

Compare and Contrast Two Texts

Grade 4 • ELA • Comparing and contrasting two short texts on the same topic • Standards: RI.4.9

Read both passages carefully. Then answer each question by explaining how the two texts are alike or different.

1. Passage A: Honeybees live in large groups called colonies. They work together to build hives and make honey.

Passage B: Honeybees are social insects that live in colonies. A colony can have up to 60,000 bees.

What topic do both passages discuss?

2. Passage A: Honeybees live in large groups called colonies. They work together to build hives and make honey.

Passage B: Honeybees are social insects that live in colonies. A colony can have up to 60,000 bees.

Which passage gives a specific number about colony size?

3. Passage A: Honeybees live in large groups called colonies. They work together to build hives and make honey.

Passage B: Honeybees are social insects that live in colonies. A colony can have up to 60,000 bees.

Which passage tells what honeybees make?

4. Passage A: Honeybees live in large groups called colonies. They work together to build hives and make honey.

Passage B: Honeybees are social insects that live in colonies. A colony can have up to 60,000 bees.

Both passages mention that honeybees live in what kind of group?

5. Passage A: Honeybees live in large groups called colonies. They work together to build hives and make honey.

Passage B: Honeybees are social insects that live in colonies. A colony can have up to 60,000 bees.

How does Passage A describe what honeybees do that Passage B does not mention?

6. Passage A: Honeybees live in large groups called colonies. They work together to build hives and make honey.

Passage B: Honeybees are social insects that live in colonies. A colony can have up to 60,000 bees.

What word does Passage B use to describe honeybees that Passage A does not use?

7. Passage A: Honeybees live in large groups called colonies. They work together to build hives and make honey.

Passage B: Honeybees are social insects that live in colonies. A colony can have up to 60,000 bees.

Which passage focuses more on what honeybees do, and which focuses more on

facts about colony size?

8. Passage A: Honeybees live in large groups called colonies. They work together to build hives and make honey.

Passage B: Honeybees are social insects that live in colonies. A colony can have up to 60,000 bees.

If you wanted to learn about the size of a honeybee colony and what honeybees produce, why would reading both passages be helpful?

Answer Key — Compare and Contrast Two Texts

For the teacher / parent. Do not distribute with the worksheet.

1. Honeybees and their colonies (*Both passages focus on honeybees living in colonies.*)
2. Passage B (*Passage B mentions that a colony can have up to 60,000 bees.*)
3. Passage A (*Passage A mentions that honeybees make honey.*)
4. Colonies (*Both passages state that honeybees live in colonies.*)
5. Passage A describes that honeybees work together to build hives and make honey. (*Passage A includes information about building hives and making honey, while Passage B does not.*)
6. Social insects (*Passage B calls honeybees social insects, while Passage A does not use this term.*)
7. Passage A focuses more on what honeybees do, and Passage B focuses more on facts about colony size. (*Passage A describes activities like building hives and making honey, while Passage B provides specific numbers about colony size.*)
8. Reading both passages would be helpful because Passage B tells the colony size and Passage A tells what honeybees produce. (*Each passage provides different information, so reading both gives a more complete picture.*)