Name:_____ Date:_____

COMPARING TWO STORIES

Directions: Read the two stories below. Then complete the graphic organizer.

Story 1

Pierre changed into his track clothes and laced up his shoes. He left the locker room to meet the rest of the kids outside on the field. It was the first day of track tryouts. The coach walked up and greeted the athletes.

"I see you are all interested in being on Town Creek Middle School's track team," the coach stated. "Let's see if you have what it takes."

The boys began to complete the tryout drills. The coach wanted to see who could run the farthest, who could run the longest, and who could run the fastest. Pierre liked to run and he knew he was talented, but he didn't know how well the other boys ran. Would he be good enough to make the team?

Each time it was Pierre's turn to run, he began shaking and it was hard to breathe. He was so nervous! The coach realized Pierre was panicking and pulled him aside. He put his hand on his shoulder and spoke calmly to Pierre.

"Pierre, I've seen your running skills. You have no reason to be nervous! Take a deep breath and join this group. You've got this! I know you can do it," he said.

Taking a deep breath, Pierre lined up with the other boys. As soon as the whistle blew, he took off running. His arms and legs moved faster than they ever had before. He controlled his breathing and stayed focused on the finish line. Sweat dripped down his forehead as he used every muscle in his body to win the race. Pierre knew he had won first place.

Inside, Pierre was grinning from ear to ear. He had successfully turned his first day jitters into the fuel that helped him win the race and make the team.

Story 2

Francesca was the best swimmer on the team. She swam the fastest. She swam long distances. She was chosen as the captain for this season. All the other girls wanted to be like Francesca.

The biggest race of the season was this Friday. The whole school was excited. The team would race against Leeward Middle, the school's rival team. Every year the schools compete against each other. The winner gets a special trophy.

Francesca was always nervous in the days before the big race. She had a hard time eating. She couldn't sleep. It was hard to focus in class. All she could think about was how she would beat the other team.

On Wednesday, Francesca realized that she really wasn't feeling right. This was more than just being nervous and excited. She visited the school nurse who took her temperature and checked her throat. The nurse called Francesca's mom and sent her home from school early.

Francesca was devastated. She was so upset that she came down with a cold right before her big race. The trophy meant so much for her school. What if she could not compete? Would her team stand a chance?

The next morning, Francesca woke up feeling better. Her mom kept her home from school so she could rest more.

On Friday after school, Francesca and her teammates raced at the swim meet. Her team won in every event at the meet. Francesca even set a school record! All of Francesca's rest from being sick had paid off to help her achieve and lead her team to victory.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Name:_____ Date:_____

COMPARING TWO STORIES

Directions: Read the two stories below. Then complete the graphic organizer.

	Story 1	Story 2
Characters		
Setting	Pierre is at track team tryouts at the middle school.	
Problem		
Events		Francesca has to go home sick from school and rest. She sleeps off the sickness.
Solution		
Theme		

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