

English 1301

The Comparison/Contrast Essay

Instructions

Write a paper of either comparison or contrast of two subjects in one of the following broad categories:

- a) procedures/operations
- b) styles
- c) equipment
- d) roles
- e) services
- f) entertainment
- g) organizations
- h) people
- i) sites

Your choice of two subjects should be determined by your identification of a real audience that would have a natural interest in the discussion.

Development

Your paper should be approximately four to five pages handwritten and should follow the plan for the traditional “thesis-support” essay with a separate introductory paragraph, a body, and a concluding paragraph.

Organize the body of the paper according to either the “block approach” or the “alternating approach.” Save your most important discussion for the last part of the body of the paper.

Submission

Turn in two copies of your paper: 1) your notes or rough drafts, and 2) the final copy stapled to the top of your notes or rough draft.

Evaluation

Your paper will be judged on the basis of the following criteria:

- 1) completion of the essay according to these instructions
- 2) demonstration of your ability to organize and develop a paper of comparison/contrast for an appropriate audience
- 3) demonstration of your ability to write a paper that reflects the conventions of standard American written English
- 4) sufficient development to fulfill your purpose and the interests/needs of the audience