the high end of their grade level. Common Core Standards, "It is important to re-examine the expectation that scaffolding will be built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text complexity movement, however, should be toward student independence both within and across the text complexity bands."



TAKE A PEEK



COMPARE & CONTRAST STORIES

5th grade

Table of Contents

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4. Fantasy Chart
5. The Blazewing- 1000L / You Can't Capture Starlight- 890L
6. Historical Fiction Chart
7. Back to the West- 740L / The Cat Goddess- 860L
8. Mystery Chart
9. The Case of the Missing Books- 750L / The Rainbow Vandal- 1000L
10. Science Fiction Chart
11. The Invisible Planet- 840L / Visitors from the Sky- 760L
12. Test
 - Realistic Fiction Chart
 - The Cherub and the Trickster- 760L / A Lightbulb Moment- 910L



The Google Slides version of this resource requires that you make a copy of the resource to your own Google Drive.

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* You MUST have a Google account in order to access this resource. [Click HERE](#) if you need help setting up a Google account.

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2-3	420L-820L
4-5	740L-1010L
6-8	925L-1185L

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that many students will need scaffolding and support to reach text at the high end of their grade band. According to Appendix A of the Common Core Standards, "It is important to recognize that scaffolding often is entirely appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding will occur with particularly challenging texts is built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text complexity expectations, for example. The general movement, however, should be toward decreasing scaffolding and increasing independence both within and across the text complexity bands defined in the Standards."

Action & Adventure

Adventure fiction has elements of danger. The reader feels excitement as a hero undergoes adventures.

Common Elements in Action & Adventure Fiction:

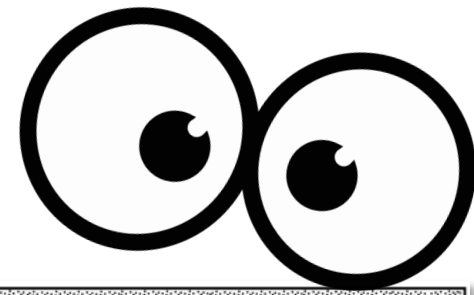
- **Common protagonists:** pirates, treasure hunters, explorers, spies, knights, adventurers
- **Common settings:** jungles, deserts, seas, wild frontiers, castles, exotic locations
- **Common themes:** treasure hunts, expeditions, quests, medieval, warring parties, trapped, abandoned, kidnapped, lost, disasters



To compare & contrast stories in the same genre, ask yourself:

1. How are the protagonists similar or different?
2. How are the settings similar or different?
3. How are the plots similar or different?
4. What similar topics and themes do the stories address?

AND ANOTHER PEEK



900L Compare & Contrast Stories in Genres Name: _____ Date: _____

The Island of Celeste

It hadn't been a good week for Captain Jill Ravenhair. She'd been sailing her ship *Moonrise Fortune* on the high seas for as long as she could remember, but this week, she had to say goodbye to her faithful vessel after it had been struck down by the most terrible thunderstorm she had ever seen. She'd lost half of her crew, most of her possessions, and all of her joy.

Now, she was at the wheel of a replacement ship, appropriately called *The Second Chance*. The new ship was much smaller than *Moonrise Fortune*, and Captain Ravenhair didn't like it. Nor did she like her new crew, who were all lazy and liked to complain about the smallest things.

When Captain Ravenhair docked at a fishing village called Aspiration Cove, she went straight to a tall house on a cliff where a man she knew very well lived.

"I need a mission," she declared to the man, whose name was Gerald Allbright. "I can't sail this poky ship around aimlessly with this lazy crew, only dropping sacks of flour off at port after port. I need an adventure."

"My dear Jill, *Moonrise Fortune* was a ship that was designed for adventure, and look what happened to it," said Mr. Allbright. *The Second Chance* is not an adventure vessel. You'll meet your demise."

"I'm not afraid of danger!" said Captain Ravenhair. "Please give me a mission."

"Fine, I'll give you a mission," said Mr. Allbright. "Your mission is to find the Island of Celeste."

Captain Ravenhair stared at him. The Island of Celeste was a legendary island, undiscovered for thousands of years, that was meant to be like paradise. The water there tasted like honey, fruits hung from every tree, the sun was never too hot, and the winds were never too cold.



She knew that Mr. Allbright was playing a joke on her. Every sailor who'd ever set out to find the Island of Celeste had never returned from the venture. She narrowed her eyes and placed her hands on her hips.

