

# Compare & Contrast

When you look at two or more things to see how they are alike and different, you are comparing and contrasting them.

To **compare** means to discuss how things are similar or the same. Some key words for comparisons are **same**, **both**, **alike**, **like** and **as well as**.

To **contrast** means to discuss how things are different. Some words that show contrasts are **different**, **whereas**, **while**, **however**, **instead of**, **on the other hand** and **but**.

Comparing and contrasting can help you understand characters or events in a story. Writers may compare and contrast for you, or you may do this yourself. You can use a Venn Diagram to compare and contrast.

