

Critical Concepts 6.9A Text Structure

Non Fiction Lesson Plans

Skill Focus: CC.6.9A – Comparing and contrasting one author’s presentation of events with that of another author

Vocabulary: biography, compare, contrast, event, identify, key details, memoir, presentation, topic

May Lesson Objectives:

- Students will be able to compare and contrast how two different authors present the same events, including how their formats (memoir, article, essay, etc.) and purposes affect how the events are described.

Non-Fiction Texts Suggestions for May (text selections are suggestion only, teachers can change the text to fit their classroom needs, if choosing another text it should come from the Educational Epiphany Curriculum)

- *Diary of Anne Frank (July 26, 1943)*
- *Historical Importance of Anne Frank* by Jennifer Rosenberg
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Graphic Organizer: Refer to your Educational Epiphany Critical Concepts Binder: Graphic Organizers Tab: CC 6.9A-Pages 117-120

I Do (Teacher Models)

Texts:

- *Diary of Anne Frank (July 26, 1943)*
- *Historical Importance of Anne Frank* by Jennifer Rosenberg
- *Red Sox-Yankees Rivalry* article from soxandpinstripes.com
- *A Brief History of the Rivalry* by Stephen Lorde

Step 1: Activate Prior Knowledge & Introduce Objective (5–7 min)

- Say:
"Today, we're going to look at how two authors can write about the same event but present it in different ways. One might give personal thoughts or feelings, while another might give facts and background. We'll learn how to compare those approaches."

Step 2: Read the Text Pair:

- *Diary of Anne Frank (July 26, 1943)*

- *Historical Importance of Anne Frank* by Jennifer Rosenberg

Teacher Think-Aloud:

- "Let's read this diary entry first. I notice it's written in the first person – 'I feel,' 'I think,' which tells me it's a **memoir**. This means we get Anne's personal view of what's happening in the attic during the war."
- "Now I'll read the article. It's written in third person and gives facts about why Anne's diary matters. It uses dates and evidence. This is an **informational article**."
- "So, even though both texts talk about the same person and time period, they present the events in very different ways."

Model Filling the Graphic Organizer:

- Events in Both Texts: Life in hiding during WWII
- Author 1: *Diary of Anne Frank*
 - Type: Memoir
 - Contrasting Presentation: Personal, emotional, subjective
- Author 2: *Historical Importance of Anne Frank*
 - Type: Informational article
 - Contrasting Presentation: Factual, historical, third-person
- Compare Presentation: Both describe the same events (Anne's hiding), but one gives feelings and the other gives analysis.

We Do (Guided Practice)

Texts:

- *Diary of Anne Frank* (October 20, 1942)
- *Historical Importance of Anne Frank* by Rosenberg

Step 1: Read aloud the pair texts

Teacher Prompts:

- "Let's read together and highlight details about Anne's experience in hiding."

Discuss:

"How is the author presenting the information? Is this more personal or more factual?"

"What kind of tone does each author use?"

Students Fill Graphic Organizer (Guided):

- Work as a class or in small groups.
- Students use chart paper or digital tools to share answers.
- Teacher circulates and prompts with questions like:

- "How does Anne's tone show her feelings?"
- "What evidence does the author of the article include?"

You Do (With a Partner)

Text Pair:

- *Red Sox-Yankees Rivalry* article from soxandpinstripes.com
- *A Brief History of the Rivalry* by Stephen Lorde

Student Instructions:

- Read both articles.
- With a partner, complete the graphic organizer.
- Focus on:
 - How the authors explain the rivalry
 - What kind of details they emphasize (e.g., stats vs. emotional descriptions)
 - What kind of tone is used (serious, playful, dramatic, etc.)

Teacher Think Aloud:

"If you and your partner are stuck, ask yourselves: 'Is this written to entertain, inform, or persuade?' That can help you figure out the type of presentation."

You Do (Independent Practice)

Text:

- Choose one *Anne Frank* entry and one *Red Sox-Yankees* article.
- Complete a new copy of the graphic organizer independently.
- In writing: Explain in a paragraph how the two authors present events differently and why that matters for readers.

Teacher Think-Aloud (before students begin):

- "Now you'll try this on your own. Think about how the author's choices – like tone, structure, and point of view – affect the way you understand the event. Your paragraph should explain what's similar, what's different, and why it matters."

Writing Prompt

Prompt:

Both *The Diary of Anne Frank* and *Historical Importance of Anne Frank* describe events from Anne Frank's life, but they present them in different ways. Choose one event that is mentioned in both texts.

Write a short paragraph comparing how each author presents this event. How is the tone or style different? Which version helped you understand the event more clearly? Support your response with examples.

Sample Student Response

One event that appears in both *The Diary of Anne Frank* and *Historical Importance of Anne Frank* is how Anne and her family had to hide in the Secret Annex. In the diary, Anne tells this story

with her personal thoughts and feelings. She says things like, "We're living in a strange world," which shows how scared and confused she was. In the article, the author explains the event with facts, like when and why they went into hiding. The diary felt more emotional and helped me understand how Anne felt, while the article helped me understand the historical reason behind it. I think both are important, but Anne's own words made the event feel more real.