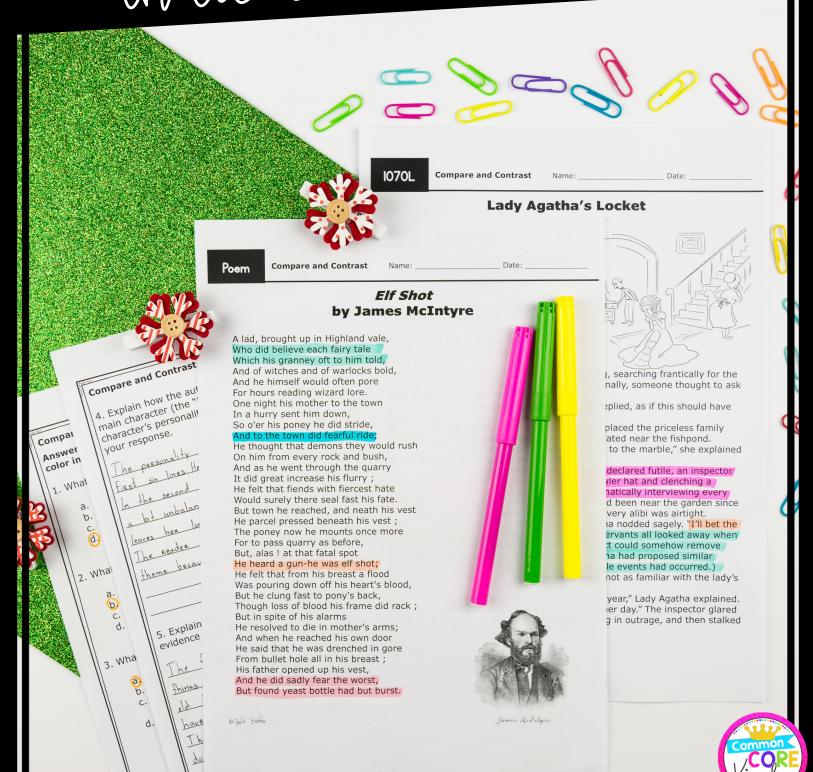
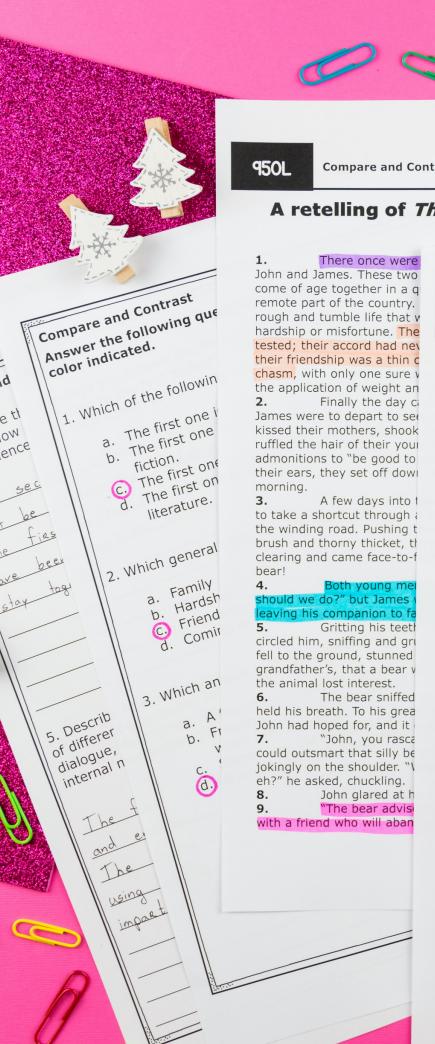
6TH GRADE

RL.6.9

COMPARING GENRES in literature





Compare and Contrast Name: _____ Date: _____

A retelling of *The Bear and the Two Travelers*by Aesop

Poem

Compare and Contrast

Name:

