**Compare and Contrast Essay- Assignment**

In English writing and analysis, compare and contrast involves taking two pieces of media and finding similarities and differences between them. Usually, the comparasion surrounds a theme (for example, culture, loss, genocide, revenge, hatred, etc.) By putting the two pieces together and looking for similarities and differences, we whould be able to get new insights.

**Criteria:**

* 1000-1500 words (4-5 paragraphs)
* 1.5 spaced, 12 font
* Formal essay (no “I” “you” or contractions)
* Present tense

**Due on Friday, Dec. 21st**

Here are the steps to creating your own compare and contrast essay:

1. **Start with a question and two sources. ONE source should be found on your own. The other should be *To Kill A Mockingbird***
   1. What effect can racism have on a community?
   2. How do encounters with injustice shape our beliefs about justice and morality?
   3. How do relationships allow us to develop?
   4. What factors influence our moral growth?
   5. How can a community fight racism?
   6. What makes people rebel against the predominate beliefs of their community?
   7. What effect do stereotypes (such as gender, class, race) have on one’s actions?
   8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the better source for answering the question \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   9. Your choice. Check with me first.

*Remember- a synthesis essay must have similarities and differences AND a “SO WHAT”. What is the point of this synthesis? What can we learn?? So choose your second source wisely.*

1. **Brainstorm**: Use a Venn Diagram OR a Chart to find the similarities and differences. You can compare and contrast the following:
   1. Answer to the question
   2. Message/theme
   3. Characters
   4. audience
   5. Other
2. **Thesis: Answer the question with your pieces of literature.** The answer to your inquiry quesition is your argument.**.**
   1. **Eg.** “According to “The Watch”, by Elie Wiesel, the way to forgive and forget someone after an injustice is…. Whereas in “I Lost My Talk” the author illustrates…… Both show how important it i
3. **Collect evidence** from the text that support your argument and use quotes. Use the graphic organizer given to you.
4. **Check the rubric. Are you aware of the criteria? The expectations?**
5. **Write the essay:**

* ***1.5 spaced, 12 font***
* ***750-1200 words MAX (trim the “deadwood” if too much)***
* ***No “you” or “I”***
* ***Present tense***
* ***Format your quotes properly (I will show you)***
* ***I will be looking at grammar used in class***
* You will have three days of lessons and to fill in an outline. The outline can be done for homework as well as in-class.
* You must have your outline checked before you can begin your essay.
* We will spend THREE days in class writing. IT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN HOME. It is an “in-class essay”

1. **Revise** for mechanics and grammar. Highlight the thesis and transition words.
2. Print out or email to Mrs. Thomasen