

Paired texts: Story details

Grade 5 Reading Worksheet

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

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

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

Foreign Lands

By Robert Louis Stevenson

Up into the cherry tree
Who should climb but little me?
I held the trunk with both my hands
And looked abroad in foreign lands.

I saw the next door garden lie,
Adorned with flowers, before my eye,
And many pleasant places more
That I had never seen before.

I saw the dimpling river pass
And be the sky's blue looking-glass;
The dusty roads go up and down
With people tramping in to town.

If I could find a higher tree
Farther and farther I should see,
To where the grown-up river slips
Into the sea among the ships,

To where the roads on either hand
Lead onward into fairy land,
Where all the children dine at five,
And all the playthings come alive.



Where Go the Boats?

By Robert Louis Stevenson

Dark brown is the river,
Golden is the sand.
It flows along forever,
With trees on either hand.

Green leaves a-floating,
Castles of the foam.
Boats of mine a-boating—
Where will they come home?

On goes the river
And out past the mill.
Away down the valley.
Away down the hill.

Away down the river,
A hundred miles or more,
Other little children
Shall bring my boats ashore.



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

1. The person in the poem is a child.
 - a. "Foreign Lands" only
 - b. "Where Go the Boats" only
 - c. Both poems
 - d. Neither poem

2. The person in the poem climbs a tree.
 - a. "Foreign Lands" only
 - b. "Where Go the Boats" only
 - c. Both poems
 - d. Neither poem

3. The person in the poem sails toy boats.
 - a. "Foreign Lands" only
 - b. "Where Go the Boats" only
 - c. Both poems
 - d. Neither poem

4. The person in the poem imagines more than can really be seen.
 - a. "Foreign Lands" only
 - b. "Where Go the Boats" only
 - c. Both poems
 - d. Neither poem

5. The person in the poem imagines a land of make-believe.
 - a. "Foreign Lands" only
 - b. "Where Go the Boats" only
 - c. Both poems
 - d. Neither poem

6. The person in the poem imagines children in far-away places.
 - a. “Foreign Lands” only
 - b. “Where Go the Boats” only
 - c. Both poems
 - d. Neither poem

7. The person in the poem thinks about what cities look like.
 - a. “Foreign Lands” only
 - b. “Where Go the Boats” only
 - c. Both poems
 - d. Neither poem

8. The authors purpose for writing the poem was to provide the reader with factual information.
 - a. “Foreign Lands” only
 - b. “Where Go the Boats” only
 - c. Both poems
 - d. Neither poem

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

Answers

1. The person in the poem is a child.
c. Both poems
2. The person in the poem climbs a tree.
a. "Foreign Lands" only
3. The person in the poem sails toy boats.
b. "Where Go the Boats" only
4. The person in the poem imagines more than can really be seen.
c. Both poems
5. The person in the poem imagines a land of make-believe.
a. "Foreign Lands" only
6. The person in the poem imagines children in far-away places.
c. Both poems
7. The person in the poem thinks about what cities look like.
d. Neither poem
8. The authors purpose for writing the poem was to provide the reader with factual information.
d. Neither poem
9. What is one other detail that is **alike** or **different** in the two poems?
Answers will vary but must be taken from the poems.