

APWH: The Comparison Essay

The purpose of the essay is to test your ability to make comparisons between developments in different regions or eras, or between societies. You must state both similarities and differences, and analyze the reasons for these. Use the graphic organizer below to help you structure your essay and develop a thesis for a comparison essay.

PART 1 – DETERMINE WHAT YOU WILL WRITE ABOUT

First element to compare (Use one of the PERSIAN elements, unless specifically asked to compare a particular development)	
Region or Society 1	Region or Society 2
Global Context (What was happening in the time period that influenced these developments? Can this explain why these developments were similar or different?)	

1. How will this be addressed in the thesis? _____

Second element to compare (Use one of the PERSIAN elements, unless specifically asked to compare a particular development)	
Region or Society 1	Region or Society 2
Global Context (What was happening in the time period that influenced these developments? Can this explain why these developments were similar or different?)	

2. How will this be addressed in the thesis? _____

Third element to compare (Use one of the PERSIAN elements, unless specifically asked to compare a particular development)	
Region or Society 1	Region or Society 2
Global Context (What was happening in the time period that influenced these developments? Can this explain why these developments were similar or different?)	

3. How will this be addressed in the thesis? _____

PART 2 – DEVELOP YOUR THESIS

Words to use when writing about similarities			Words to use when writing about differences		
similar	likewise	yet	unlike	differed	even though
like	similar to	in the same way	whereas	in contrast	nevertheless
both	also	despite	while	however	conversely
each	at the same time	while	distinct	on the other hand	

1. Main elements to compare: _____

2. Time period: _____

3. Similarities _____ Qualifier (Reasoning) _____

4. Differences _____ Qualifier (Reasoning) _____

Word to show similarity (While, Despite, Both) <i>While both</i>	
Similarities <i>La Bella's and Filippi's make a delicious pizza</i>	
Qualifier <i>using the freshest ingredients in Chula Vista</i>	
Differences <i>the fun atmosphere at La Bella's is unique because</i>	
Qualifier <i>it offers not only great food but also games and entertainment</i>	
Time Period <i>on Friday nights.</i>	