

# Help Centres – English Support



## Compare and Contrast Key Words

### A. Key words commonly used to express comparison include:

like	same	most important	as
similar to	both	have in common	as well as
as	too	similarly	in the same way

➤ *When you compare one subject to another, you show how the two are alike, or similar.*

- The dog, **like** the cat, is a household pet.
- **Both** dogs and cats are household pets.
- Dogs, **as well as** cats, are household pet.

### B. Key words commonly used to express contrast include:

although	however	differ	unless	contrary to
yet	but	instead	unlike	even though
whereas	while	even though	on the contrary	on the other hand

➤ *When you contrast two subjects, you show how they are different.*

- The dog, **unlike** the cat, is dependent on its master.
- **While** the dog is dependent on its master, the cat is not.
- The dog is dependent on its master, **but** the cat is not.

➤ *Sometimes, both comparison and contrast are used in the same sentence.*

- **Both** dogs and cats make good household pets, **but** a dog requires more attention than a cat.
- Dogs, **as well as** cats, make good household pets; **however**, dogs are dependent on their owners **while** cats are not.

**Let's practice:**

**A)** Choose a signal word to fill in the blank that shows comparison in each sentence.

**both, as well as, like, similarly**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ coffee, black tea has caffeine.
2. English, \_\_\_\_\_ French, is the national language of Canada.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ John and Mark have black hair.
4. I practice English everyday. \_\_\_\_\_, my mother is taking English classes.

**B)** Choose a signal word to fill in the blank that shows contrast in each sentence.

**however, while, unlike, on the other hand**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Vancouver has mild winters, Winnipeg has very cold winters.
2. My mother loves to ski. \_\_\_\_\_, I love to swim.
3. Mila has green eyes; \_\_\_\_\_, Tanya has blue eyes.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Vancouver, Victoria is a small city.