"Fine," she said. "Mission accepted."



Captain Ravenhair set off the next morning in *The Second Chance* on her way to find the Island of Celeste. She'd found every book, journal entry, and newspaper article she could about the legendary island, and she had spent every waking moment reading over them. Soon, she had a rough map drawn of where she thought the island might be, and she began to steer the ship in that direction.

She tried not to think about what else she'd read about in the

stories. Nearly eighty other very competent sailors had set out to find the Island of Celeste over time, and not a single one of them had returned home. Sometimes, their ships had been found floating the seas with no one on them. Sometimes, their ships had been found torn into pieces. At other times, their ships hadn't been found at all.

However, Captain Ravenhair had always been very brave, so she sailed on. She sailed through vicious winds, towering waves, the harsh sun, and eerily still nights. Soon, she was close to the point on the map where the Island of Celeste was meant to be...and where the other sailors had disappeared.

Suddenly, *The Second Chance* came to a complete stop, as if it had hit an imaginary wall. It lurched as it did so, sending Captain Ravenhair flying across the deck. She pulled herself up and stared at the front of the ship, trying to see what it had run into.

There was nothing there...or at least nothing visible. As Captain Ravenhair stretched her arm out far over the bow of the ship, she could feel a strange energy pulsing in front of her.

Her crew had started to come out from their cabins, angry that the ship's sudden stop had woken them from their naps.

Compare & Contrast Stories in Genres


Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. Which of the following statements is true about both adventure stories? 

- a. Both stories feature characters who face danger.
- b. Both stories feature characters who challenge their rivals.
- c. Both stories feature main characters who have suffered misfortunes.
- d. Both stories feature characters who want to help return things to their rightful owners.

2. Which setting is present in both stories? 

- a. Both stories take place at sea.
- b. Both stories take place outdoors.
- c. Both stories take place in jungles.
- d. Both stories take place on islands.

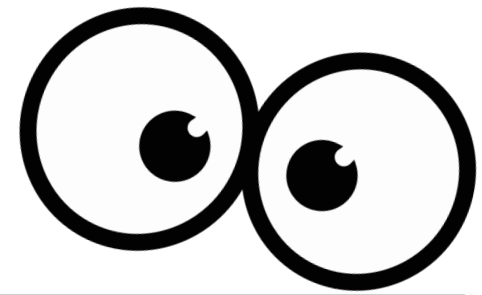
3. Both of the main characters handle their problems in similar ways. Which statement best describes how they solve their problems? (Choose all that apply.) 

- a. Both characters take companions to help them.
- b. Both characters travel great distances to solve their problems.
- c. Both characters rely solely on their own wits to solve their problems.
- d. Both characters are risk-takers and will face danger to save their problems.

4. Which of the following choices describes a difference in the ways that the authors approach the topics? 

- a. In one story, the main character is seeking adventure. In the other story, adventure finds the main character.
- b. In one story, the main character is seeking wealth. In the other story, the main character is seeking a lost ship.
- c. In one story, the main character is seeking friendship. In the other story, the main character is seeking isolation.
- d. In one story, the main character faces misfortune that sends him or her on the journey. In the other story, the main character is motivated by lost treasure.

CHECK THIS OUT TOO!



740L

Compare & Contrast Stories in Genres

Name: _____

Date: _____

Back to the West

Jamie was at the fun fair with his dad when he noticed a small purple tent with a sign outside that read, "Bored? You won't be when you come inside!" Jamie asked his dad if they could go in, but his dad shook his head.

"It looks like a waste of money," he said. "Let's get hot dogs."

Jamie had always been a bit disobedient, so while his dad was distracted by reading the hot dog menu, he ran off and snuck into the purple tent.

Inside, the tent was dusty and smelled of incense smoke. He spotted an eccentric-looking woman with a scarf wrapped around her head sitting at a table.

"Bored, are you?" the woman asked.

Jamie nodded his head.

"Well, then," said the woman, "have a spin of the wheel, and you're guaranteed to get rid of your boredom."

There was a large copper disc on the table with a series of symbols around the edge and a spinner in the middle. Jamie took a deep breath and spun.

The spinner went round and round the disc until it eventually began to slow. It landed on a carved symbol of a horse with a rider.

"Ah," said the woman, "that is the Wild West. Good luck!"

