

# **Eleventh and Twelfth Grade Anchor Paper Plan**

**Type:** Compare/Contrast

**Topic:** Compare and contrast yourself to one of your parents, guardians, siblings, friends, teachers, or mentors.

**Procedure:** Prewriting (minimum of 10 minutes)

Draft (minimum of 5 paragraphs with 4-5 sentences per paragraph)

Proofread (minimum of 2 editors)

Final Copy (typed and double-spaced)

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## Writing Sample - Grade 11-12

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### My Boyfriend And I

Do you ever wonder how much the same or different you and your boyfriend/girlfriend are? Well, this is just a summary on the major things that make my boyfriend and I similar and different. Compare yourself to see how much in common you two really have with each other. My boyfriend's name is Mike. We have been dating for two months.

I began living with both my mother and father. When I turned five years old, my mother left without even calling or writing. My grandma had to help raise me while my father was working. Mike grew up with both parents also. Then his parents separated from each other permanently. He lives with his father but, his mother basically supports them. She lives about four houses down the street.

Mike and I both like the same foods and styles. We both like pasta, the color blue, video games, cartoons and sleep. He has two jobs. He cuts other peoples lawns with his father and another in which he is a bus boy at Elias Brothers. I will have a job in the summer working full time at Heritage Hospital.

Our interests are completely different from each other. He smokes and drinks all the time and I prefer not to. He parties with his friends every night and I don't. He watches football and Japanese anima. I watch soap operas. He is more active in sports than I. He wants to be an engineer and I

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want to be a pharmacist.

Mike and I have many differences and interests but we have many other similarities that bring us together. He has a sweet side to him that no one knows about. No one would think we would go together, but never listen to what other people tell you. I have learned that throughout this relationship. We have both made it this far and are hoping to be together for the rest of our lives.

## Writing Sample - Grade 11-12

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(1)

If you had to compare yourself to one person who would it be? Parent, mentor, friend, teacher, girlfriend, boyfriend? Could you compare and contrast all the differences between you and this wonderful person? After thinking about it, who would it be? Is it a person you love, admire, or someone you just met? The person I chose is...read my essay and soon you will find out.

The person I am comparing myself to is a very wonderful person. I know if all else fails, and I needed some advice or help, this is the person without a doubt whom I would turn to. Yes, we do indeed have our good and bad times. But as I am typing this, we are at our greatest point to date. I have a lot of friends that do not have this certain person in their lives and this may steer them to do wrong.

He and I have some great similarities and differences. Though our similarities dominate over our differences, they still are at certain times holding us back from the magnificent goal we so often strive for...friendship. We love the same movies, food, working on cars together (considering the recent accident I had, this comes in handy) and I know this he would agree with me on all of this.

At certain times this person would love to spend more time with me, as well as I would him. But at certain times my friends seem to consume more of my time than both of us wish. Monday and Friday he is off work, and on those two days we usually spend our days together. I always ignore all my other friends on these two days and try to just cherish each moment that passes.

I know that this person is not going to be around forever, so I feel that I must cherish the days we can and do have together as if they were both our last. I owe my life to this person, now and in the afterlife. I thank him for new clothes, shoes, and CD's, the

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roof over my head, and for my bed. I also thank him for the look of love just when I need it, and for when times were bad and you never left me grieving. As a person I thank my father with all my heart for making me the man I am today.

Thank you dad.

## Writing Sample - Grade 11-12

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How do you compare and contrast a brother and sister? Even though my sister and I are in the same family, you would never know. We don't look alike and we don't act alike. Our styles are very different. And so is our social life. Her name is Melanie.

First of all, the differences between my sister and I are our looks. My sister has auburn hair and brown eyes. She is about 5'2" and 120 lbs. I am very different than her concerning physical features. I have brown hair and greenish hazel eyes. I am 5'10" and 170 lbs. I am much bigger and look nothing like her. The style of clothes she wears is totally different too. Melanie is into those huge pants where you can't even see your shoes! Her shirts are of alternative and punk bands. The shoes she wears are Vans or something similar to them. The clothes I wear are Polo or Tommy Hilfiger. My shoes are usually K-Swiss or Tommy Hilfiger.

The music we listen to is also very different. She listens to alternative and punk rock. I listen to R&B and Rap. Our life styles are different too. On the weekends she will have about five people come over. Then they will leave and drive around or go to my house and sit and watch TV. On the weekends I have about 30 people come over. Then we leave and find a party to go to or something similar. Our driving styles are also different. Melanie has only had her license for about two months and has already been involved in two accidents. I get tickets all the time, but I take the police officer to court and I always get the ticket reduced or thrown out.

My sister and I don't have too many similarities but we have a couple of them. The main thing we have in common is that we both spend a lot of money. Melanie and I each spend about a thousand dollars a month. We are always buying new things. The money is spent on clothes or food. I spend a lot of it on my truck. Even though we both

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always have money, we both have jobs. She works at K-mart and I work at a landscaping company.

These are the ways that Melanie and I are the similar and different. As I have said, Melanie and I don't look anything alike. Our size, personalities and lifestyles are totally different.

