

**Compare and Contrast Essay Rubric**

Directions: Students will compare and contrast two plants or two animals from their assigned ecosystem.

|                     | <b>Excellent/ Very Good (9-10)</b>  | <b>Good (8-8)</b>   | <b>Proficient (7-6)</b>  | <b>Needs Work (5-3)</b>  |
|---------------------|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Content</b>      | Writing shows student understanding throughout. Making at least three similarities and three differences between the two plants or animals. Give insightful and specific examples from lesson materials. Information is detailed and not generalised. | Writing shows accurate understanding of similarities and differences between the two plants or animals. Appropriate sources are used. Information is somewhat detailed. | Writing shows understanding of similarities and differences of the two plants or animals. Broad examples that could be better explained. | Writing does not include clear examples of similarities and differences of the two plants or animals. OR Content shows several inaccuracies and confusion. |
| <b>Organization</b> | Flowing response shows thoughtful, logical, and clear layout of example. Transition sentences are smooth. Thesis includes introduction and conclusion.  | Writing is logically and clearly organized. Three similarities and differences are readily identifiable.  | Writing is somewhat organized. Points are identifiable with minimal confusion of reader.   | Writing is disorganized and hard to follow. OR Writing does not contain sufficient content for organization.   |
| <b>Presentation</b> | Extremely neat and consistently presented.  | Neat and well presented.  | Presentation is legible.   | Illegible or poorly presented. OR NOT presented at all.  |
| <b>Conventions</b>  | Work has been proofread. No grammatical errors and no spelling mistakes that take away from comprehension.  | Minor grammatical errors and few spelling mistakes. They do not take away from reading comprehension.   | Several grammar and spelling mistakes. May impinge slightly on document comprehension.   | Numerous mistakes are made in grammar and spelling making it difficult to read the work.   |

