**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, identity, etc.) By putting the two pieces together and looking for similarities and differences, we whould be able to **get new insights**.

**Criteria:**

* 4-5 paragraphs (max 3 pages)
* double spaced, 12 font, times new roman
* Formal essay (no “I” “you” or contractions)
* Present tensewhen analyzing literature

**Due on Thursday, February 27th at the beginning of class: printed.**

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

1. **Start with the question and two sources.**

How does an author express their identity through poetry?

*Sources:*

* *Juicy*
* *Yet Do I Marvel*
* *The Negro Speaks of Rivers*
* *Another Harlem Renaissance poem*
1. **Brainstorm**: Create a mind map of all the ways the poems used poetic terms and devies to reflect their identity.
2. **Brainstorm**: Use a Venn Diagram OR a Chart to find the similarities and differences of TWO sources only based on the criteria above.
3. **Thesis: Answer the question with your pieces of literature.** The answer to your quesition is your argument and will be the anchor of your paper.
4. **Collect evidence** from the text that support your argument and use quotes. Use the graphic organizer given to you.
5. **Check the rubric. Are you aware of the criteria? The expectations?**
6. **Write the essay:**
* ***MLA formatting***
* ***4-5 pages (trim the “deadwood” if too much)***
* ***No “you” or “I”***
* ***Present tense***
* ***I will be looking at your use of all grammar we have learned in class (comma splices, active vs passive writing, commas)***
* You will have one-two days 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**