



THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC



Module 2

Paired Passage HOW Prompts: Similarities and Differences

Grade 3 • Cluster 5

Tackling TEKS • Reading & Writing

3.12B(i) • 3.11B(ii) • 3.11B(iii)



★ Meet Our Week!

Week 2 · Medium Stamina

★ Daily Deck

I Will...

- I will read two passages and track each Linear Plot Line: Problem, Action, Solution, Impact.
- I will find evidence from BOTH texts.
- I will decide whether a HOW prompt asks for a similarity or a difference.
- I will write a HOW thesis (central idea) with a preposition.
- I will connect the two ideas into one clear explanation.

I Can...

- I can use evidence from both passages.
- I can connect two texts into one answer.
- I can explain how the ideas work together.



Two Roads, Two Biographies

Day 1 · Gather & Reveal

★ Daily Deck

Henry Ford and Sam Walton

informational texts

How can a writer explain the way two passages are similar or different, using evidence from both texts?

Trace where the roads meet and where they split apart.

Your job is to use both roads in one answer.

★ Dot the Tricky Words

Day 1 · Gather & Reveal

★ Daily Deck

D

Dot

Place a small dot above any word you are not sure about yet.

O

Discover

Discover the meaning as we learn together through our lessons.

T

Drop

Erase the dot once you know what the word means.

A little dot above a word means:
“I’m not sure about this word yet.”

Dot the word. Discover the meaning. Drop the dot, then celebrate when you own it!



The Paired Passage HABIT

Day 1 · Reveal

★ Daily Deck

1

Both Texts

When a prompt gives you two passages, your answer must use two passages.

2

Two Details

Find one detail from the Ford passage.

3

One Explanation

Write one connecting explanation.

Both kinds still need both passages.

Connect the ideas in one sentence.

★ Same Path or Split Path?

Day 1 · Reveal (cont.)

★ Daily Deck

HOW Prompt Lens

A similarity names the shared path.

A difference names the split path.

Both men helped families through affordable solutions.

Watch Me!

Prompt: Explain how Ford and Walton were similar in the ways they helped families.

Model: Henry Ford and Sam Walton helped everyday families through affordable solutions.

A difference still needs both texts.

★ Crossroads Compare Quest

Day 2 · Attempt · Partner Game

★ Daily Deck

Henry Ford and Sam Walton

How to Play

- 1 Read the prompt and decide similarity or difference.
- 2 Sort a card under Shared Path or Split Path.
- 3 Use both subjects, an action, a preposition, and a connected idea.
- 4 Find one detail from the Ford passage.
- 5 Find one detail from the Walton passage.

Success Check: *Names the relationship correctly.*

Model similarity card

Task Card

Both men created affordable solutions for everyday families.

Answer

Customers liked finding many items in one place at prices they could afford.

How did the Linear Plot Line help the response?

Why does a difference still need
BOTH passages?

How can two different solutions
create similar results for everyday
families?

Does the thesis (central idea) use a
preposition?

Do both texts appear?

Student Directions: “Write a HOW thesis (central idea) with a preposition.”



Linear Plot Line

Day 3 · Discuss (cont.)

★ Daily Deck

How can two different solutions create similar results for everyday families?

Problem

Action

Solution

It showed the problem, action, solution, and impact in both passages so the ideas could be lined up.



Try It On Your Own!

Day 3 · Use (Independent Practice) · Interactive Notebook

1

Write a HOW thesis (central idea) with a preposition.

2

Find one matching Ford detail with a signal phrase.

3

Write one explanation sentence that connects both texts.

Use module vocabulary such as affordable, evidence, connection, and customers.

★ Award & Target!

Day 4 · Award & Target

★ Daily Deck

Award 🏆

Students identify one successful move

- Compare Champion
- Contrast Captain
- Pathway Thinker
- Evidence Balancer

Target 🎯

Next time I want to improve my ____.

Curiosity Questions

How can two different solutions create similar results for everyday families?