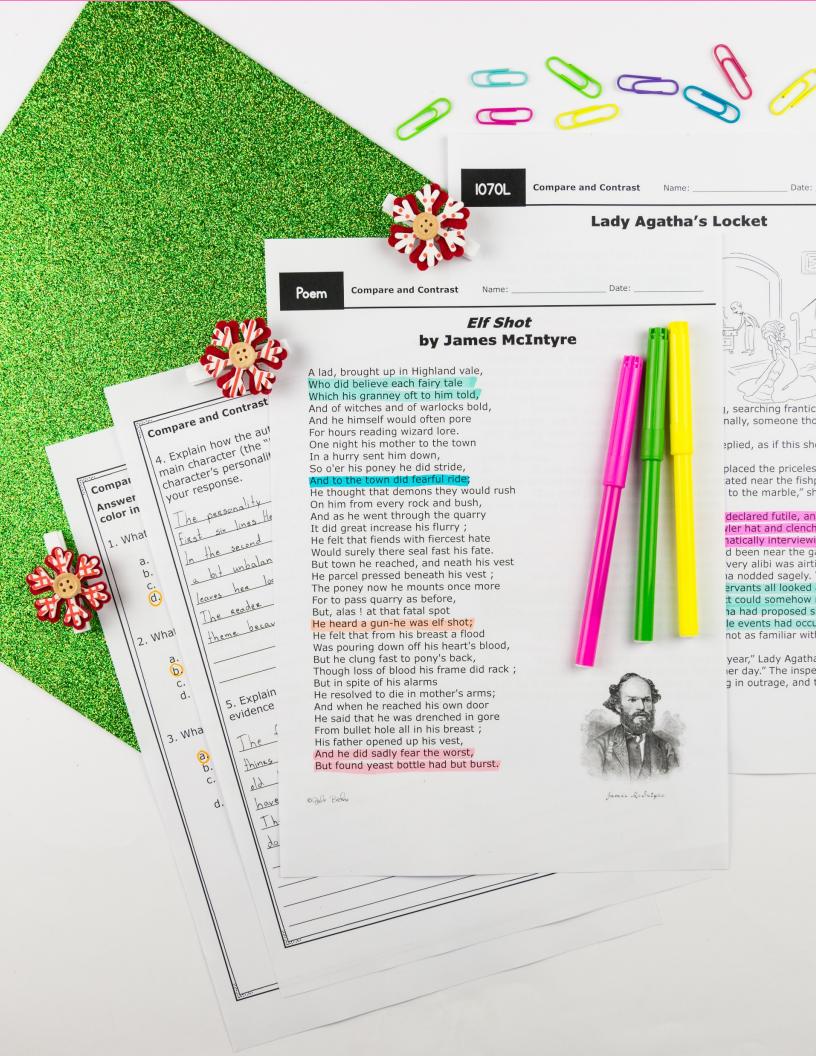
We Have Been Friends Tog by Caroline Elizabeth Sarah

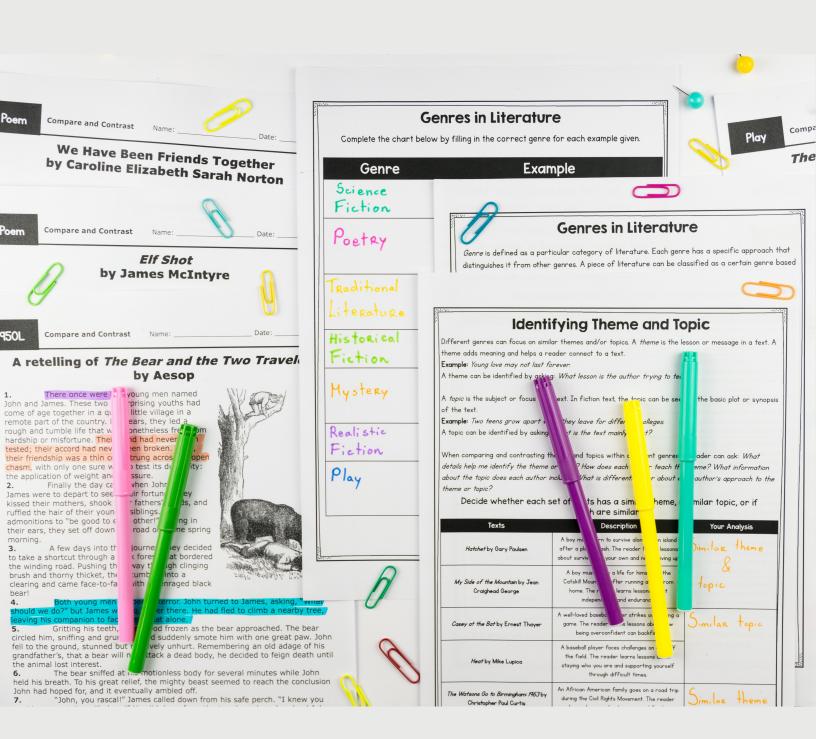
We have been friends together,
In sunshine and in shade;
Since first beneath the chestnut-tree
In infancy we played.
But coldness dwells within thy heart
A cloud is on thy brow;
We have been friends together—
Shall a light word part us now?

