

Outline for a Comparison/Contrast Paper

There are two main ways to organize a comparison/contrast paper. You can talk about all the differences (or similarities) first, then switch to the other. An outline for this type of paper would look like this:

- I. Introduction
- II. Differences
- III. Similarities
- IV. Conclusion



The second way to organize this type of paper is to spend a paragraph on each topic and cover all the differences and similarities in each paragraph. For example, if I were writing a comparison paper on pies and cakes, and wanted to organize it this way, this is how my outline might look:

- I. Introduction
- II. Types
 - A. Similarities
 - B. Differences
- III. How to make
 - A. Similarities
 - B. Differences
- IV. Uses in holidays and celebrations
 - A. Similarities
 - B. Differences
- V. Conclusion

The first way is better if you don't have all that much to say about your topics. The second is better if you do.

Your turn! Create your outline for your paper:

