

# Comparison/Contrast Essay

*A major portion of literary analysis requires the critic to compare and contrast common elements within genres.*

- Compare the chambermaid from “The Goose Girl” and the unnamed narrator from “The Tell-Tale Heart.” Despite the different roles in their stories, how are their characterizations similar?
- *Or* compare the American in “Hills Like White Elephants” with the Young Doctor in “Godfather Death.” How are their reactions similar?

PART 1 DUE: 10/04      (*abstract: printed copy only*)

PART 2 DUE: 10/11      (*full paper: digital copy only*)

This project is divided into two stages. Part one consists of detailing a brief, preliminary plan in academic terms which will propose your initial ideas and will show a strong, working thesis. (Construct a working abstract of your ideas.)

## OBJECTIVES PART ONE

1. Isolate a tentative thesis regarding your choice of the two supplied stories.
  - *For example:*

Ironically in two Grimm Brothers’ stories both the Chambermaid, an antagonist in the “The Goose Girl,” and the Young Doctor, a traditional protagonist from “Godfather Death,” have similar aggressive characteristics.
  - This shows the instructor you have a plan of attack; likewise this does not represent the final version of a thesis, but does open up possible discussion and necessary revisions.
2. In roughly 200 words propose a probable abstract.
3. Print out using standard APA guidelines.

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PART 2 DUE: Friday 10/11 in Angel, before class

## OBJECTIVES PART TWO

1. Isolate a strong thesis statement regarding the two stories.
2. Remember you want to feature your topic throughout the essay.  
Each paragraph must defend your main focus. Be sure to support the thesis with detailed evidence from each story.
3. When writing the first draft, be sure subsequent paragraphs include topic sentences relating to your thesis.
4. Create an interesting, intricate introduction which clearly shows the focus of your essay and leads the reader into subsequent paragraphs.
5. Be sure each new paragraph includes a strong transitional phrase.
6. Use five or more sentences per paragraph.
7. Use the correct APA essay format outlined in *A Writer's Reference*.
8. Provide **Reference** page.
9. **Essay Length: 2 (or more) full pages, plus cover sheet, abstract, and Reference pages.**
10. Keep in mind, you do want to avoid cliched writing:  
I already know there are “many differences and many similarities” between the two characters.
11. *Be sure to proof your work.*

# assignment 01-part 2