

COMPARE & CONTRAST NONFICTION



task cards

3rd GRADE

Compare & Contrast Nonfiction



15 Compare & Contrast Nonfiction Van Gogh's *Starry Night*

The Starry Night is one of the most recognized paintings in the world. Artist Vincent Van Gogh painted this scene in 1889. He was staying near Saint-Rémy-de-Provence in France. It shows a view out a window just before sunrise. There's a village in the background. A huge cypress tree is in the foreground. Van Gogh was depressed at the time. He used dark blues and blacks in *The Starry Night* to show his feelings. What makes this oil painting remarkable is the brushstrokes Van Gogh used in creating the sky. Swirling designs give the sky movement that catches the eye. The spots of yellow on the moon and stars give some brightness to a dark scene. Rolling hills in the background draw the eye down to the town. The town is painted using geometric shapes. This contrasts with the dream-like quality of the sky and cypress tree. Van Gogh was known for painting what he saw. *The Starry Night*, however, was a break from his usual style. The scene does not match the actual view of where he was painting. Instead, it was from Van Gogh's imagination. *The Starry Night* is among his last paintings before his death in 1890.



The Starry Night

Painted in 1889, *The Starry Night* is one of Vincent Van Gogh's most famous paintings. It is on display at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. Van Gogh's brother, Theo, inherited this painting. When he died, it went to Theo's wife, Jo. She sold *The Starry Night* to a woman named Gertrude van Stolk. In 1948, the Museum of Modern Art acquired it from her. It was the first Van Gogh painting to be in a New York museum.

Where are both passages? Choose all that apply.
a. One passage says *The Starry Night* is on display.
b. Both passages say *The Starry Night* was painted in 1889.
c. Both passages discuss the painting's brushstrokes.

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The Starry Night by Vincent Van Gogh

What is different about the two passages? Choose all that apply.
a. One shows the actual painting, while the other does not.
b. One describes the painting, while the other tells where it was painted.
c. One includes a photo of Van Gogh, while the other does not.
d. One relates the painting to Van Gogh's life, while the other does not.

Important Events in Althea Gibson's Life

- Althea Gibson was a famous tennis player. Her skills allowed her to play in tennis championships and win.
- Major Events**
- M127** - Born in Silver, South Carolina
- M140** - Got involved in community paddle ball
- M142** - Learned to play tennis; won tournaments sponsored by the African American tennis association
- M149** - Went to AAM University in Florida on a tennis scholarship
- M150** - Was finally allowed to play in the USLTA national tournament
- M155** - Won the French Open in both singles and doubles
- M157 & M158** - Won the Wimbledon and U.S. National singles titles
- M159** - Wrote her autobiography; retired from tennis; played golf
- M171** - Elected to the International Tennis Hall of Fame
- M173** - Served as a sports administrator for the state of New Jersey
- 2003** - Died in East Orange, New Jersey

How are the two texts different? Choose all that apply.

- a. Only one text mentions Gibson playing paddle ball.
- b. One is written in paragraphs, while one is a timeline of events.
- c. One says Gibson won at Wimbledon, while the other doesn't.
- d. Only one text tells the title of Gibson's autobiography.



Ways to Use Task Cards

1. **Centers**
2. **Scoot:** Pass out one card for each student. Set a timer and say, “Scoot!” when the timer goes off. Students move seats to the next card. They continue to rotate until they are back at their original seats.
3. **Scavenger Hunt:** Hide cards around the room. Students search for cards and answer them.
4. **Jenga:** Number Jenga blocks. Students stack the blocks, then take turns pulling them. Students answer the corresponding number card.
5. **Whole-Class Practice:** Teacher displays card on the projector. Students answer on mini whiteboards.
6. **Exit Tickets:** Give each student a task card at the end of the lesson. Have them answer on a sticky note.

1 Compare & Contrast Nonfiction

Althea Gibson

Althea Gibson was born on August 25, 1927, in South Carolina. Her family moved to Harlem, New York when she was three. Gibson started playing paddle ball when she was ten. She was very good at this game. A tennis club sponsored her so she could learn to play tennis.

By the 1940s, Gibson began winning tennis tournaments organized by the American Tennis Association (ATA). This was the African American version of the United States Lawn Tennis Association (USLTA). She did so well in ATA tennis games that people took notice of her. The USLTA finally allowed Gibson to compete in their tournaments in 1950. She was the first African American to play at Wimbledon. She won that tournament in 1957 and 1958. She won more matches as her career went on.

Gibson retired from tennis in 1958. She played golf instead. Gibson also wrote an autobiography. It was titled *I Always Wanted to Be Somebody*. In 1971, she was made a part of the International Tennis Hall of Fame. She died in New Jersey in 2003. Althea Gibson paved the way for other African Americans to get involved in tennis.

Important Events in Althea Gibson's Life

Althea Gibson was a famous tennis player. Her skills allowed her to play in tennis championships and win.

Major Events

1927 - Born in Silver, South Carolina

1940 - Got involved in community paddle ball

1942 - Learned to play tennis; won tournaments sponsored by the African American tennis association

1949 - Went to A&M University in Florida on a tennis scholarship

1950 - Was finally allowed to play in the USLTA national tournament

1956 - Won the French Open in both singles and doubles

1957 & 1958 - Won the Wimbledon and U.S. National singles titles

1958 - Wrote her autobiography; retired from tennis; played golf

1971 - Elected to the International Tennis Hall of Fame

1973 - Served as a sports administrator for the state of New Jersey

2003 - Died in East Orange, New Jersey

What information do readers learn from both texts?

- Althea Gibson moved to Harlem when she was ten.
- Althea Gibson was a famous tennis player.
- Althea Gibson was a sports administrator.
- Althea Gibson won the French Open in 1956.

2 Compare & Contrast Nonfiction

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Answer Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____

Card #	Answer	Card #	Answer
1.		16.	
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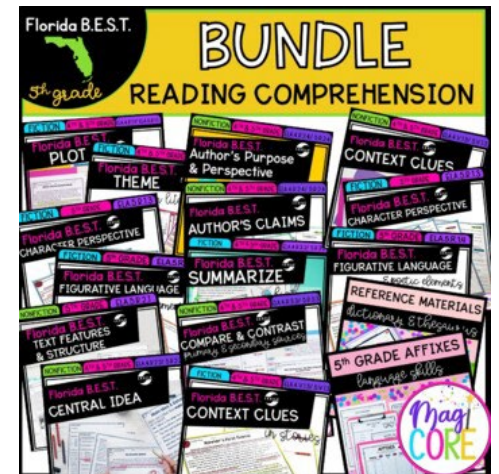


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