

Student Writing

Topic: In one paragraph compare two things. Tell us how they are similar in three ways.

Here are two student writing samples. They are middle school students and their first language is not English.

School and jail are similar in many ways. First of all, I have to wear a uniform in both places. I hate wearing the same clothes as other people. Also, both places make us wear what they want. Just as if we were a doll. Second of all, I have to spend a lot of time there. At school, students have to stay from 8am to 4pm for 3 years (just counting middle school). Similarly, in jail people have to stay as long as the judge said. Finally, there is only one way to be free from school and jail. To get free from school you should graduate. To get free from jail you should wait for the day the judge said you can be free. These are the similarities between school and jail. Still, the most important thing is that I hate both places.

Fish and ducks are similar in many ways. First, they eat something to live. Fish eat seaweed and bacteria to live. Ducks eat seeds, roots, grain and small fish to live. Second, they both breathe. Even though their breathing way is different, they breathe. Fish breathe with their gills. They inhale the oxygen from the water and exhale water. Ducks breathe like us. They breathe in through their nose and exhale. Finally, they can swim in the water, although ducks don't swim forever on the water. Fish live in the water and are always swimming with their tails and fin. Ducks roll their feet and legs to stay on the water. Even though people think fish and ducks are different, they are the same in many ways.