Explain how Henry Ford and Sam Walton were similar in the ways they helped everyday families.

Write a GET SET introduction, one way, one Ford detail, one Walton detail, one connecting explanation, and an RRR conclusion.

Color or label each sentence by its job.



Build It, Fix It, Say It

Small-Group Support

★ Daily Deck

We are going to slow down the thinking.

Both men noticed a problem affecting everyday people.

Ford created cars, while Walton created stores.

Both men wanted to make life easier for families.

This shows that both men ____.

Practice the shared path and the split path first, then build the answer.



Double Lens

Enrichment · Write in your notebook

Write one similarity response and one difference response.

Explain how Henry Ford and Sam Walton were different in the ways they solved problems.

Each response includes a thesis (central idea), two pieces of evidence, and one explanation.

Choose the relationship, match the evidence, and connect both texts.

Explain how the thinking changed when the lens changed.

★ My Progress Tracker

This tracker is for **YOU!** As you read and write this week, look at each skill. If you can do it all by yourself, color in the box that matches how you feel. Be honest, this helps you see how much you are growing!

I Can...	Not Yet	Getting Set	I Can Do It
Tell whether a HOW prompt asks for a similarity or a difference.	Not Yet	Getting Set	I Can Do It
Write a HOW thesis (central idea) with a preposition: by, through, with, in, or across.	Not Yet	Getting Set	I Can Do It
Find matching evidence from BOTH passages.	Not Yet	Getting Set	I Can Do It
Write one explanation that connects the two texts.	Not Yet	Getting Set	I Can Do It
Use the HABIT: one answer = two texts.	Not Yet	Getting Set	I Can Do It

★ Citizenship Connection

Good Citizens · Our Community & Country

★ **Innovation, business, transportation, retail, and community impact.**

Henry Ford changed transportation by making automobiles more available to everyday families. Sam Walton changed retail by making products more affordable and shopping more convenient.

Reflect & Discuss

How can two different solutions create similar results for everyday families?

Let's Look at an Answer!

Prompt: Explain how Henry Ford and Sam Walton were similar in the ways they helped everyday families.

LOW

Henry Ford made cars. Sam Walton had Walmart.

Teacher Notes: Names both men but gives no thesis (central idea), no evidence, and no connecting explanation.

Let's Look at Another Answer!

Prompt: Explain how Henry Ford and Sam Walton were similar in the ways they helped everyday families.

MEDIUM

Henry Ford and Sam Walton helped families by making things easier. The text stated, "Many families who had never owned a car before were finally able to buy one." This shows Ford helped families. Sam Walton also helped families.

Teacher Notes: Uses a preposition and one Ford detail, but needs a real Walton detail and one sentence connecting both passages.

Our Strongest Answer!

Prompt: Explain how Henry Ford and Sam Walton were similar in the ways they helped everyday families.

HIGH

Problem-solvers can improve daily life when they create practical solutions. Both passages describe men who noticed everyday needs and developed solutions that made life easier for families. Henry Ford and Sam Walton helped everyday families through affordable solutions that improved daily life. One way both men were similar was by making important goods more affordable for ordinary people.

★ **This is our target!**

Our Strongest Answer! (continued)

Prompt: Explain how Henry Ford and Sam Walton were similar in the ways they helped everyday families.

HIGH

The text stated, "Many families who had never owned a car before were finally able to buy one." The passage explained, "Customers liked finding many items in one place at prices they could afford." This shows that both men focused on helping everyday families by lowering the cost of things people needed.

Our Strongest Answer! (continued)

Prompt: Explain how Henry Ford and Sam Walton were similar in the ways they helped everyday families.

HIGH

Ford and Walton helped everyday families through affordable solutions. The Ford and Walton details together show that both men made important goods easier for families to afford. Different solutions can make daily life better when they respond to what families need.

What Is Working: every sentence has a job and a color, the GET SET introduction and RRR conclusion mirror each other, the thesis (central idea) uses a preposition, both passages provide evidence, and the explanation connects the ideas.