"Good luck with what?" asked Jamie.

Just then, the room began to spin, just as the spinner had done. It wobbled and warped, and Jamie felt like he was falling and flying all at once until everything suddenly went black.

Jamie wasn't sure if he was in the blackness for seconds or days, but when he opened his eyes again, he was back inside the purple tent. However, the woman was gone.

"That was weird," he muttered to himself. "At least she didn't make me pay."

He turned and opened the flap of the tent to walk back outside, but what he saw out there almost made him faint.

He was no longer at the fun fair...or if he was, it had changed drastically to look like a living, breathing replica of the Wild West.

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Horses and carriages

rattled down a dusty road, which was lined with shops like the saloon and the blacksmith. Everyone was wearing bizarre clothing. The women were wearing stiff-looking dresses with corsets, and the men were dressed in cowboy hats. Out in the distance, Jamie could see a landscape of rolling hills and tufty plains. It was this that confirmed that he was *not* in his hometown anymore.

He had somehow traveled back in time to the Wild West. Awesome!

Jamie set out along the street with a big grin on his face because he had so much to explore. Where should he go first? Should he follow a cowboy and go on an adventure? Should he head into the saloon? Should he ride in a horse and carriage?

He decided to head to the blacksmith's forge. He could hear exciting claps and clangs. Suddenly, he heard someone shout.

"Wild Willy's back in town!" the person said. "There's going to be a showdown."

"You better hide, boy," said a man to Jamie.

Jamie was just wondering about it all when he heard a series of terrifying bangs. It sounded like a gunfight!

Jamie ducked into a nearby shop and hid behind the counter with the shopkeeper, a tired-looking old woman.

"It happens twice a week," the woman complained to Jamie. "I swear that we have more gunfights than birthdays here. I can't wait until the day when we're more civilized."

I come from a more civilized place, Jamie wanted to say. Instead, he waited quietly until the gunfight was over and it was safe to walk back out onto the street.



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Jamie strolled down the bustling street again, peering into produce stores, a barber's shop, liveries, and theatres. He was just starting to recover from the shock of the gunfight when he felt something tug at his back. When he turned around, he saw someone running off with his backpack.

"Hey!" he yelled, but the thief was gone.

Jamie marched into the sheriff's office to report the theft, but when he explained, the sheriff just laughed in his face.

"I've got gunfights happening twice a week and about ten horse thieves to catch," the sheriff said. "Sorry if I don't really care about a kid's stolen backpack."

Starting to feel miserable, Jamie went back outside and sat on the dusty porch. Flies were swarming around his head. It was very hot, and everything smelled terrible, like people who hadn't washed for days in the desert heat.

Suddenly, Jamie spied a familiar pop of purple across the road. It was the tent from the fun fair!

Eagerly, he raced inside it to tell the woman to take him back, but there was no one there.

"Hello!" he shouted desperately. "Please! I'm sick of the Wild West. I want to go home."

"Bored, are you?" came a voice from behind him.

The woman had appeared in the entrance of the tent. When Jamie nodded, the woman sighed and sat back down at the table, pulling out the disc again.

"I'll let you return home," she said, "but remember, next time you're bored with your own life in your own world, the grass isn't always greener on the other side of time."

"I understand," said Jamie eagerly. "Just take me back please!"

The woman smirked and spun the wheel. Jamie felt the tent begin to blur again and had the same sensation of flying and falling at once. Then everything went black.

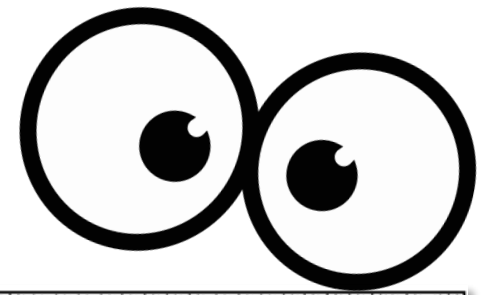
When Jamie opened his eyes, the first thing he could smell was a hot dog. A balmy breeze had replaced the dry western air, and the shouts outside were from people enjoying the roller coaster, not from a gunfight.

Delighted, Jamie ran outside and into the fun fair.

"There you are!" cried his dad. "Your hot dog is getting cold."

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UPGRADE THEIR SKILLS!



