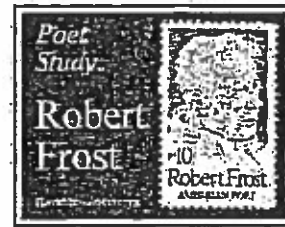


Name: \_\_\_\_\_ per: \_\_\_\_\_



## COMPARE / CONTRAST ESSAY - assignment requirements

For this assignment you will be examining how 2 Robert Frost poems are similar and different:

**“Nothing Gold Can Stay” &  
“The Road Not Taken”**

- Complete the prewrite - the Venn Diagram and the element chart.
- Your essay should be 4 paragraphs
  - 1) intro,
  - 2) how the poems are similar,
  - 3) how the poems are different,
  - 4) conclusion
- Your essay should include:
  - a thesis statement in your 1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> paragraphs.
  - transitions (at least 2 total) in your 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraphs
  - at least 3 poetic elements
  - theme.
  - Evidence / direct quotes
  - Compare & contrast clue words
- You need to submit :
  - Prewrite - graphic organizers
  - Rough (2x spaced)/ sloppy copy, with at least 3 corrections editing
  - Revision / clean copy
  - Rubric on top.

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**Compare / contrast clue words:**

**Similarities**

Is similar to  
both  
also  
too  
as well

**Differences**

the other hand  
however  
but  
in contrast  
differs from  
while  
unlike

**Due Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Compare - Contrast Essay Rubric

\_\_\_/3 - Introduction

- 1-2 sentence summary of the essay topic
- Author(s) and title(s)
- Ends with a clear thesis (a claim which answers the prompt).

\_\_\_/4 - Body Paragraph 1 - comparing similarities

- Begins with an effective topic sentence.
- Provides context to introduce the quote.
- Cites appropriate quote as evidence.
- Clearly explains how the quote demonstrates the idea in the paragraph and how the paragraph supports the overall claim.
- Use of transitions.

\_\_\_/4 - Body Paragraph 2 - contrasting differences

- Begins with an effective topic sentence.
- Provides context to introduce the quote.
- Cites appropriate quote as evidence.
- Clearly explains how the quote demonstrates the idea in the paragraph and how the paragraph supports the overall claim
- Use of transitions.

\_\_\_/3 - Conclusion

- Restates the thesis
  - Brings the essay to a satisfying close by clearly summarizing how all sections work together to demonstrate the overall topic.
  - Comes to a satisfying close with a clincher.
- 

\_\_\_/2 Unity and Cohesion

- Clear, logical flow
- Effective use of transitions
- Compare & contrast clue words
- Thesis clearly addresses the prompt / body paragraphs clearly support the thesis

\_\_\_/2 Mechanics

- Correct spelling and grammar
- Quotes correctly cited. "The quote goes inside the quotation marks."
- Strong sentence structure, syntax, and diction

\_\_\_/2 All parts included:

- Graphic organizers prewrite - chart / Venn diagram
- Rough "sloppy copy"- double spaced, marked with corrections / editing
- Revision / clean copy
- rubric

**Total:** \_\_\_ / 20 (- 5 if late)

# *The Road Not Taken*

**Robert Frost, 1874 - 1963**

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.

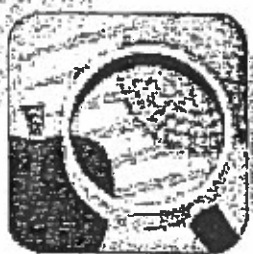
I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I--  
I took the one less traveled by,

And that has made all the difference.

# *Nothing Gold Can Stay*

**Robert Frost, 1874 - 1963**

Nature's first green is gold,  
Her hardest hue to hold.  
Her early leaf's a flower;  
But only so an hour.  
Then leaf subsides to leaf.  
So Eden sank to grief,  
So dawn goes down to day.  
Nothing gold can stay.



# Compare and Contrast Sample Paper

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

The title lets the reader know what two things the essay will be comparing and contrasting.

The writer explains what two things he or she will be comparing and contrasting.

The writer explains how the two things are similar.

## Middle School: The Differences and Similarities

What is it like to transition from elementary to middle school? That is a question many kids ask each year. Having experienced both, I can tell you that there are plenty of similarities as well as some very big differences between the two types of schools.

Elementary schools and middle schools have many traits in common. Typically, both are open five days a week for a set number of hours each day. Students sit at desks in classrooms and are expected to listen to and learn from their teachers. There is a set time for lunch. Each day, students are given homework assignments. Students take quizzes and tests. In all of these ways, middle school should feel somewhat familiar to new students.

However, there are some big changes that new middle school students should be aware of. In elementary school, students usually stay in the same classroom with one teacher for most of the day. That is not the case in middle school, where students typically have a different teacher for each subject. Students must move to a different classroom for each subject too. Since there is not one classroom in which to store supplies, middle schools often provide students with lockers. For many kids, getting a locker is a welcome rite of passage.

