

Compulsory English-II (Academic Reading & Writing) BS/ Graduation Spring, 2025

1424- 2nd

Q.1. Refer to Unit 5 of your study guide. Select a Compare and Contrast Essay from a newspaper or a magazine. Then do the following:
(20)

- Identify/ highlight 10 sentences in the essay that show comparison and 10 that show contrast (Highlight 'compare' sentences in blue, and 'contrast' sentences in yellow).
- Paste the screenshot / image of the essay with highlighted sentences in your assignment.
- Also write the sentences separately under the relevant headings.

Step-by-Step Guide to the Assignment

1. Select a Compare and Contrast Essay:

Choose an essay from a reputable newspaper or magazine. Look for essays that discuss two or more subjects, comparing their similarities and differences.

2. Identify Comparison and Contrast Sentences:

As you read through the essay, look for sentences that indicate comparisons and contrasts.

Comparison Sentences: Look for words like *similar*, *likewise*, *both*, *in the same way*, and *similarly*.

Contrast Sentences: Watch for words like *however*, *on the other hand*, *in contrast*, *but*, and *unlike*.

Highlight the Sentences:

Use your document editor to highlight the comparison sentences in **blue** and contrast sentences in **yellow**.

3. Create a Screenshot:

After highlighting the sentences, take a screenshot or image of the essay showing your highlighted sentences.

4. Write the Sentences Separately:

After you have highlighted the sentences in the essay, write them out separately under the relevant headings.

Example Structure for Your Assignment

(i) Highlighted Sentences

(Note: Below are examples. You will need to write the actual sentences from your selected essay.)

Comparison Sentences (Highlighted in Blue):

1. Both cats and dogs can be great companions for people.
2. Similarly, both show loyalty to their owners.
3. In the same way, both require regular care and attention.
4. Like dogs, cats can be trained to perform tricks.
5. Both animals provide comfort and affection to their families.
6. Likewise, both have been domesticated for thousands of years.
7. Both types of pets may suffer from separation anxiety.
8. Similarly, both need a balanced diet for optimal health.
9. Both can make wonderful additions to a household.
10. In terms of companionship, both are sought after by many families.

Contrast Sentences (Highlighted in Yellow):

1. However, dogs generally require more attention than cats.
2. On the other hand, cats are often more independent than dogs.
3. In contrast, dogs are usually more sociable with strangers.
4. Unlike cats, dogs often need regular exercise outdoors.
5. Whereas dogs can be easily trained, cats tend to be more aloof.
6. Dogs bark to communicate, while cats meow or purr.
7. While dogs thrive on human interaction, cats may prefer solitude.
8. In contrast to dogs, cats groom themselves more frequently.
9. Unlike dogs, which often obey commands, cats can ignore training.
10. Dogs tend to form closer attachments to their humans than cats.

Q.2 Refer to Unit 6 of your study guide. Provide a list of 10 things we read such as newspapers, billboards, etc, and supply two reasons for each of them as to why we read them. (20)

1. Newspapers

To stay updated on current events.

For in-depth analysis and opinions on various topics.

2. Magazines

For entertainment and lifestyle tips.

To explore topics of personal interest in detail.

3. Billboards

To get quick information about products and services.

To be influenced by advertising on the go.

4. Books

For entertainment through storytelling.

To gain knowledge on a specific subject or theme.

5. Websites

For quick access to information or resources.

To engage with interactive content like videos or articles.

6. Text Messages

To communicate efficiently with friends and family.

To receive real-time updates and notifications.

7. Social Media Posts

To connect with peers and share experiences.

To access diverse opinions and trending topics.

8. Newsletters

To receive curated content from specific interests or organizations.

To stay informed about updates from institutions or clubs.

9. Instruction Manuals

To learn how to operate devices or solve problems.

To ensure proper use of tools or appliances.

10. Academic Journals

To explore peer-reviewed research and findings.

To stay informed on developments in specific fields of study.

Q.3 Write the implied meaning of the following sentences: (20)

1. Some people always seem to be on their phones, even during meetings.

They may be distracted or not fully engaged in the meeting, indicating a possible lack of professionalism.

2. **I didn't realize how quickly you could finish the project. It's like you've not even slept on the weekend.**

This suggests that the person is either very dedicated or possibly neglecting their rest, hinting at an unhealthy work ethic.

3. **She always seems to have the perfect solution, even when the problem hasn't been explained.**

This implies that she has a knack for problem-solving, but it may also suggest she is overconfident or assuming too much.

4. **My boss manages to find the time for everything, even when it seems impossible.**

This indicates admiration for the boss's time management skills, but it may also imply that they are overextending themselves.

5. **My mother must be looking at the door.**

It suggests that she is expecting someone or waiting for something significant.

6. **I have to accompany my mother to her school.**

This implies that it's important for her to have support or assistance, perhaps indicating she feels anxious or needs help.

7. **Her teacher is very happy with her.**

This suggests she is performing well academically or socially, possibly indicating her potential or talent.

8. **So many people have never gathered in our street before.**

This implies a sense of community or a significant event that has brought people together, possibly suggesting a change in social dynamics.

9. **I'm sure you'll figure out a solution, considering how you found one the last time.**

This implies confidence in the person's problem-solving abilities, suggesting previous success and competence.

