

[← Back to Writing Samples index](#)

Compare your home, village or city to the place you live now. Describe things that are the same and different.

My old city and my new country are worlds apart. There are things that are the same and some other things that are really different. First, I will talk about all the things that are the same and then I'll talk about the things that are different between these two places.

First, there are many things that are similar between these two places. One of the things that is the same is that we both have people that are black and white. But my new country also has more people from different countries as well. In my old city we had a lot of parks. There were fields where kids could play soccer and hang out. Here there are a lot of parks too although some of these ones have newer playground areas. Both places also have schools. The buildings look similar from the outside but the inside and how the school is organized and taught is completely different.

Next, there are a few differences including the houses, transportation and friendship. The houses in my old city are in blocks and are square or rectangle shaped. The houses are attached in rows or apartment buildings. While here in Canada they can be any shape and attached or unattached.

Another difference is the transportation system. Passenger trains run all the time and go between most cities. There is a busy metro and bus system in the city too that runs all day and all night. Whereas here in Canada, there are mostly cargo trains between cities. More people use cars here to get around because the metro and bus system don't go to as many places or run all day and all night. For example my brother needs to buy a car because there is no bus that runs at night to where he works. Another interesting thing is in my old city I walked to school but here I take a yellow school bus. There are no yellow school buses in my old city.

The last thing that is different is about my friends. In my old city I had lots of friends that lived nearby. We walked to school together and played soccer together at the park. Here I have one friend who speaks my language. A friend of my mom's has a son who is my age. We play soccer and talk in our language which is cool. Now I have to make some new friends at school.

Finally, that is all of the things that are the same and different between my old city and Canada. Even though I miss my old city I like living in this new one.

[View full size](#)

Student writing sample:

My old city and my new country **are** worlds apart. There are things that are the same and some other things that are really different. **First**, I **will talk** about all the things that are the **same** and **then** I'll talk about the things that are different between these two places.

First, there are many things that are **similar** between these two places. One of the **things** that is the same is that we both have **people** that are black and white. **But** my new country **also has more people from different countries as well**. In my old city we **had** a lot of parks. There were fields where kids could **play** soccer and **hang** out. Here there are a lot of parks too **although** some of these **ones** have newer playground areas. Both places also **have** schools. The buildings **look** similar from the outside but the inside and how the school is **organized** and **taught** is completely **different**.

Next, there are a few **differences** including the **houses**, **transportation** and **friendship**. The houses in my old city are in **blocks** and are square **or** rectangle shaped. **The houses are attached in rows** or apartment buildings. **While** here in Canada **they** can be any **shape** and **attached** or **unattached**.

Another difference is the transportation system. Passenger trains **run** all the time and **go** between most cities. **There is a busy metro** and bus system in the city too **that runs** all day and all night. **Whereas** here in Canada, there are mostly cargo trains between cities. **More people use cars here to get around because the metro and bus system don't go to as many places or run all day and all night**. **For example** my brother needs to buy a car because there is no bus that **runs** at night to where he works. Another interesting thing is in my old city I walked to school but here I take a yellow school bus. There are no yellow school buses in my old city.

The **last** thing that is different is about my **friends**. In my old city I had lots of friends that lived nearby. We walked to school together and played soccer together at the park. Here I have one **friend** who **speaks** my language. A friend of my **mom's** has a son who is my age. We play soccer and talk in our language which is cool. Now I **have to make** some new friends at school.

Finally, that is all of the things that are the same and different between my old city and Canada. **Even though** I miss my old city I like living in this new one.

Uses a broad range of words (**same/similar, friend/friendship, attached/unattached**), including words with multiple meanings (**play, blocks, shape, cargo, runs**).

Writes grammatical structures, such as embedded pronouns (**they, that, ones**), irregular plurals (**people**), a variety of word forms (**different, differences, difference**), a variety of tenses (**are, will talk, had, were, has, have, hang, look, organized, taught, run, go, runs, speaks, have to make**) with increasing accuracy.

Writes connected complex sentences and cohesive texts with supporting detail (**More people use cars here to get around because the metro and bus system don't go to as many places or run all day and all night.**)

Uses a variety of strategies, such as circumlocution (**attached in rows = townhouse or row house, more people from different countries = multicultural or diverse**) to add descriptions to writing and make better word choices.

Produces expository text using appropriate form and style in response to prompt. (**Writes an essay that includes an introductory paragraph, detailed body paragraphs and a concluding paragraph.**)

Connects ideas in a three-paragraph expository composition using a variety of cohesive devices (**then, but, also, as well, although, or, whereas**) and some transition words (**first, next, while, another, for example, last, finally, even though**).

Edits paragraphs for common punctuation (**mom's**), subject-verb agreement (**The houses are ..., There is a busy metro ...**), tense and sequence of ideas (**things, houses, transportation, friends**).

Use the checkboxes below to display the corresponding benchmark text.

Benchmark Ratings

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Linguistic Vocabulary	5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Linguistic Grammar	5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Linguistic Syntax	5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strategic	5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Socio-Linguistic	5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Discourse	5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Editing	5

Overall Benchmark Level:

5

My old city and my new country are worlds apart. There are things that are the same and some other things that are really different. First, I will talk about all the things that are the same and then I'll talk about the things that are different between these two places.

First, there are many things that are similar between these two places. One of the things that is the same is that we both have people that are black and white. But my new country also has more people from different countries as well. In my old city we had a lot of parks. There were fields where kids could play soccer and hang out. Here there are a lot of parks too although some of these ones have newer playground areas. Both places also have schools. The buildings look similar from the outside but the inside and how the school is organized and taught is completely different.

Next, there are a few differences including the houses, transportation and friendship. The houses in my old city are in blocks and are square or rectangle shaped. The houses are attached in rows or apartment buildings. While here in Canada they can be any shape and attached or unattached.

Another difference is the transportation system. Passenger trains run all the time and go between most cities. There is a busy metro and bus system in the city too that runs all day and all night. Whereas here in Canada, there are mostly cargo trains between cities. More people use cars here to get around because the metro and bus system don't go to as many places or run all day and all night. For example my brother needs to buy a car because there is no bus that runs at night to where he works. Another interesting thing is in my old city I walked to school but here I take a yellow school bus. There are no yellow school buses in my old city.

The last thing that is different is about my friends. In my old city I had lots of friends that lived nearby. We walked to school together and played soccer together at the park. Here I have one friend who speaks my language. A friend of my mom's has a son who is my age. We play soccer and talk in our language which is cool. Now I have to make some new friends at school.

Finally, that is all of the things that are the same and different between my old city and Canada. Even though I miss my old city I like living in this new one.