



## Comparing and contrasting information



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## Comparison and contrast



### Sentence and paragraph types used in review articles

#### 1. Comparison

How are two or more objects/concepts **similar**? (=)

#### 2. Contrast

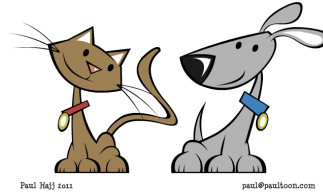
How are two or more objects/concepts **different**? (≠)

#### 3. Comparison-contrast

How are two or more objects/concepts **similar** or **different**? (= + ≠)

## Cats vs. dogs

**Definition:** The cat is a small furry mammal valued by humans for its companionship and its ability to hunt unwanted household pests.



### Similarities-dissimilarities

#### Similarities ( = )

Point 1: **Similar to** a dog, **cats** eat meat.

Point 2: **Both cats and** dogs need grooming.

Point 3: Dogs like to fetch a ball. **Similarly, cats** enjoy chasing a string.

#### Differences ( ≠ )

Point 4: **In contrast to** dogs, **cats** can bathe themselves.

Point 5: **Whereas** dogs must be regularly walked, **cats** want to walk on the wild side.

Point 6: **Unlike** dogs, **cats** can go to the toilet by themselves.

## Similarities ( = ): typical phrases

Concept A **resembles** Idea B.

Concept A **has the same/similar** <characteristic> **as** Idea B.

Concept A ... **Similarly,** Idea B ...

Method A **is as** energy efficient **as** Method B ...

## Differences ( ≠ ): typical phrases

### Comparative form

Method A is **more expensive than** method B.

Method A is **faster than** method B.

The price of Method A is **higher than** that of method B.

### Verb vs noun

Method A **differs from** method B **in terms of** <property>.

A main **difference between** Method A and method B is ...

## Differences ( ≠ ): subordinate conjunctions

**While** Method A has . . . , Solution B has . . .

**Whereas** Method A has . . . , Solution B has . . .

**Although** Method A is energy efficient, it does not ...

**Unlike** Method A, Solution B . . .

Method A . . . , **but** Solution B . . . (coordinating conjunction)

Method A . . . , **while** Solution B . . .

Method A . . . , **whereas** Solution B . . .

## Differences ( ≠ ): connectors

Method A . . . ; **on the other hand**, Solution B . . .

Method A . . . ; **however**, Solution B . . .

Method A . . . ; **in contrast**, Solution B . . .

Method A, **in contrast to** Solution B, . . .

## Examples (complex) sentences

The iPad runs on iOS, which was created **both** for the iPhone and iPod Touch. **Although** built **on the same** underlying Unix implementation **as** MacOS, its user interface **is** radically **different**.

Convertibles and hybrids are crossover devices, featuring **traits of both** tablets and laptops.

Microsoft's Surface Pro-series devices and Surface Book exemplify so called 2-in-1 **detachables**, **whereas** Lenovo Yoga-series computers are notable 2-in-1 **convertibles**.

Tablets, **similar to** conventional PCs, run on **multiple** operating systems, **although** dual-booting on tablets is a relatively **rare** feature.

As of **2016**, most tablets use capacitive touchscreens with **multi-touch**, **unlike** **earlier** resistive touchscreen devices, which required **styluses** for inputting information.

Adapted from "Tablet Computer". Available at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tablet\\_computer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tablet_computer). Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License.

## Sentence types

**Simple sentence** (= main clause)

Tablet computers can be used for numerous purposes.

**Compound sentence** (= two or more simple sentences)

Tablet computers can be flexibly used for numerous purposes, and this has increased their popularity over traditional desktop computers.

**Complex sentence** (simple sentence + a subordinate clause)

Since tablets can be flexibly used for numerous purposes, their popularity has greatly increased in recent years.

**Complex-compound sentence** (= two or more simple sentences + a subordinate clause)

Since tablet computers have become increasingly affordable in recent years, many schools have acquired them for classroom use, and as a result, teachers have been required to participate in basic training courses in order to learn using tablets effectively in educational settings.

## Sentence types

Notice how commas are used to indicate the location of the **subjects**.

**Simple sentence** (= main clause)

Tablet computers can be used for numerous purposes.

**Compound sentence** (= two or more simple sentences)

Tablet computers can be flexibly used for numerous purposes, and **this** has increased their popularity over traditional desktop computers.

**Complex sentence** (simple sentence + a subordinate clause)

Since tablets can be flexibly used for numerous purposes, **their popularity** has greatly increased in recent years.

**Complex-compound sentence** (= two or more simple sentences + a subordinate clause)

Since tablet computers have become increasingly affordable in recent years, **many schools** have acquired them for classroom use, and as a result, **teachers** have been required to participate in basic training courses in order to learn using tablets effectively in educational settings.

## Tip

- Express complex ideas in complex sentences because they help you to group ideas to achieve greater clarity.
- Examples of complex sentences can be found at <http://sana.aalto.fi/awe/punctuation/commas/04/index.html>
- To ensure that your reader understands your message correctly, the English language offers a number of **logical connectors, linkers, and signposts** that you can use in your writing.

