



Exercise 1 directions: Fill in the blocks with similarities and differences between the autumn and spring seasons. Include sights, sounds, tastes, scents, sensations, events, sports, and so on. You do not need to use complete sentences. When you have finished with your lists, follow the directions on page 2.

	 Similarities 
	Differences 

Exercise 1 directions after you have filled in the Similarities and Differences blocks: Write two paragraphs. (See the worksheet on the next page.) In the first paragraph, show how the seasons are similar and use items from your Similarities list on page 1. In the second one, explain how they are different by including items from your Differences list on page 1.

Include a transition sentence between the two paragraphs to move your readers from the similarities paragraph to the one about differences. Here are some examples of transition sentences for this topic:

These two seasons may seem similar to each other, but it is their differences that show what they are really like.

Autumn and spring, though, are nothing like one another.

Note: In an essay, you can put the transition at the end of the first paragraph, at the beginning of the second paragraph, or alone in the middle of them.

Older writers: Decide which is more important to you about the seasons of autumn and spring—their similarities or their differences. Write your decision here:

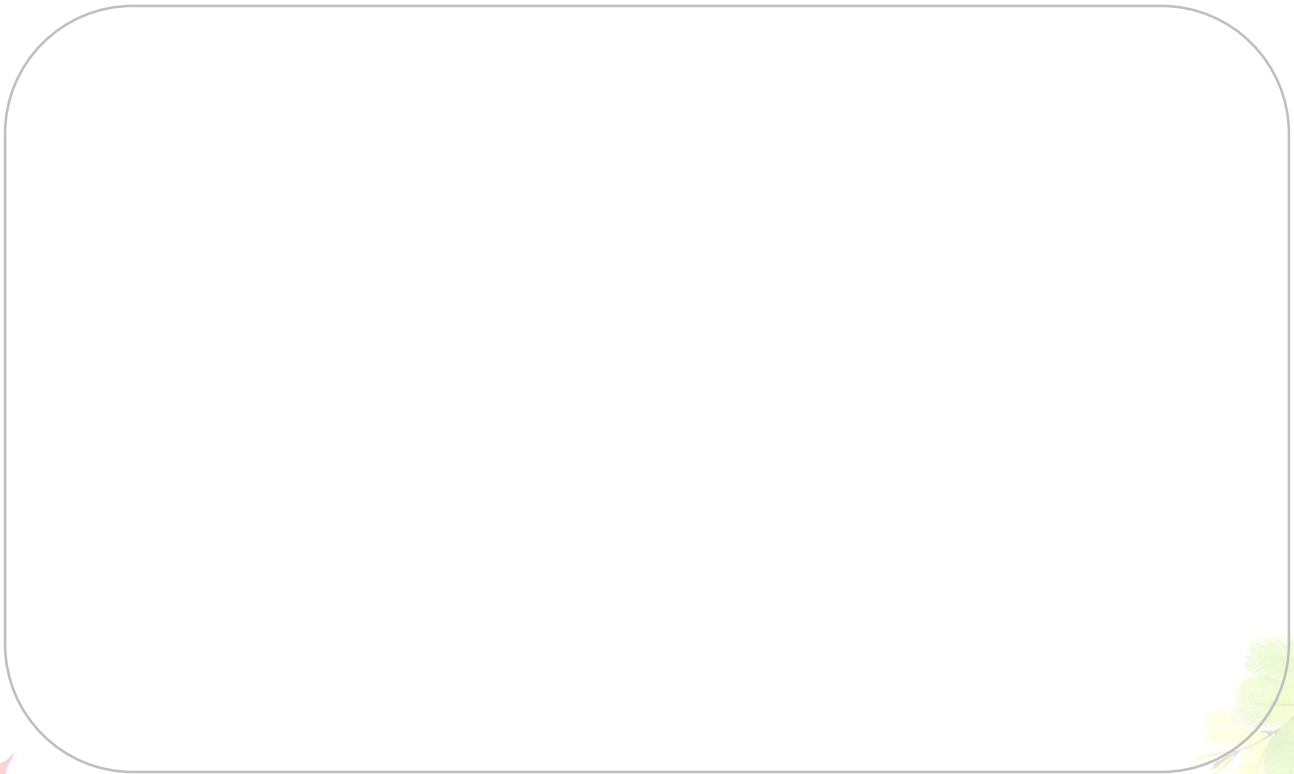
_____. Whichever one you choose, that will be your SECOND (or last) paragraph.

Now write two paragraphs and begin with the one that is the least important to you—the similarities or the differences—and end with the one that is the most important. This will highlight the importance of your observations in the minds of your readers because it will be the last thing they read.

