

**Objectives:**

- The students will be able to construct a Venn diagram.
- The students will be able to write a contrast paragraph.
- The students will be able to define the term contrast.

**PA Academic Standards:**

Academic Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking, & Listening –

1.4.3.B. Write informational pieces (e.g., descriptions, letters, reports, instructions) using illustrations when relevant.

1.5.3.B. Write using well-developed content appropriate for the topic.

1.5.3.C. Write with controlled and/or subtle organization: 1. Sustain a logical order. 2. Include a recognizable beginning, middle and end.

1.5.3.F. Edit writing using the conventions of language.

**Materials:** *Even Steven and Odd Todd* by Kathryn Cristaldi, paper, overhead projector

**Cross-curricular Integration:** math

**Vocabulary:** contrast

**Instructional Procedures:**

Anticipatory Set:

- Introduce the book *Even Steven and Odd Todd* (Cristaldi, 1996).
- Tell students that today we are going to be contrasting the two characters in the book. We will be looking for ways that the characters are different.
- Read the book.

Developmental Activities:

- After reading the book, ask the students to list some of the differences between Even Steven and Odd Todd.
- Create a Venn diagram on the board with this information.
- Tell the students that we are going to use the details they listed to write a paragraph that contrasts the two characters. We will include three details in the paragraph, along with a topic and closing sentence.
- Remind students that we need to use contrasting words, but, while, however, and prefers when writing the paragraph.
- Begin to write the paragraph on the overhead projector by asking the students for a possible topic sentence. Write their response on the board.
- Continue by asking a volunteer to make a sentence with one of the contrast details from the Venn diagram.

- Do the same for the second and third contrast detail and lastly ask a student for a closing sentence.
- Ask a student to read the paragraph. Check to see if three contrast details were included with contrasting words, is there a topic sentence, and a closing sentence.
- Tell the students that they are going to create their own Venn diagram and paragraph similar to this one.
- The students will brainstorm topics they are knowledgeable about and can contrast. Examples are sports, games, people, pets, books, etc... Choose the topic they like best.
- They will create a Venn diagram.
- They will write a paragraph with three contrasting details, a topic sentence, and a closing sentence.
- Explain to the students that I will be evaluating their paragraphs with a rubric. Explain the content of the rubric to the students.
- Allow the students to begin working.
- Walk around the room, providing individual help for students.

Closure:

- After the students have finished writing their paragraphs, collect them and the Venn diagrams.
- Review what we did in the lesson today; we looked at two characters from a book and contrasted them.
- We used these details to construct a Venn diagram and write a paragraph. Then the students brainstormed their own topics, created their own Venn diagram, and wrote a paragraph from that.
- Review the term contrast.

**Assessment:**

- Observe the students while they are working.
- The paragraphs will be assessed using a rubric.

**Extension/Enrichment:**

- The students can add more contrasting details to their paragraphs.
- The students can add details in another paragraph that compare the two topics.

**Special Needs Adaptations:**

- Extra individual help provided to those who may be struggling.

	3	2	1
Contrast Words (but, while, however, or prefers)	Uses at least 2 contrasting words	Uses at least 1 contrasting word	Contrast words are inferred
Capitalization and Punctuation	There are minor errors	There are several errors	There are many errors
Paragraph	Includes a topic and closing sentence, most contrast details are related to topic	Includes a topic sentence and closing sentence, several details are related to topic	Includes a topic sentence and closing sentence, few details are related to topic