

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 Fiction

The Smartest King

King Nalihi wanted to be the smartest king in the land. He sent for the royal wizard, Kazeem. When the old man arrived, he kneeled before the king.

"How may I serve you, my lord?" he asked.

"You must make me the smartest king in the land," King Nalihi said. "That way I can outwit all my enemies. I will be the most powerful ruler."

Kazeem puffed out a long breath. "Your majesty, such a wish cannot be granted."

"Nonsense! Find a way at once!" King Nalihi waved Kazeem out of the throne room. "Your life depends on it."

Kazeem went back to his room on the lower level of the castle. How was he going to give the king what he wanted? He could conjure riches and success in battle, but knowledge had to be earned. Kazeem looked at all the books on his shelves, written by experts, and he got an idea. Quickly, he did a summoning spell and drew all the world's experts to the castle. He offered them riches aplenty if they would stay and advise the king. They all agreed, and the king was pleased. Kazeem was relieved to live another day.

The Busiest Store

Mr. Trommer wanted his comic book store to be the most successful in town. He called his employee, Beth, into his office.

"What can I do for you, Mr. Trommer?" she asked.

"I want customers to be lined up outside the door to get in here," he said.

"You need to make that happen or else I'll be forced to close the store."

Beth trudged out of his office. She knew about comic books and how to suggest them to the right readers. She didn't know anything about how to get crowds of people into the store. She went to the front desk and drummed her fingers on the display case, feeling hopeless. A copy of her favorite comic book, *Super Nova*, caught her eye in the case. *Super Nova* wouldn't give up. She always found a way to succeed. When Beth looked around the store, an idea hit her.

She called all her friends and asked them to dress up as superheroes and walk through the neighborhood. She told them to hand out flyers advertising the comic book store. Soon, people streamed in, and the store was abuzz with buying customers. Mr. Trommer was delighted, and Beth felt a little like a superhero herself.

How are King Nalihi and Mr. Trommer similar?

- They both are disappointed to not get what they want.
- They both live in the same area.
- They both demand something from people who work for them.
- They both are willing to work to be the best.

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How are Kazeem and Beth similar?

- They both like reading comic books.
- They both figure out a way to do what was asked of them.
- They both use magic to solve their problems.
- They both live in the same time period.

Answer Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____

Card #	Answer	Card #	Answer
1.		16.	
2.		17.	
3.		18.	
4.		19.	
5.		20.	
6.		21.	
7.		22.	
8.		23.	
9.		24.	
10.		25.	
11.		26.	
12.		27.	
13.		28.	
14.		29.	
15.		30.	

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6.		21.	
7.		22.	
8.		23.	
9.		24.	
10.		25.	
11.		26.	
12.		27.	
13.		28.	
14.		29.	
15.		30.	

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Good to Go



Not O.K.

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