

HIGH-YIELD INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES

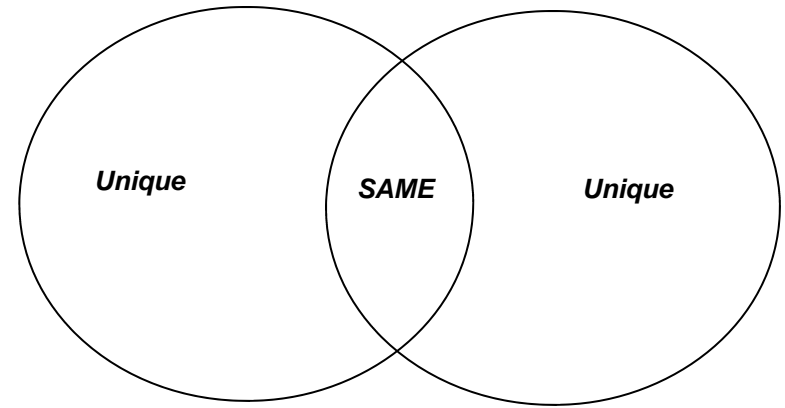
Identifying similarities and differences is a common instructional activity that appears to pay dividends in terms of knowledge development. Apparently the process is basic to human thought.

There are four basic types of tasks that focus on identifying similarities and differences:

- Comparing
- Classifying
- Creating Metaphors
and Creating Analogies.

from
The Art and Science of Teaching
Robert J. Marzano

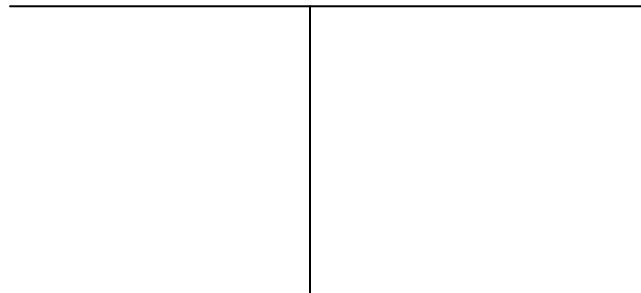
Venn Diagram



Identifying similarities and differences

T-Chart

Looks like.....Sounds like
Cause.....Effect
Compare.....Contrast
Pro.....Con



Identifying similarities and differences

Cause and Effect Links

A cause is something that makes something else happen. Out of two events, it is **the event that happens first**. To determine the cause, ask the question "**Why** did it happen?"

An effect is what happens **as a result of** the cause. Of two related events, it's the one that happens second or last. To determine the effect, ask the question "**What** happened?"

At times conjunctions (connecting words) are used to link the cause and effect. **Examples of common conjunctions (connecting words) are:**

- | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| since | as a result | because | the cause of |
| therefore | consequently | due to the fact | nevertheless |
| the reason for | thus | so | has led to |
| | due to + noun
phrase | because of +
noun phrase | |

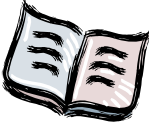


Identifying similarities and differences

Compare and Contrast Text/Character Comparison

The life events of _____	Me, too	Explanation

Identifying similarities and differences

QAR-Question/Answer Relationship

“Right there” (in the text)	“Think and Search” (text + my thinking)	“In my head” (my thinking only)
		

Students answer teacher-prepared questions from text and determine the category of each question. Partners/class discuss categories.

