

On Your Own

Read the story about cousins who go to Space Camp. Compare and contrast the two characters. Think about how they are alike and different from each other.



Cousins in Space



The first day at Space Camp was busy. Tanya and Ashley both wore space suits. They climbed a zero-gravity wall wearing harnesses that held them up in the air. They felt as if they were floating in space. Tanya was excited, but Ashley felt a little sick. Later the girls built parts for a space station and exercised in a machine like a hamster's wheel.

"Aren't you glad we decided to come to Space Camp?" Tanya asked at dinner. "I loved the gravity chair that made me feel almost weightless."

"I guess so," Ashley said slowly. "I didn't like the chair, though. It made me really dizzy."

They chewed their dried space food. No one liked that very much.

The next day the girls flew an imaginary mission on a space shuttle.

Some campers acted as astronauts, while others remained on the ground to assist them. Tanya was an astronaut, and Ashley stayed on the ground. She guided the astronauts using a computer. She saved the space shuttle when it was in danger. The instructor told Ashley that she made good decisions. Tanya took off her helmet and saw that Ashley looked proud.

"Guess what?" Ashley said.

"I know—now you want to be an astronaut, just like me," Tanya said.

"Not exactly. We're both interested in space," said Ashley. "You want to be an astronaut. I want to work in mission control. We can be the first cousins in the space program. While you are up in space, I'll be on the ground assisting you. What a great way to work together!"

Checking Comprehension

Write the answer to each question on the lines.

1. How did the girls find ways they could both be happy in a space program?

2. Would you like to go to Space Camp? Why or why not?

Practicing Comprehension Skills

Read the sentences. Circle **compare** if the sentence tells how Tanya and Ashley are alike. Circle **contrast** if the sentence tells how Tanya and Ashley are different.

3. Tanya and Ashley both liked Space Camp. compare contrast
4. Tanya felt excited, but Ashley felt sick. compare contrast

Use the Venn diagram to compare and contrast Tanya and Ashley. Under Tanya's name, write two things that tell only about her. Under Ashley's name, write two things that tell only about her. In the middle, write two things that are true about both of them.

	Tanya	Both	Ashley
5.	_____	7. _____	9. _____
	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	8. _____	10. _____
	_____	_____	_____

STRATEGY: Comparing and Contrasting

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11. Use the following chart to compare and contrast yourself with Tanya and Ashley.

I am most like _____ because _____ _____	I am least like _____ because _____ _____
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Practicing Vocabulary

Choose the word from the box to complete each comparison.
Write the word on the line.

instructor floating danger chewed gravity helmet shuttle

12. Space is to weightlessness as Earth is to _____.

13. Foot is to boot as head is to _____.

14. Down is to sinking as up is to _____.

15. Learn is to student as teach is to _____.

16. Road is to car as sky is to _____.

17. Milk is to sipped as sandwich is to _____.

18. Harmless is to safety as harmful is to _____.



MAKING THE
Reading
AND
Writing
CONNECTION

Writing a Descriptive Paragraph

Write a paragraph that compares and contrasts Space Camp with a special place you have gone to. Tell how the two places are alike in some ways but different in other ways.