

THINKING ON MY OWN

Video: Reptile Reunion

Compare-Contrast Nonfiction Text Structure
(part-part)

Jarvis loves sports, especially football! Recently, Henry moved to town from England. Jarvis and Henry quickly became friends because they share a love of sports. Jarvis was fascinated when he learned Henry's favorite sport was Rugby because it was unfamiliar to him. Curious to learn more about this unknown sport Jarvis headed to his school library to see what he could find. Sure enough he found a great book comparing the two sports. As he read he noticed that parts of the text were fantastic examples of Part-Part Compare-Contrast Nonfiction Text Structure.

Now it's **Your Turn!** Read ***Tackling the Difference: Rugby vs. Football*** and create your own *Think Aloud* and Graphic Organizer.

Then compare your thinking with **Jarvis's Think Aloud and Graphic Organizer.**



Before You Read:

Think about what you may already know about football or rugby.
Think about what you've learned about comparing and contrasting.
Then, jot your ideas.

While You Read:

Notice signal words that can help you determine similarities and differences and highlight them in blue. Highlight the topics in orange, all the differences in green, and the similar features in brown. (You may use any colors available to you – just remember your color scheme!)

After You Read:

- Now it's time to try Thinking Aloud on your own. Ask yourself this question, "How is rugby similar and different from football?"
- Use the information you've learned from this passage and Compare-Contrast Nonfiction Text Structure to determine the similarities and differences of each sport.

Tackling the Difference: Rugby vs. Football

Fans cheer from the stadiums and their living rooms. Kids of all ages play pick-up games of one of America's favorite sports—football. American football owes some of its characteristics to its ancestor, rugby. However, there are differences between the two popular sports.



Rugby is a sport of continuous, hectic action, while football is slower paced, with many starts and stops. Football players have specific roles and positions. In contrast, all rugby players on the field can run, pass, kick and tackle. While both the football and the rugby ball are oval shaped and 11 inches long, the rugby ball has flatter ends. Football players suit up in heavy pads, gloves and helmets. Rugby players, in comparison, may choose to wear only minimal, if



any protective equipment. To advance the ball in football, forward passes are allowed. In rugby, only sideways or backward passes are permitted. Both sports determine a champion team through a major

tournament. Rugby Union fans cheer at the World Cup, whereas the Super Bowl thrills the followers of football.



Create a Graphic Organizer:

After you have determined similarities and differences of football and rugby, create a graphic organizer below to represent your thinking and to help you remember the author's main points.

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*Compare-Contrast Nonfiction Text Structure
(part-part)*





Compare your Think Aloud with Jarvis's Think Aloud:

Jarvis's Think Aloud: Right away the words, "Tackling the Difference" in the title, tell me that this text will be comparing rugby and football. From past experience reading texts like this and seeing some of the signal words like "difference," "contrast," "both," and "whereas," I know that it will be written in compare-contrast nonfiction text structure. After a quick skim down the page, I'm thinking that the author will compare and contrast the two sports within the paragraphs rather than separately, since I see words such as "while," "contrast," and "both" within the same paragraph. I know that words like "while" and "contrast" signal differences, and "both" signals a similarity. I will use a part-part compare-contrast graphic organizer to record what I learn. Two circles will represent the different sports. I will attach facts about rugby to the left of one circle and facts about football to the right of the other. I will record all similar characteristics in between them.

My thinking is confirmed in the first paragraph because it states "football owes some of its characteristics to its ancestor, rugby," and "there are differences between the two."

In the second paragraph, I notice the signal word "while" and an -er ending on "slower" which I know is used to contrast things. Next, I read the words, "in contrast" and I know that rugby players must not have specific positions like football. This is another way they are different. As I begin to read about the balls used in both games, the signal word "both" indicates that there are some shared features, too! The shape of the ball and its length are the same, but I see the -er ending on the word "flatter." That helps me understand a difference in the rugby ball. As the author talks about protective gear, it says that rugby players wear very little protective equipment. The words "in comparison" help me know that is a difference in the two sports' gear. As the author begins to talk about how the games are played, I know it is different because she used two separate sentences to tell about moving the ball down the field. In the final sentence as I read the word "both," it helps me know that a similarity is going to be presented. I know that both sports have a championship. However, Rugby has the World Cup and football has the Super Bowl. So it is a difference, too. The word "whereas" signals that difference, but I already knew that because I always watch the Super Bowl on T.V. with my family!

Tackling the Difference: Rugby vs. Football

Fans cheer from the stadiums and their living rooms. Kids of all ages play pick-up games of one of America's favorite sports—**football**. American football **owes some of its characteristics** to its ancestor, **rugby**.



However, there are **differences** between the two popular sports.

Rugby is a sport of continuous, hectic action, while football is slower paced, with many starts and stops. Football players have specific roles and positions. In contrast, all rugby players on the field can run, pass, kick and tackle. While **both** the **football and the rugby ball are oval shaped and 11 inches long**, the **rugby ball has flatter ends. Football players suit up in heavy pads, gloves and helmets. Rugby players, in comparison**, may choose to **wear only minimal, if any protective equipment.** To



advance the ball in **football, forward passes are allowed. In rugby, only sideways or backward passes are permitted. Both** sports determine a **champion team through a major tournament. Rugby** Union fans cheer at the **World Cup, whereas** the **Super Bowl** thrills the followers of **football**.



Compare your Graphic Organizer with Jarvis's Graphic Organizer:

Jarvis's Graphic Organizer: "Because the author is comparing and contrasting rugby and football using part-part compare-contrast text structure, I'm going to create a part-part compare-contrast graphic organizer to record my ideas."

Questions to Think About:

- How do *signal words* help Jarvis make sense of the text?
- How does the *Part-Part Compare-Contrast Graphic Organizer* help Jarvis determine important ideas?
- Why might this process help you make sense of text?
- When might this process be useful?