Identifying similarities and differences

Sketch to Stretch

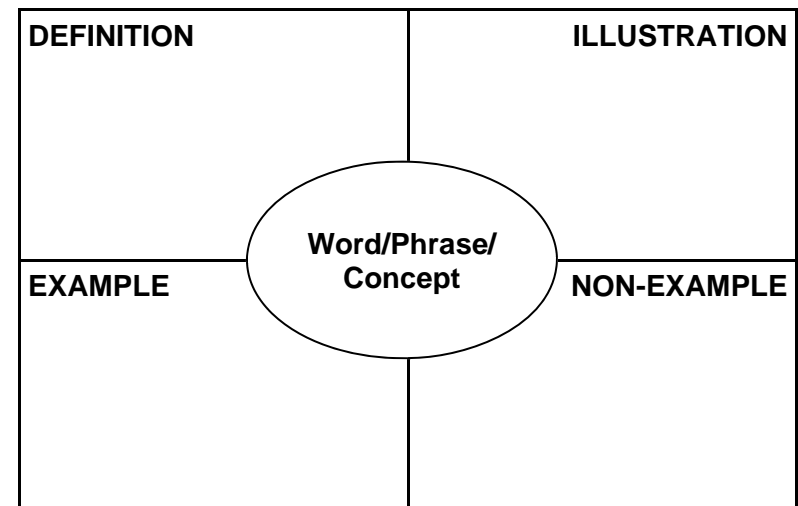
1. Students listen as a story, article or poem is read to them.
2. Students draw a picture that expresses:
 - how the story, article or poem makes them feel
 - what they think story, article or poem story means
 - what they think the author looks like
 - anything that comes to mind during the reading
3. Students explain their drawing to a partner/small group



The class discusses the similarities/differences in their pictures.

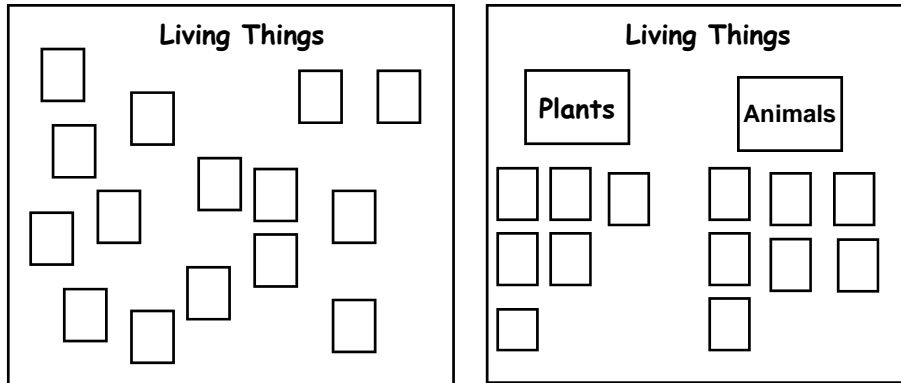
Identifying similarities and differences

Frayer Model



Identifying similarities and differences

Affinity Diagram



The teacher posts a question on chart paper.
Students record responses to each of the questions on single Post-it® notes.
When all responses have been collected,
students sort them into like categories and discuss.

Identifying similarities and differences

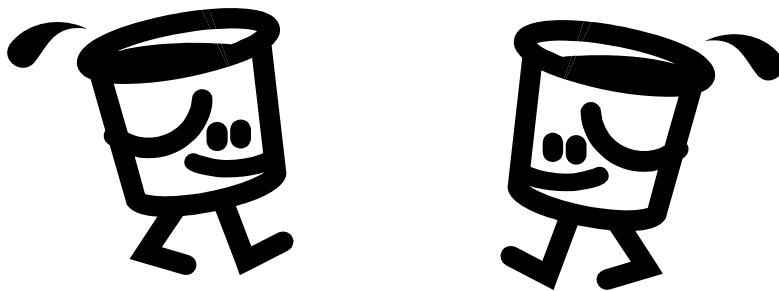
Comparison Matrix

	Name 1	Name 2
Attribute 1		
Attribute 2		
Attribute 3		

Used to show similarities and differences between two things (people, places, events, ideas, etc.).
Key frame questions: What things are being compared?
How are they similar? How are they different?

Identifying similarities and differences

Classifying



___ate family

___at family

Sort the word cards (or pictures)
into the correct bucket.

Identifying similarities and differences

Comparing Frame

FRACTIONS and **DECIMALS** are similar because they both

FRACTIONS and **DECIMALS** are different because

fractions _____, but decimals _____.
fractions _____, but decimals _____.
fractions _____, but decimals _____.