10. **Dark clouds are gathering fast in the sky, and it is getting darker every minute.**

This suggests an impending storm or trouble, metaphorically warning of potential challenges ahead.

Q.4 Refer to Unit 8. What are connotative and denotative meanings? Supply ten words with positive denotative but negative connotative meanings. Explain both types of meanings of each word with the help of example sentences (i.e., write two sentences for each word). (20)

Connotative Meaning refers to the emotional or cultural associations a word carries, while **Denotative Meaning** is its literal definition.

Here are ten words with positive denotative meanings but potentially negative connotations:

1. **Childlike**

Denotative: Having the qualities of a child.

Example: Her childlike curiosity led her to explore new ideas.

Connotative: Implies naivety or immaturity.

Example: He made a childlike decision without considering the consequences.

2. **Pride**

Denotative: A sense of self-respect and personal worth.

Example: She takes great pride in her academic achievements.

Connotative: Can imply arrogance or overconfidence.

Example: His pride made him blind to others' opinions.

3. **Stubborn**

Denotative: Refusal to change one's mind or course of action.

Example: She is stubborn in her dedication to the cause.

Connotative: Suggests inflexibility and an unwillingness to compromise.

Example: His stubbornness often alienates his friends.

4. **Freedom**

Denotative: The power or right to act, speak, or think freely.

Example: Freedom of speech is a fundamental right.

Connotative: Might imply recklessness or chaos.

Example: His freedom led to irresponsible behavior that affected others.

5. **Ambition**

Denotative: A strong desire to achieve something.

Example: Her ambition drove her to start her own business.

Connotative: Can imply ruthlessness or selfishness.

Example: His ambition often comes at the expense of his relationships.

6. Unique

Denotative: Being the only one of its kind; unlike anything else.

Example: She has a unique talent for painting.

Connotative: Might suggest being odd or eccentric.

Example: His unique fashion sense often left him looking out of place.

7. Assertive

Denotative: Having or showing a confident and forceful personality.

Example: Being assertive in negotiations can lead to better outcomes.

Connotative: Can imply aggressiveness or insensitivity.

Example: His assertive demeanor often intimidates his colleagues.

8. Complex

Denotative: Consisting of many different and connected parts.

Example: The plot of the novel was complex and intriguing.

Connotative: Might suggest confusion or difficulty.

Example: The complex issue led to misunderstandings among the team.

9. Relentless

Denotative: Oppressively constant; incessant.

Example: Her relentless pursuit of excellence is admirable.

Connotative: Implies harshness or cruelty.

Example: His relentless criticism made team members feel undervalued.

10. Novel

Denotative: New or unusual; original.

Example: The novel approach she suggested impressively enhanced productivity.

Connotative: Can imply unnecessary or impractical.

Example: His novel idea was considered overly ambitious and impractical.

Q.5 What are the benefits of a newspaper? Which English newspapers do you usually read? Why are most of the papers abolishing print and preferring to go online? What makes them survive in the market despite the excess of TV channels and the onslaught of social media platforms? Write a detailed reply. (20)

Benefits of a Newspaper:

1. **Information Dissemination:** Newspapers provide current events, covering local, national, and international news, keeping the public informed.
2. **In-Depth Analysis:** They offer analyses, editorials, and opinion pieces that encourage critical thinking on various issues.
3. **Civic Awareness:** Newspapers often highlight pertinent social issues, contributing to informed civic engagement and activism.
4. **Resource for Businesses:** They serve as an advertising conduit, helping businesses reach potential customers and target demographics.
5. **Cultural Reflection:** Newspapers can reflect societal values and cultures, showcasing diverse perspectives on ongoing discussions.

Which English Newspapers I Usually Read:

I typically read **The Guardian** and **The New York Times** for their comprehensive coverage and insightful analysis.

Why Are Most Papers Abolishing Print and Preferring to Go Online?

Many newspapers are transitioning from print to online formats due to the following reasons:

1. **Cost-Effectiveness:** Digital platforms reduce printing and distribution costs.
2. **Time Sensitivity:** The internet allows for real-time reporting, enabling newspapers to update breaking news instantly.

What Makes Them Survive Despite Competition?

Despite the influx of TV channels and social media platforms, newspapers successfully navigate the market for several reasons:

1. **Credibility:** Established newspapers maintain stringent editorial standards, offering reliability and in-depth reporting that social media often lacks.
2. **Diverse Content:** Newspapers provide various forms of content, including investigative journalism, lifestyle pieces, and expert commentary, catering to varied audiences.

3. **Enhanced Interaction:** Many have adapted to the digital landscape by incorporating interactive elements like comments, forums, and social sharing, encouraging reader engagement.

4. **Subscriptions and Membership:** By introducing subscription models for exclusive content or investigative journalism, newspapers can create loyal readership while generating revenue over digital platforms.

5. **Emphasis on Quality:** As audiences become more discerning about information sources, the demand for quality journalism strengthens newspapers' positions in a crowded media landscape.

In conclusion, while challenges exist, the combination of quality content, a focus on credibility, and adaptation to new technologies enable newspapers to remain a vital information source even in an evolving media landscape.

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