

Nightjohn Compare/Contrast Essay

By: Gary Paulsen

Directions: Write a 4 paragraph essay comparing (what is similar) and contrasting (what is different) in the book Nightjohn and the movie Nightjohn.

☺ Remember to focus on:

- Characterization (the personalities and decisions of the characters)
- Plot (what happened – the events), and
- Themes (main messages/main ideas) of the story.

☺ Remember to give *specific examples!!!* (use your venn diagrams)

☺ Remember to use *transition words!!!* (First, Last, Finally, In conclusion, another reason, however, for example)

☺ Remember to include *topic sentences* for all paragraphs!!!

Paragraph 1: Introduction

- Engage the reader with a quote from the book, a question, or some other strategy you have learned.
- Complete your paragraph with a complex sentence letting the reader know what the book is about.

Paragraph 2: Similarities

- Discuss how characters are alike in both the book and the movie.
- Discuss how the plot-what happened- is alike in both the book and the movie.
- Discuss how the themes are the same in both the book and the movie.

Paragraph 3: Differences:

- Discuss how characters are different in the book and the movie.
- Discuss how the plot-what happened- is different in the book and the movie.

Paragraph 4: Conclusion

- Give your recommendation- is this a good: Book? Movie?
 - Did you like the book or the movie better? What did you like best about it?
 - Who would you recommend the book or the movie to? Why?

6th Grade Book Report Rubric

	4	3	2	1	Total Points
Title, Author, Number of Pages, and Genre	All four are present under the MS 180 school heading	Missing one of the required items: Title, Author, # of pages, and Genre under the MS 180 heading.	Missing two of the required items: Title, Author, # of pages, and Genre under the MS 180 heading.	Missing three or more of the required items: Title, Author, # of pages, and Genre under the MS 180 heading.	
Characters	Main characters are described in 6-8 well-written sentences and a good description is included.	Main characters are described in 4-5 sentences and a description is included.	Main characters are described in less than 4 sentences and a description is missing.	Missing descriptions of main characters from the story.	
Setting	When and where is clearly explained.	When and where is explained.	Either when or where is missing.	When and where is missing completely.	
Conflict	Identifies the main conflict in the story explicitly.	Identified the main conflict in the story.	Identified the conflict in the story with no supporting details.	Main conflict in the story is missing completely.	
Plot Outline	Series of events are discussed that connect to the conflict in the story which lead to the resolution.	Series of events are discussed that connect to the conflict in the story and the resolution is missing.	There are less than two events discussed and the resolution is missing.	There are no events discussed and no resolution discussed.	
Theme	The theme or the moral of the story is clearly explained in this paragraph.	The theme or the moral of the story is explained in this paragraph	The theme or the moral of the story is explained in this paragraph in less than two sentences.	The theme or moral of the story is missing completely.	
Book Review	A book review is clearly discussed in this paragraph.	A book review is discussed in this paragraph.	A book review is somewhat discussed in this paragraph.	The book review is missing completely.	
Spelling	There are no spelling errors.	There is one spelling error.	There are two spelling errors.	There are three or more spelling errors.	
Grammar	There are no grammar errors.	There are one or two grammar errors.	There are three to four grammar errors.	There are five or more grammar errors.	
Neatness	Report is typed out properly using Times New Roman, 12 Font and double-spaced.	Report is missing one of the required items: typed out properly using Times New Roman, 12 Font and double-spaced.	Report is missing two of the required items: typed out properly using Times New Roman, 12 Font and double-spaced.	Report is not typed out.	
Teacher Comments:					40