



## Compare and contrast

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### Reading Comprehension Worksheet

#### Practice

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When we **compare** two things, we tell how they are *alike*.

When we **contrast** two things, we tell how they are *different*.

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Here are two stories. As you read, think about how the stories are *alike*, and how they are *different*.

#### The Frogs Who Wanted a King

The Frogs decided that they should have a King. They called to the Ruler of all Animals and begged him to give them a King. The Ruler saw the silliness of the request, and threw a large log into the lake. The Frogs were terrified by the splash. But when the waters grew still they looked at the huge log. It wasn't moving, so they went and sat on it. After a while, the Frogs decided that the Ruler had not sent them a very good king, so they called to him again. This time he sent an Eel to be their King. The Eel was so kind and gentle that the Frogs called to the Ruler a third time. This time he sent a Heron. The Heron looked at the Frogs hungrily, and began to chase them. They found another lake where they lived happily, and they never asked for a King again.

#### The Proud Crow

The Ruler of all Animals decided that he should create a royal bird to rule over all the other birds. He made it known that the birds should all come before him so that he could choose the most beautiful among them to be King. The Crow knew that he was far from the most beautiful of the birds. He went through the forest, collecting feathers that had fallen from the wings of the nicer looking birds. He stuck the lovely feathers all over his body, hoping to make himself the most beautiful of all. When the birds lined themselves up in front of The Ruler of all Animals, the Crow took his place with the others. The Ruler was amazed at the Crow's beauty, and made him King. But the other birds saw through the Crow's trick. Each one plucked his own feather off of the Crow, leaving the Crow nothing but a Crow. And Jupiter decided that the birds did not deserve a King.

Some of these details are true of just one of the two stories. Some are true of both stories. Some are not true of either story. Read each detail, and select the best answer.

1. One of the characters becomes a King.  
A. "The Frogs Who Wanted a King" only    C. Both stories  
B. "The Proud Crow" only    D. Neither story
  
2. Animal characters ask the Ruler of All Animals for something.  
A. "The Frogs Who Wanted a King" only    C. Both stories  
B. "The Proud Crow" only    D. Neither story
  
3. The Ruler of all Animals wants to make someone a King.  
A. "The Frogs Who Wanted a King" only    C. Both stories  
B. "The Proud Crow" only    D. Neither story
  
4. In the story beginning, many characters want something.  
A. "The Frogs Who Wanted a King" only    C. Both stories  
B. "The Proud Crow" only    D. Neither story
  
5. Some of the characters argue about something.  
A. "The Frogs Who Wanted a King" only    C. Both stories  
B. "The Proud Crow" only    D. Neither story
  
6. The Ruler of All Animals makes a decision.  
A. "The Frogs Who Wanted a King" only    C. Both stories  
B. "The Proud Crow" only    D. Neither story
  
7. Everyone is happy in the beginning.  
A. "The Frogs Who Wanted a King" only    C. Both stories  
B. "The Proud Crow" only    D. Neither story
  
8. Some characters are angry in the ending.  
A. "The Frogs Who Wanted a King" only    C. Both stories  
B. "The Proud Crow" only    D. Neither story

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9. What is one other detail that is *alike* or *different* in the two stories?

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## Answer Key

1. C
2. A
3. B
4. A
5. D
6. C
7. D
8. B
9. Accept any reasonable responses.