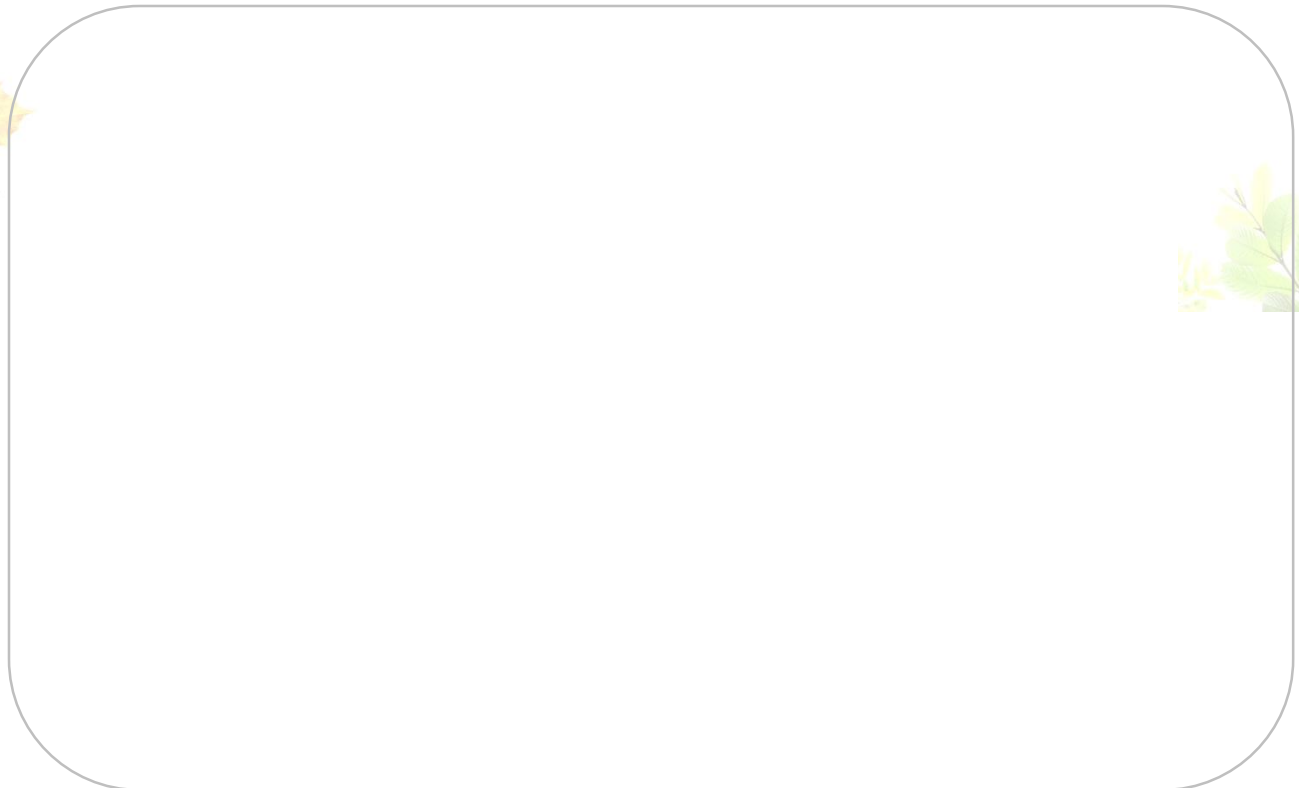
Include a transition sentence between the two paragraphs to move your readers from the similarities to the differences (or from differences to similarities). See the above examples of transition sentences.

All writers: Use the form on the next page, use your own paper, or write your paragraphs on a computer document.

Don't worry about an introduction and a conclusion. This is just to get practice in compare-and-contrast writing, so have fun with it.



Transition sentence: _____





Exercise 2 directions: Fill in this chart of features and then add some features you can use to compare and contrast autumn to spring. When you have finished your chart, follow the directions on page 5.

FEATURES	Autumn	Spring
Weather		
Seasonal foods		
Sports that are played this time of year		
Scents that people associate with the season		
Purpose of the season		
Sights of the season		
How you feel about each season		

Exercise 2 directions after you have filled in the Features chart: Choose two of the features you know a lot about or that mean something to you. For instance, if you love the seasonal sports, choose that feature. If you enjoy seasonal scents or foods, choose one of those features.

Choose the two features you care most about and write them here:

1.

2.

Now write one paragraph for each of the features you chose. (See the worksheet on the next page.) Your paragraphs will have a pattern based on which season you like the best. Here's the pattern:

⇒ **If you enjoy autumn best**, begin each paragraph by writing about spring first and then end with autumn.

Feature 1:
(example: sports)

Spring
Autumn

Feature 2:
(example: seasonal foods)

Spring
Autumn

⇒ **If you enjoy spring best**, begin each paragraph by writing about autumn first and then end with spring.

Feature 1:
(example: weather)

Autumn
Spring

Feature 2:
(example: famous artwork)

Autumn
Spring

Each paragraph will include a topic sentence to let readers know what feature you are writing about. Use the worksheet on the next page, use your own paper, or write your paragraphs on the computer.

Don't worry about an introduction and a conclusion. This is just to get practice in compare-and-contrast writing, so have fun with it.

Topic sentence for the first feature: _____

_____.

The rest of the paragraph:

Topic sentence for the second feature: _____

_____.

The rest of the paragraph: