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| **Block Style Comparison Essay Structure** | | **Point By Point Comparison Essay Structure** | |
| **Introductory Paragraph**   * Hook * Summary statement * Thesis * “blueprint”   (thesis and “blueprint” can be switched around)  **Body Paragraph—book/story/play #1**   * Topic sentence * Point #1 * Quotation/Example * Explanation * Point #2 * Quotation/Example * Explanation * Point #3 * Quotation/Example * Explanation * Conclusion   Each story/novel/play/poem gets its own paragraph  **Concluding Paragraph**   * Restate thesis * Make clear connections between each literary source * End with “deep thought” about topic as a whole | | **Introductory Paragraph**   * Hook * Summary statement * Thesis * “blueprint”   (thesis and “blueprint” can be switched around)  **Body Paragraph #1**   * Point #1 * Quotation #1 from first source * Explain * Quotation #1 from second source * Explain * Connect the two * Conclusion   Depending on your argument, you can add an additional point of comparison in your body paragraph.  Repeat body paragraphs  **Concluding Paragraph**   * Restate thesis * Summarize each body paragraph * End with “deep thought” about topic as a whole | |
| **Advantages** | **Drawbacks** | **Advantages** | **Drawbacks** |
| * Easy to keep organized * Useful when the points of comparison are not closely related | * A mediocre comparison will seem even more simplistic * If you missed some obvious connections, their omission will stand out * Success relies on excellence of the concluding paragraph * Body paragraphs can be REALLY long | * More flexible * Useful when points of comparison are closely related * Can make for a more impressive result | * More difficult to keep organized * Much more likely to resemble a “train wreck” |