Carl Chamberlin

## Writing Sample - Grade 11-12

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How can I compare myself to my mom? She is a woman whom I love so much; a woman who has spent her life raising and watching over me. And woman who I have unlimited admiration for.

My mom and I have some similarities along with some differences. Some physical characteristics that my mom and I share are that we both are female and have naturally curly hair. A difference is that she has brown hair and I have red hair. We have chubby cheeks, freckles and are about the same height. Some differences are that my mom has brown eyes and I have blue. She is tan and I have pale skin.

We also share some likes and habits. We both bite our nails and love pets. My mom currently works as a registered nurse. I am attending a "health careers" charter school and plan to enroll in nursing school in the fall of 2001. We both are caring and love music.

My mom and I have bad tempers but show them differently. My mom holds her feelings inside until one day she explodes. On the other hand, I let it all out by throwing things and screaming. I am very sensitive, but my mom is strong both physically and emotionally.

The characteristics I described above are the reasons I admire my mom so much. I love that we share so many characteristics along with some differences. With that, we can learn from each other.



## Writing Sample - Grade 11-12

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Have you ever thought about putting aside all the fighting you do with your siblings, and thought about how much you have in common with them? Well, I have. And to my surprise, we have more in common than I thought. Throughout this essay, I will be discussing the similarities and differences between my sister and me. After reading my paper, do my sister and I have more similarities or differences?

Physically we have nothing in common. In fact, we've been told numerous times that we look nothing alike. And that's just where the differences start, besides the fact that we're the opposite sex. We have different fathers who are from different races. We have different beliefs concerning relationship ethics. Above all, whom we trust draws the line at our differences. She would trust her friends before anyone else she knows. To me that's wrong to put trust in someone bonded to you only by a meager word, friendship. For me trusting someone means taking a big step in the relationship, whether it is a friendship or more serious. Well, now you know the extent of our differences. Now sum them up and decide. Are these differences common to the ones you have with your siblings?

Now we're on the side that few think to even acknowledge when comparing yourself to a sibling. The obvious yet most meaningful thing that we have in common is... Well, if you had been paying attention and putting the facts together, you would know that our mother is the core of our being. We both love her more life itself. We go out of our way to please her, and her appreciation means more than gold. Now I know that I've drifted off a little

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bit on my mother. I'm sure that if my sister were to be writing this essay she would have done the same. That just goes to show you how much we think alike. Read ahead and you'll see that we have a lot in common.

I guess that I should start on some other similarities that my sister and I have. Lets begin with something that most siblings have in common: music. We both listen to all kinds of music, but hip hop is where our heart is. Also we're both too nice. We give people much more than they deserve. But the tricky thing about us is that we seem to thrive off anger. We have fuses shorter than Joe Pesci in the Lethal Weapon series! Well, heart and soul our similarities run in our personalities, and our differences run in our beliefs. So which do you think prevails in the end: personalities or beliefs?

Now that the facts have been laid out in front of you, you're in the biggest trial of my life. Which do you chose: similar or different? You only get one choice. Make a wise one. Even though I'll never get to know which one you chose, it would be nice to know that you agree with me. Well, even though the differences are strong, I think the similarities overpower them. Now, how about trying to write a paper full of positive things to say about your sibling. Give it to them, and watch their smile grow.

Oh, and by the way, her name is Jessica . She' s my sister and I love her.

## Writing Sample - Grade 11-12

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Even though I've only known my boyfriend Jimmy for 18 months, there are clear-cut similarities and differences between us. These characteristics have brought us much closer than I ever expected. Some of these differences have caused some disagreements between us, but some have made us stronger. Overall, we have just as many differences as we do similarities.

I was adopted at the age of 3 and I've never really known my natural mother. All the unanswered questions and thoughts I deal with on a daily basis Jimmy also has to deal with. Jimmy grew up with his mom and sister in Philadelphia until the age of 10 when his mom gave him up to his father to live here in Michigan. He hasn't seen or heard from her since. That's one of our similarities that has definitely brought us closer and made us stronger. Just the fact that we can talk to each other about this and understand what the other one is feeling says and means a lot. Our home life however is much different. I have a much stricter environment, whereas he has no one to tell him what to do and when to do it.

Jimmy and I have somewhat the same beliefs and the same opinions on things anywhere from religion to ice cream flavors. We do have different opinions when it comes to what to do with our free time however. When it comes to getting a little free time, Jimmy's and my first choice would be to be with each other. But when that's not an option, it's our second choices that really differentiate us. While I would rather shop and talk on the phone or chill with my friends, Jimmy would rather work on his friend's cars, drive around with his friends, work on getting free cable, or making a tattoo gun.

Mentally and physically, Jimmy and I are quite different. I'm Mexican so I have dark hair, dark eyes and a darker skin tone. He's Polish, Scottish and German, has brown hair, baby blue eyes and a lighter skin tone. I'm on the shorter side. I'm only 5'2'. He's approximately 6'2'. Our style of dress is also somewhat different. He's lives in Detroit and formally lived in Philadelphia so he has more of an urban, inter-city look about him. I don't really have a style. I guess I'm just me. I'm a cross between trendy and me.