910L

Compare & Contrast Stories in Genres

Name: _____

Date: _____

A Lightbulb Moment

Samira was nearly the best in all of her subjects at school. She was definitely the best at reading, writing, and history, but when it came to math and science, Margot Mulligan always got in the way.

Just when Samira would think that she was acing her math and science projects, there would be their teacher, Ms. Amran, praising Margot instead.

"You just have a knack for numbers, don't you, Margot?" Ms. Amran would coo, leaning over Margot's work.

Samira would turn around and loudly say, "Just like you said that *I* have a knack for words, isn't that right, Ms. Amran?"

"Yes, Samira," Ms. Amran would reply, "everybody has their strengths."

However, Samira didn't want to just have *some* strengths. She wanted to have *all* the strengths. She wanted to be the best at every single subject. She started to become fixated on Margot Mulligan. When she saw Margot in the library, Samira would slowly sidle past her, peering over her shoulder to see what Margot was studying so intently. At lunchtimes, when she spied Margot sitting in the corner reading a book, she'd wander as close as she possibly could to see what Margot was reading.

"*The Life of Thomas Edison*," Samira muttered to herself when she saw the title. The very next day, she checked out the same book about the famous inventor from the library.

Then came that fateful day one morning when Ms. Amran announced the big project they'd be working on for the next month. It was called "The Night of the Notables", and it involved choosing a famous historical person to research. Each student was then going to dress up as the person and play the role at a special nighttime school event.

When it came time to choose who they wanted to be, Samira chose Thomas Edison. The next day, Ms. Amran called Samira and Margot up to her desk after class had ended.

"I'm afraid that you've both chosen Thomas Edison as your top choice for the Night of the Notables," said Ms. Amran. "As only one student can play each historical figure, one of you must..."

"That's okay, Ms. Amran," said Margot immediately. "I can be Nikola Tesla instead."

Ms. Amran smiled. "That's very interesting," she said. "Did you know that Thomas Edison and Nikola Tesla were actually rivals?"

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Samira knew that, of course. She'd read about it in the book about Thomas Edison. Both of the two men had been genius inventors whose creations led to modern-day electricity and computers. However, they'd also competed fiercely with each other over whose electrical system was the most superior.

"They were both brilliant," said Margot sensibly.

"Yes, they were both very brilliant," Samira agreed immediately.

"I have an idea," said Ms. Amran. "How about you two pair up for this assignment since your two characters are so closely connected? Samira can be Edison, Margot can be Tesla, and you can research and present together."

Samira was about to protest when she saw Margot grinning.

"That sounds like fun!" said Margot.

Samira had no choice but to agree.

For the next month, Samira and Margot worked together to research Edison and Tesla for the Night of the Notables. They spent lunch breaks together in the library reading as many books as they could, but while Samira wanted to read and take notes in peace, Margot wouldn't stop chatting about the amazing inventions of both famous men, constantly asking Samira what she thought.

Samira hated to admit it, but Margot clearly understood the math and science behind the scientific inventions way better than she did. While Samira was better at taking notes and explaining the stories, Margot was better at deciphering what they actually meant.



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Compare & Contrast Stories in Genres

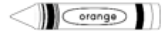
Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. Which of the following statements is true about both realistic fiction stories?



- a. Both stories feature characters who are real.
- b. Both stories feature characters who are helpful.
- c. Both stories feature characters who are relatable.
- d. Both stories feature characters who are humorous.

2. Which setting is present in both stories? (Choose all that apply.)



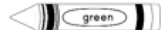
- a. Both stories take place long ago.
- b. Both stories take place at school.
- c. Both stories take place in present time.
- d. Both stories take place in imaginary places.

3. Both of the main characters handle their problems in similar ways. Which statement best describes how they solve their problems?



- a. Both characters solve their problems with humor.
- b. Both characters rely on their best friends to solve their problems.
- c. Both characters change their values and beliefs to solve their problems.
- d. Both characters face their challenges head on, despite their apprehension.

4. Which of the following choices describes a difference in the ways that the authors approach the topics? (Choose all that apply.)



- a. In one story, the main character is jealous of another character. In the other story, the character is not jealous.
- b. In one story, the characters are rivals in the beginning. In the other story, the characters are friends.
- c. In one story, the main character is a troublemaker. In the other story, the main character is a rule follower.
- d. In one story, the main character is helpful to a friend. In the other story, the main character tries to get in the way of a friend.

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