Name: _____ Date: _____

Compare and Contrast Essay Rubric

Directions:

Use this rubric to score a compare-and-contrast essay about two wild animals.

Evaluation Category	4 Excellent	3 Good	2 Developing	1 Needs Improvement
Focus	Clearly compares two wild animals and stays on topic throughout.	Compares two wild animals and mostly stays on topic.	Attempts to compare two wild animals, but focus is uneven.	Does not clearly compare two wild animals or is off topic.
Similarity	Explains at least one important similarity clearly with details.	Explains one similarity with some supporting detail.	Mentions a similarity, but explanation is weak or unclear.	Does not explain a clear similarity.
Difference	Explains at least one important difference clearly with details.	Explains one difference with some supporting detail.	Mentions a difference, but explanation is weak or unclear.	Does not explain a clear difference.
Text Evidence / Details	Uses strong facts or details from the passages to support ideas.	Uses facts or details from the passages with minor gaps.	Uses limited facts or details from the passages.	Uses little or no support from the passages.
Organization	Has a clear beginning, middle, and ending. Ideas are easy to follow.	Has a mostly clear beginning, middle, and ending.	Some parts are organized, but ideas may be hard to follow.	Writing lacks clear organization.
Conventions	Uses correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and complete sentences.	Has minor errors, but meaning is clear.	Has several errors that sometimes make meaning unclear.	Has many errors that make the writing hard to understand.

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Teacher Score: _____ / 24