Another thing that holds many similarities and differences between us is our personality and attitude towards things. Jimmy's got a very bad temper and tends to have a more pessimistic attitude. I sometimes anger quickly, and have more of an optimistic attitude. On the other hand, we're both very defensive when it comes to family or what other people have to say about our relationship. We're both very stubborn and hardheaded, especially when it comes to something we both want. When we set our mind to something we usually get it or make it happen with or without the help of another.

One of the biggest things Jimmy and I have in common is our plans for the future and our goals. We both want to get married some day and we both want a family in the future whenever the time is right. We also both are working towards well paying jobs and both well on our way to achieving this goal. The only difference we have when it comes to this part of our lives is our choice of career paths. I want to work with people. He wants to work on buildings. Maybe someday he'll build a hospital and I'll help the people in it.

If you really think about it, everyone has similarities and differences. And if you really think about it, it's everyone's *differences* that really count. Because if everyone was alike then what kind of relationship would that be? There would be nothing to learn about the other one, so how would you really get to know someone? Well, you wouldn't have to, and what fun would that be? My boyfriend and I learn new things about each other everyday, and that's what makes everyday so special, full of similarities and differences.

## Writing Sample - Grade 11-12

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May 24, 2000  
English 11D

### Into the Looking Glass

My best friend Gary and I are like mirror reflections...and east and west, all at the same time! In spite of our differences and disagreements, however, I don't see any near end to our friendship.

We often have been noted on our several similarities. For example, we're both black, and share the same socio-economic status (probably 'cause we're both black!). Both of us live in single parent homes and we both love to express ourselves through writing. Even so, Gary writes more rap than poetry and I vice-versa. We also share a similar sense of humor and logic. Well, that doesn't mean we both give the same advice! Gary and I share the same Elementary/ Junior high education. I met Gary during the second grade at Academy; we've both gone to school together since then, until the ninth grade. In spite of the separation, we are still tight.

Nonetheless, even the tightest friends have their flaws, er...differences! For one, I seem to be more open-minded than Gary, whose entire world is the city of Detroit (his words, not mine). I assume this in turn causes me to have more patience than him. Of course, the fact that we are different people means we have different lives, even though we seem to experience stuff at *exactly* the same time. These different..."experiences," have caused us to treat our friends, females, and ourselves very differently. We both have loud moms, but mine is the loudest by far! Our body types are dramatically different, Gary being tall and slim and I being short and stout. Even more, we seem to have opposing birthdays. His is in mid summer (July 22) and mine, mid-winter (December 26).

Our likenesses hold us together, but the differences make that hold stronger. After comparing my best friend to myself, I see that our differences aren't so great after all. Most of all, I know that I'm gonna be there for this dude, imperfections and all. I love ya, bro.

## Writing Sample - Grade 11-12

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When I think of the person that I hang with the most I start to realize that were so completely different in most ways, but there are a few ways that we are very similar. I suppose that that's why we compliment each other so well. That also probably why we are so good with each other's problems. The fact that we give a unique perspective to each other's problems. This would have to be one of my best friends to date, and we never really argue and almost always see eye-to-eye.

I remember when we first met in gym class in the beginning of the ninth grade school year at King. We both had gym fourth period. Coach Whinfield's class was suppose to be the most boring, but I never minded very much. We were all instructed to line up at the out-of-bounds line of the basketball court as he read off our names to make sure we were all in the right classroom. He got to my name, "KleVer, Mr. Kenif KleVer". It was a good laugh. We all enjoyed it, and then we got to the cat with just as funny a name. "Tart, Mr. Andre` Tart". We had another good laugh over that one. Over time, the Coach gave everyone an adopted version of there name, but very few actually stuck with anyone like Tart, and Cleave.

It's not very hard to see the differences in the two of us, so I'll start with those. He's 6'4", about 360lbs and very strong. I, on the other hand, am 6" and 140lbs and quite skinny. His entire life revolves around football, women, and Sony Playstation, while I'm more the track, computer and paintball kind of fellow. He like's sittin' round all day talkin' to different women on the phone and I don't like the phone at all. I enjoy sittin on the computer all day, and he's still tryin' to figure out how to turn mine on and off. Yes, the differences are very obvious and quite numerous. This is how things stay interesting.

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We really do have a few things in common, if you look at things from the right perspective. For instance, we both enjoy shopping, although for much different things, and once I turn the computer on for him we usually spend hours on it playin' games. On a wider perspective we both love to watch sports on TV, although different ones. Actually, that's about all I can think of, but whenever either of us has a problem, the other one usually knows exactly what to do just because our differences give us two different completely insights on any problem that may arise.

There are obviously many more differences than there are similarities, and most would think that we wouldn't be able to stand each other's company. It even surprises me, but we've been friends for years and have had no problems. I suspect that because of the way we contrast each other, we won't have any arguments in the future.