**At Home Enrichment- Option A 8th Grade Language Arts.**

<table>
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<th>Focus Standard</th>
<th>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.8.1.C</th>
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<td>Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.</td>
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| Learning Target | I can analyze a piece of writing that compares and contrast two characters, then create my own compare and contrast essay |

| Independent Reading | Marking the Text: Highlight/Underline new vocabulary. Circle the theme statement |

| Exit Ticket | Brainstorm three to four different characters you could write a compare and contrast essay on. |

**These questions will focus on the reading/ writing activity on pg 33-35 of the Optional Learning Packet**

**Before Reading**

1. Define the terms compare and contrast.

2. The goal of a compare-and-contrast explanatory essay is to explore the similarities and differences between two subjects. What are some topics that would be interesting or useful to compare and contrast, and why? List several below.

   ____________________________________________________________________________
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   ____________________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________

**During Reading**

3. The following explanatory essay compares and contrasts characters from two short stories. Read the essay in order to identify the writer’s purpose or main idea and make inferences about the writer’s intended audience.

4. As you read, evaluate the writer’s use of evidence to develop the topic. Evidence includes relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples. **Underline or highlight the most relevant or effective examples.**
After Reading

5. When you have finished reading, respond to the following questions in the space provided.

   a. Purpose: What is the writer’s purpose for writing this essay? (Refer to the first paragraph in which the writer introduces the topic.)

   b. Audience: Whom do you think the writer had in mind as an audience for this essay? How do you know?

   c. Organization: What is the purpose or main idea of each paragraph?

   d. Evidence: What examples and details does the writer use to support and develop the topic? What evidence is most relevant?

   e. Transitions: What words does the writer use to connect and clarify relationships among ideas and guide the reader from one part of the essay to the next?

   f. Language and Style: What are examples of precise and vivid diction (word choice) that the writer uses to explain and describe the topic?

Added Practice

For some added practice try writing your own compare and contrast essay using two characters you like. They can be from books, TV shows, movies or anime. Just take two characters from two DIFFERENT sources and compare them. If you want ideas on how to get started with this just email me.