

Compare and contrast

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

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

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

As you read the story, think about how the characters are **alike** and how they are **different**.

The Fox and the Woodcutter

A fox, being chased by a hunter on horseback and his pack of hound dogs, ran into the forest to hide. The fox came across a woodcutter who was chopping away at an oak tree. The fox begged the woodcutter to show him a safe hiding place. The woodcutter pointed to his own small hut just down the road and told the fox to go and take shelter there. The fox hurried to the hut and hid himself in a corner inside.

The hunter soon rode up with his barking hounds. Seeing the woodcutter, the hunter asked him if he had seen the fox. The woodcutter laid down his axe. "I have seen no fox, though I have been working here all morning," he said. The whole time that he was speaking, though, he was pointing to his hut where the fox was hiding. The hunter took no notice of the pointing and believed the woodcutter's words. He rode quickly down the road to continue the chase. As soon as the hunter and the hounds were well away, the fox came out and trotted off down the road, without taking any notice of the woodcutter. Seeing this, the woodcutter shouted after him. "You ungrateful fellow! You owe your life to me, and yet you leave me without a single word of thanks."

The fox looked back over his shoulder and replied, "Indeed, I would have thanked you greatly if your actions had been as helpful as your words, but your hands denied your speech!"



Some of the details below are true about just one of the characters. Some of the details are true about both characters. Some are not true about either story. Read each detail, and select the best answer.

1. Was being chased
 - a. The fox only
 - b. The woodcutter only
 - c. Both characters
 - d. Neither character

2. Offered a hiding place
 - a. The fox only
 - b. The woodcutter only
 - c. Both characters
 - d. Neither character

3. Had barking hounds
 - a. The fox only
 - b. The woodcutter only
 - c. Both characters
 - d. Neither character

4. Acted friendly in the beginning of the story
 - a. The fox only
 - b. The woodcutter only
 - c. Both characters
 - d. Neither character

5. Talked to the hunter
 - a. The fox only
 - b. The woodcutter only
 - c. Both characters
 - d. Neither character

6. Hid until the hunter was gone
- a. The fox only
 - b. The woodcutter only
 - c. Both characters
 - d. Neither character
7. Thanked the hunter
- a. The fox only
 - b. The woodcutter only
 - c. Both characters
 - d. Neither character
8. Should have said "thank you"
- a. The fox only
 - b. The woodcutter only
 - c. Both characters
 - d. Neither character
9. What is one other detail about the two characters that is *alike* in the two stories?
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10. What is one other detail about the two characters that is *different* in the two stories?
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Answers

1. Was being chased
 - a. The fox only
2. Offered a hiding place
 - b. The woodcutter only
3. Had barking hounds
 - d. Neither character
4. Acted friendly in the beginning of the story
 - c. Both characters
5. Talked to the hunter
 - b. The woodcutter only
6. Hid until the hunter was gone
 - a. The fox only
7. Thanked the hunter
 - d. Neither character
8. Should have said "thank you"
 - d. Neither character
9. What is one other detail about the two characters that is *alike* in the two stories?
Answers will vary but must be taken from the stories.
10. What is one other detail about the two characters that is *different* in the two stories?
Answers will vary but must be taken from the stories.