We have been gay together;
We have laugh'd at little jests;
For the fount of hope was gushing
Warm and joyous in our breasts.
But laughter now hath fled thy lip,
And sullen glooms thy brow;
We have been gay together—
Shall a light word part us now?

We have been sad together,
We have wept, with bitter tears,
O'er the grass-grown graves, where slum
The hopes of early years.
The voices which are silent there
Would bid thee clear thy brow;
We have been sad together—
Oh! what shall part us now?







COMPARING & CONTRASTING GENRES



Table of Contents

*This product includes 16 Lexile[®] leveled stories in the 6^{th} Grade Common Core Text Complexity Band (the range for 6^{th} grade is 925–1185).

- I. Genres in Literature Journal Page/Anchor Chart
- 2. Identifying Theme and Topic Journal Page/Anchor Chart
- 3. Set I: Excerpt from *The Prince and the Pauper* 960L and *The Highest Class* 930L
- 4. Set 2: Elf Shot Poem and Lady Agatha's Locket 1070L
- 5. Set 3: Excerpt from *Kidnapped*! 1010L and *The Abduction of Persephone* 1150L
- 6. Set 4: We Have Been Friends Together Poem and Retelling of The Bear and the Two Travelers 950L
- 7. Set 5: Excerpt from *The Outlaw* Play and *Roundup on the Ranch* 950L
- 8. Set 6: Excerpt from *The War of the Worlds* II30L and *Small–Town Shortage* I060L
- 9. Set 7: The Man on the Kerb Play and Old Man Henderson 950L
- IO. TEST
 - Excerpt from Black Beauty 980L
 - Excerpt from The Auguries of Innocence Poem



ABOUT LEXILE LEVELS



Common Core Kingdom, 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-I	N/A
2-3	420L-820L
4-5	740L-1010L
6-8	925L-II85L

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."

Genres in Literature

Genre is defined as a particular category of literature. Each genre has a specific approach that distinguishes it from other genres. A piece of literature can be classified as a certain genre based on both its content and the structure it is written in.

Read the following chart to learn about different fiction genres.

Genre	Definition	Example
HISTORICAL FICTION	The story is made up, but the setting is a real location and time period in the past.	Number the Stars by Lois Lowry: A Jewish family tries to escape Denmark during World War II.
REALISTIC FICTION	The story is made up, but it could have actually happened in the real world.	Wonder by R.J. Palacio: A boy with a genetic disorder struggles to make friends when he goes to school for the first time.
POETRY	Feelings and ideas are expressed within a particular rhythm and structure.	The Owl and the Pussycat by Edward Lear: An owl and a cat travel the sea on a boat and get married. The story rhymes and is written in three stanzas.
TRADITIONAL LITERATURE	Stories that are well-known and passed down from person to person. There are often elements of magic or fantasy. This genre includes fairy tales, myths, legends, fables, folk tales, etc.	Cinderella: A girl is treated badly by her evil stepmother and stepsisters. One day her fairy godmother sends her to the ball, where she meets a handsome prince and lives happily ever after.
SCIENCE FICTION	The story is often set in the future and might feature outer space, futuristic technology, or scientific progress such as time travel.	All Summer in a Day by Ray Bradbury: A colony of people live on the planet Venus, where the sun only comes out once every seven years.
MYSTERY	A character or group of characters must solve a suspicious crime or mysterious occurrence.	The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin: A group of people are read a man's will and told to solve a set of clues in order to win his fortune.
PLAY/DRAMA	A story that is acted out through a performance. It includes dialogue, stage directions, and setting and character descriptions.	Harry Potter and the Cursed Child by J.K. Rowling: The magician Albus Potter and his friend Scorpio go on an adventure.

It is important for a reader to be able to identify a text's genre. Understanding genre helps a reader make sense of a text within a shorter time period.

Genres in Literature

Complete the chart below by filling in the correct genre for each example given.