Logical connectors, linkers,  
signposts and connectives

	<b>Subordinators</b> (Sub + sen <sup>1</sup> , sen <sup>2</sup> .)	<b>Sentence Adverbials</b> (Sen <sup>1</sup> . Adv, Sen <sup>2</sup> .)	<b>Prepositions</b> (Prep + NP)
<b>Addition</b>	<b>not only... but also</b> <b>both... and...</b>	<b>In addition,</b> <b>[--]. Moreover, [--].</b> <b>Furthermore,</b>	<b>in addition to</b> <b>as well as</b>
<b>Adversative</b>	<b>although</b>	<b>[+]. However, [--].</b> <b>[--]. Nevertheless, [+]</b>	<b>despite</b> <b>in spite of</b>
<b>Contrast</b>	<b>while (USA)</b> <b>whilst (UK)</b> <b>whereas</b>	<b>In contrast,</b> <b>However,</b> <b>On the other hand,</b> <b>Conversely,</b>	<b>in contrast to</b> <b>unlike</b> <b>contrary to</b> <b>instead of</b>
<b>Cause-Effect</b>	<b>because</b> <b>since (USA)</b> <b>as (UK)</b> <b>in that</b>	<b>Therefore,</b> <b>As a result,</b> <b>Consequently,</b> <b>Hence,</b> <b>*Thus / *thereby</b>	<b>because of</b> <b>due to</b> <b>as a result of</b> <b>in light of</b> <b>on account of</b>
<b>Clarification</b>		<b>In other words, / that is,</b>	<b>(i.e., ....)</b>
<b>Similarity</b>		<b>Similarly,</b> <b>Analogously,</b>	<b>Similar to</b> <b>like</b>
<b>Illustration</b>		<b>For example,</b> <b>For instance</b>	<b>(e.g., ....)</b>
<b>Intensification</b>		<b>On the contrary,</b> <b>Indeed, / In fact,</b>	

13

## Additive connectors

For example sentences, see

<http://sana.aalto.fi/awe/cohesion/signposts/additive/index.html>

### Sentence connectors (Between sentences)

Moreover,...  
In addition,...  
Furthermore,...  
Further,...  
Additionally,...  
Likewise,...  
Similarly,...

### Prepositions (Within sentence)

In addition to..., ...  
..., as well as...  
Similar to..., ...  
Like..., ...

### Other linkers (Within sentence)

and  
also  
as well  
..., with... -ing  
..., as + [auxiliary verb]  
not only... but also  
both... and

### Adjectives (Within sentence)

(an)other  
(a) further  
(a) similar

## Contrastive connectors

For example sentences, see

<http://sana.aalto.fi/awe/cohesion/signposts/contrast/index.html>

<u>Sentence connectors</u> (Between-sentence)	<u>Conjunctions</u> (Within-sentence)	<u>Subordinators</u> (Phrase linkers)	<u>Prepositions</u>
<a href="#">However,...</a>	<a href="#">but</a>	<a href="#">Although..., ...</a>	<a href="#">In contrast to + noun, ...</a>
<a href="#">Nevertheless,...</a>	<a href="#">yet</a>	<a href="#">(even) though..., ...</a>	<a href="#">Contrary to..., ...</a>
<a href="#">Nonetheless,...</a>	<a href="#">nor</a>	<a href="#">While..., ...</a>	<a href="#">Unlike..., ...</a>
<a href="#">On the other hand,...</a>	<a href="#">albeit</a>	<a href="#">Whereas..., ...</a>	<a href="#">Despite..., ...</a>
<a href="#">In contrast,...</a>			<a href="#">In spite of..., ...</a>
<a href="#">Conversely,...</a>			<a href="#">Notwithstanding..., ...</a>
<a href="#">On the contrary,...</a>			<a href="#">Instead of..., ...</a>
<a href="#">Alternatively,...</a>			
<a href="#">Instead,...</a>			

## Causative connectors

For example sentences, see

<http://sana.aalto.fi/awe/cohesion/signposts/cause/index.html>

<u>Sentence connectors</u>	<u>Subordinators</u>	<u>Prepositions</u>	<u>Verbs</u>	<u>Nouns</u>
<a href="#">Thus</a>	<a href="#">since</a>	<a href="#">because of</a>	<a href="#">leads to</a>	<a href="#">The cause of</a>
<a href="#">Therefore</a>	<a href="#">because</a>	<a href="#">due to</a>	<a href="#">results in</a>	<a href="#">The reason for</a>
<a href="#">Hence</a>	<a href="#">as</a>	<a href="#">as a result of</a>	<a href="#">causes</a>	<a href="#">The effect of</a>
<a href="#">Consequently</a>	<a href="#">in that</a>	<a href="#">as a consequence</a>	<a href="#">contributes to</a>	<a href="#">a result of</a>
<a href="#">As a result</a>		<a href="#">of</a>	<a href="#">results from</a>	<a href="#">a consequence of</a>
<a href="#">As a consequence</a>		<a href="#">owing to</a>	<a href="#">arises from</a>	<a href="#">the effect of</a>
<a href="#">For this reason</a>		<a href="#">On account of</a>	<a href="#">stems from</a>	
<a href="#">Accordingly</a>				