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Compare and contrast (SAC preparation)

Comparative-style discussion

For your School-assessed Coursework (SAC) you may need to compare and contrast three articles, at least one of which will include a visual. Please note that the number of paragraphs will vary depending upon the length of articles and time allocated for your SAC.

INTRODUCTION

- general comment about the issue and context; introduce the three articles and visuals; and views, text type, audience and purpose.

Text 1



Block 1 : 1-2 paragraphs (depending upon word length)

- clearly identify this author's viewpoint and the key persuasive strategies that best reinforce this author's views;
- weave references to the author's tone (and style) throughout the discussion;
- evaluate key word choices that reflect the author's persuasive strategies; and
- explain their impact.

Embed the image into the most relevant paragraph.

Text 2



Block 2: 1-2 paragraphs (depending upon word length)

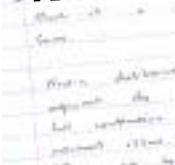
Compare this author's views with those in Text 1 (See p. 21.)

- Firstly explain whether this author shares similar or contrasting views with the previous author. (See sentence patterns in box below.)
- Then explain the most obvious similarity or difference with regards to a key persuasive strategy; ensure a broad, "big picture" focus;
- evaluate key word choices that reflect this author's persuasive strategies;
- explain their impact and sum up with a cross-reference to the previous text.

Compare talk
(See p. 61.)

*Similar to Ms S's views expressed in the previous article, Mr X also discredits the Government's decision to [...]
If the editor focuses our attention on [...], Mr X contends that [...]
In contrast to Mr R's support for [...], Mr X condemns [...]
Although both the cartoonist and Mr X share the view that [...], their tone differs markedly.*

Text 3



Block 3: Text 3/Letter or Cartoon

- compare this author's views with those in Texts 1 and 2;
- include a cross-reference to the "big picture" strategies or tonal similarities/differences; and
- comment on the impact of the strategies and tone.

CONCLUSION:

- sum up the purpose of each author's word choice and key strategies; and
- include a comment on the direction of the issue (if appropriate).