Genre	Example
	A scientist invents a machine that can transfer a person's brain into a new body.
	A speaker writes about their relationship with their mother in flowing prose that has nine syllables per line.
Co	A determined tortoise beats an arrogant hare in a race after the hare brags about winning.
3	A young boy is a bugle player for the Confederate Army during the Civil War.
	A rare artifact is stolen from a museum, and two amateur detectives must discover who took it.
	A brother and sister work together to build a tree house in their backyard.
	Two students compete in a nationwide spelling bee. The entire story is told through spoken dialogue.

Identifying Theme and Topic

Different genres can focus on similar themes and/or topics. A *theme* is the lesson or message in a text. A theme adds meaning and helps a reader connect to a text.

Example: Young love may not last forever.

A theme can be identified by asking: What lesson is the author trying to teach?

A *topic* is the subject or focus of a text. In fiction text, the topic can be seen as the basic plot or synopsis of the text.

Example: Two teens grow apart when they leave for different colleges.

A topic can be identified by asking: What is the text mainly about?

When comparing and contrasting themes and topics within different genres, a reader can ask: What details help me identify the theme or topic? How does each author teach the theme? What information about the topic does each author include? What is different/similar about each author's approach to the theme or topic?

Decide whether each set of texts has a similar theme, a similar topic, or if both are similar.

	Doin are similar.	
Texts	Description	Your Analysis
<i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen	A boy must learn to survive alone on an island after a plane crash. The reader learns lessons about surviving on your own and never giving up.	
<i>My Side of the Mountain</i> by Jean Craighead George	A boy must make a life for himself in the Catskill Mountains after running away from home. The reader learns lessons about independence and endurance.	N/8
Casey at the Bat by Ernest Thayer	A well-loved baseball player strikes out during a game. The reader learns lessons about how being overconfident can backfire.	
<i>Heat</i> by Mike Lupica	A baseball player faces challenges on and off the field. The reader learns lessons about staying who you are and supporting yourself through difficult times.	
The Watsons Go to Birmingham: 1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis	An African American family goes on a road trip during the Civil Rights Movement. The reader learns lessons about racism and family.	
<i>Esperanza Rising</i> by Pam Muñoz Ryan	A once-wealthy Mexican girl struggles to start her life over again in California during the Great Depression. The reader learns lesson about how discrimination and prejudice can affect people.	

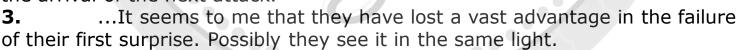
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Excerpt from *The War of the Worlds* by H.G. Wells

In this excerpt, the world has just survived an invasion of aliens from Mars. The narrator is now thinking about the effects of the invasion.

- examination of the Martians...I have already given. But everyone is familiar with the magnificent and almost complete specimen in spirits at the Natural History Museum, and the countless drawings that have been made from i and beyond that the interest of their physiology and structure is purely scientific.
- 2. A question of graver and universal interest is the possibility of another attack from the Martians. I do not think that nearly enough attention is being given to this aspect of the matter. At present the planet Mars is in conjunction, but with every return to opposition I, for one, anticipate a renewal of their adventure. In any case, we should be prepared It seems to me that it should be possible to define the position of the gun from which the shots are discharged, to keep a sustained watch upon this part of the planet, and to anticipate the arrival of the next attack.





4. At any rate, whether we expect another invasion or not, our views of the human future must be greatly modified by these events. We have learned now that we cannot regard this planet as being fenced in and a secure abiding place for Man; we can never anticipate the unseen good or evil that may come upon us suddenly out of space. It may be that in the larger design of the universe this invasion from Mars is not without its ultimate benefit for men; it has robbed us of that serene confidence in the future which is the most fruitful source of decadence, the gifts to human science it has brought are enormous, and it has done much to promote the conception of the commonweal of mankind. It may be that across the immensity of space the Martians have watched the fate of these pioneers of theirs and learned their lesson...

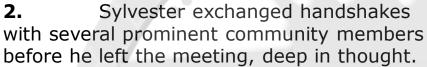
@Gulio Bochoso

- 5. ...Be that as it may, for many years yet there will certainly be no relaxation of the eager scrutiny of the Martian disk, and those fiery darts of the sky, the shooting stars, will bring with them as they fall an unavoidable apprehension to all the sons of men.
- **6.** The broadening of men's views that has resulted can scarcely be exaggerated. Before the cylinder fell there was a general persuasion that through all the deep of space no life existed beyond the petty surface of our minute sphere. Now we see further. If the Martians can reach Venus, there is no reason to suppose that the thing is impossible for men...
- **7.** Dim and wonderful is the vision I have conjured up in my mind of life spreading slowly from this little seed bed of the solar system throughout the inanimate vastness of sidereal space. But that is a remote dream. It may be, on the other hand, that the destruction of the Martians is only a reprieve. To them, and not to us, perhaps, is the future ordained.
- **8.** I must confess the stress and danger of the time have left an abiding sense of doubt and insecurity in my mind.



Small-Town Shortage

1. "So it's decided," Mayor Hawthorne banged his gavel and the crowded town hall fell silent. "Sylvester Jennings, as a former employee of the Environmental Protection Agency, will be the citizen charged with investigating the reason behind our town's recent water shortage." He nodded at Sylvester, who was sitting in the front row, and stepped down from the podium.





- The town of Milton was tiny, with a population of a little over seven thousand souls. Sylvester was one of its newest residents, having moved there three years before. He was used to the fast-paced, exciting atmosphere of an urban city, and had initially struggled to adjust to the plodding, predictable patterns of small-town life. The long-term residents were starting to recognize him, however, and he was, if not completely accepted, at least tolerated.
- He wasn't entirely sure why he had been the one selected to delve into the matter of the water shortage, despite his previous employment at the EPA. He rather suspected that he was being set up as a scapegoat; if so, it would be an effective way to shift the blame.
- **5.** Milton had been under a water conservation order ever since a severe drought had swept through the town a few years ago. Each residence was limited to 5,000 gallons of water use a day. Each household had a special meter that measured their water use, and every month, each citizen signed an official form that attested to the amount they used. So far, each household had, officially, been keeping to the allowed 5,000 gallons. However, the amount in the town reservoir was well below what it should have been. Something fishy was clearly going on.
- Sylvester spent the next few days going door-to-door, questioning each citizen about their water use. Everyone he spoke to insisted that they had been sticking to the designated amount, but they also seemed supremely unconcerned about the water shortage.
- 7. "It'll be fine," one old-timer told him. "We've always had water, and we always will."

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Compare and Contrast

Name:	Date:	

- **8.** "Even if one or two people go over their limit, it won't make any difference," another stated confidently.
- **9.** Sylvester was able to keep his opinions to himself, but he found himself biting his tongue often, his suspicions mounting.
- **10.** Finally, at the last house he visited, he discovered what was going on. The door was open when he arrived, so he simply walked in, surprising the town plumber, Walter Bones, in the act of pulling back the dial on his water meter with a pair of pliers. Walter jumped, his face flooding with guilt, as Sylvester just stared at him, shaking his head.
- 11. "How many townspeople have been paying you for this particular service, Walter?" Sylvester asked. Walter's whole body sagged as he admitted that most of the town had paid him to "adjust" their meters.
- When Sylvester brought the evidence to the next town hall meeting, with Walter testifying to his role in it all, he was met with denial and outrage. However, as Walter gave detailed information about each citizen's culpability, denial shifted to justifications and backpedaling.
- 13. "What does it matter if we use a little bit more water?" the town librarian called out. "Surely there's still enough for everyone. Natural resources were put on this Earth to be used!" A general cry of agreement rose up.
- Sylvester looked out at the townspeople, realizing that he would always be an outsider here, as he would never think the same way as the people he saw.
- "When humans do not respect what they have been given," he explained quietly, "it can all vanish in the blink of an eye." He left the hall, already planning his move back to the city.

Ogulo Bochoso

Compare and Contrast Answer the following questions. <u>Underline</u> the text evidence in the color indicated. 1. Which of the following correctly identifies the genre of each text? The first one is science fiction and the second one is realistic fiction. The first one is historical fiction and the second one is realistic fiction. The first one is science fiction and the second one is a mystery. The first one is historical fiction and the second one is a mystery. 2. Which sentence best represents the theme or message of both texts? orange Humans might need to travel to other planets if the resources on Earth run out. b. Humans would benefit from learning about life on other planets. Humans shouldn't be arrogant about their continued prosperity on Earth. d. One person's actions can make a big difference in the long run. 3. Explain how the message expressed by each author differs, if at all. Use specific examples in your response.

Compare and Contrast
4. What is similar about the approach of each author towards the theme or topic?
 a. Both texts describe the general perspective of a collective group. b. Both texts focus on one narrator's point of view. c. Both texts feature characters that represent humanity's ignorance. d. Both texts discuss a similar threat to the human race.
5. Explain how each author expresses their message or theme differently. Use specific examples in your response.
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