In the conclusion, the writer shows why it is useful to know how the two things are different and alike.

Making the move from elementary school to middle school may seem scary, but knowing what to expect can really help. Elementary school provides kids with the experiences they need to be ready for middle school. Even though moving on means adjusting to a new environment, some things, including many of the classmates who accompany you, will remain the same.

• The first sentence grabs the reader's attention with a question.

• The topic sentence lets the reader know that this paragraph is about what the two things have in common.

• The writer explains how the two things are different.

• The writer also adds new, related information.

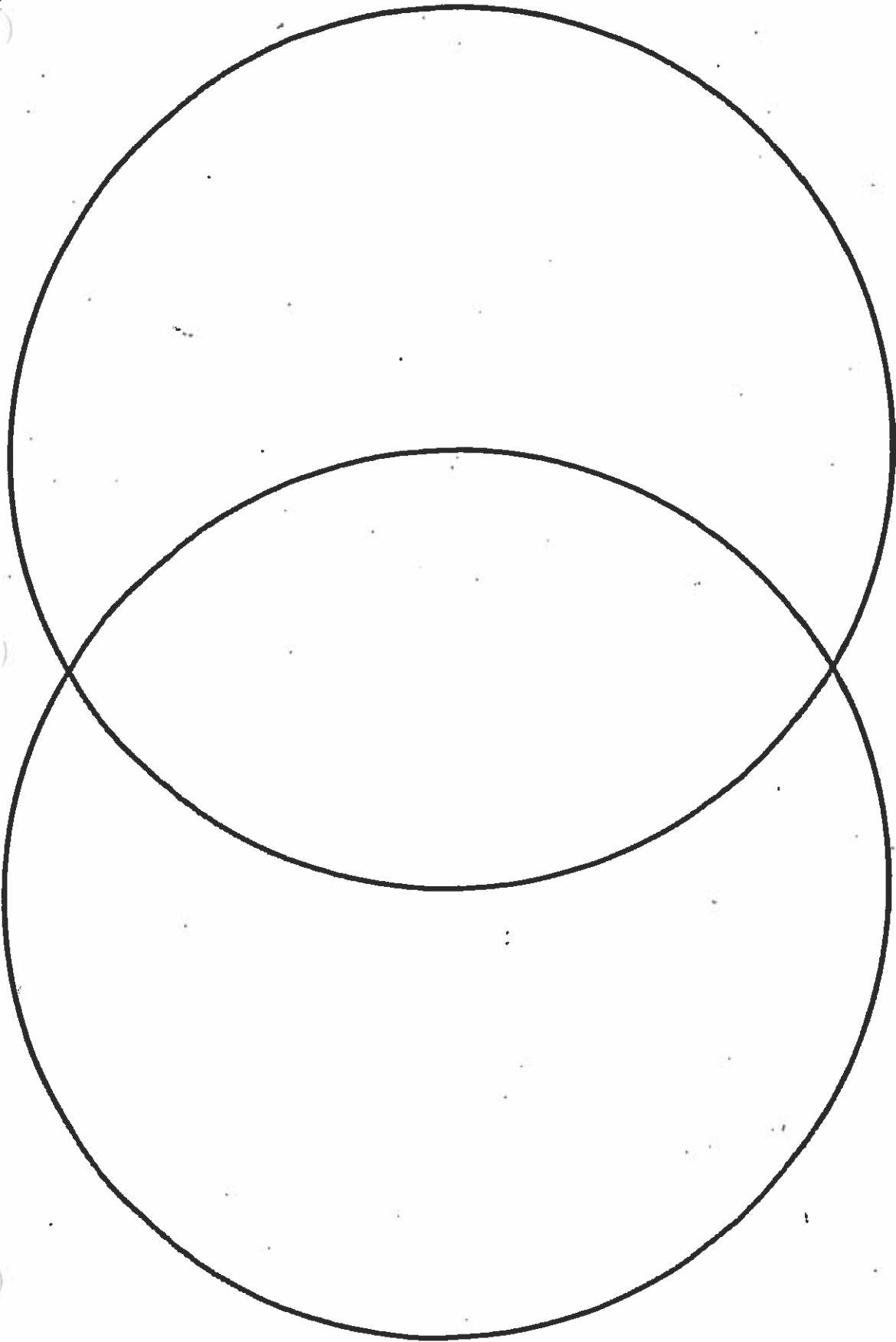


Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

"Nothing Gold Can Stay"

"The Road Not Taken"



Name \_\_\_\_\_ **PREWRITE** period \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS:** When filling out this prewrite make sure to use excerpts from each of the texts so that you can reference them for your essay. Cite the example of the poetic element and explain what Frost means and why he is using that element. You will use this graphic organizer to aid in your writing.

	<b>“Nothing Gold Can Stay”</b>	<b>“The Road Not Taken”</b>
<b>figurative language / poetic elements</b>  *    *    *		
<b>theme</b>          <b>symbol:</b>		