Identifying similarities and differences

Classifying Organizer

Categories

Items				

Identifying similarities and differences

Comparison Matrix

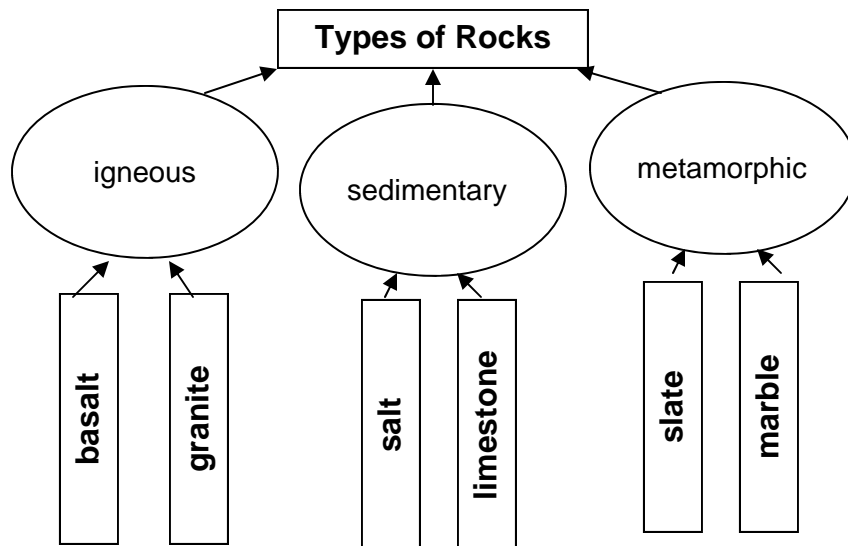
	Item 1	Item 2	Item 3	
Characteristic 1				Similarity Difference
Characteristic 2				Similarity Difference
Characteristic 3				Similarity Difference
Characteristic 4				Similarity Difference

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Identifying similarities and differences

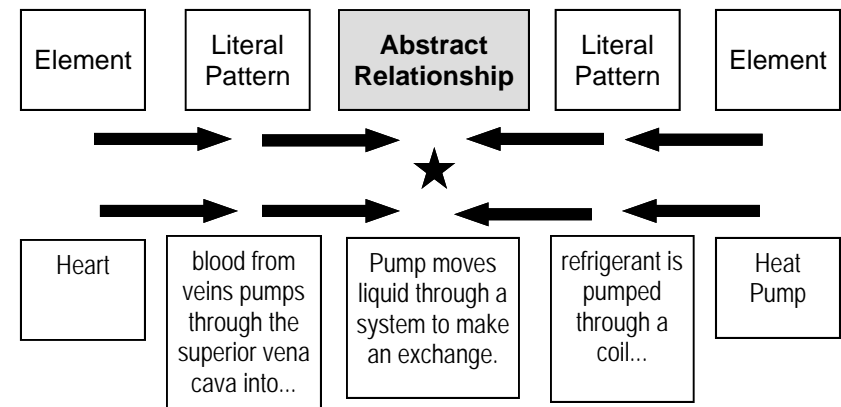
Classifying Organizer



Identifying similarities and differences

Metaphors

The two items in a metaphor are connected by an abstract or non-literal relationship.



Identifying similarities and differences

Creating Analogies

Analogies help us see how seemingly dissimilar things are similar, increasing our understanding of new information.

Example: core is to earth as nucleus is to atom.

thermometer *...is to...* temperature

as Both measure things

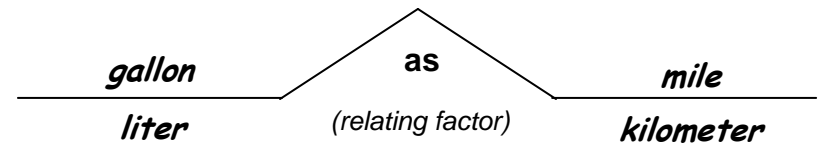
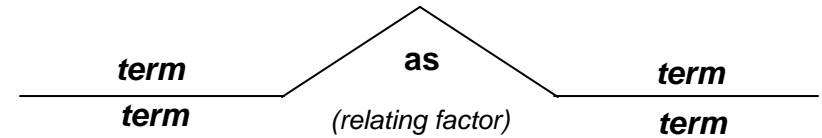
odometer *...is to...* speed

Marzano: Identifying similarities and differences

Creating Analogies

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Marzano: Identifying similarities and differences

Using Metaphors

A metaphor is a figurative comparison between two rather unlikely things, resulting in an image in the mind's eye.

This mental image aids the reader in understanding the comparison.

Item	Relationship (another way to say it)	Item

Marzano: Identifying similarities and differences

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Literal Pattern (Information Superhighway)	Abstract Relationship (Internet)

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