

Year 8 Sample Lesson

Comparative Analysis — Evaluating Technique Across Two Texts

Lesson Overview

Term	Term 4 — Comparative & Media Analysis
Duration	60 minutes
Skill Focus	Comparing how two composers use technique to convey a shared theme
Text Types	Prose extract + visual/media text
Resources	Skill Mastery workbook — Critical Analysis & Sustained Essays

Learning Goals

- ✓ Compare how two composers convey a shared theme using different techniques
- ✓ Identify technique, effect and purpose across text forms
- ✓ Construct a comparative thesis statement
- ✓ Write a sustained comparative paragraph using the TEEL structure
- ✓ Use precise critical vocabulary and integrated evidence

Text A — Prose Extract

The city had forgotten how to be quiet. Even at 3 a.m., it hummed and flickered — a restless machine that consumed its inhabitants as fuel. Jonas pressed his forehead against the cold glass and watched the street below: headlights slicing through rain, strangers hurrying past without a glance. He had lived here for eleven years and had never once felt seen. — Writing Club practice extract, Year 8 Skill Mastery

Text B — Visual Text Description

Photograph: A wide-angle night photograph of a crowded city intersection. Dozens of pedestrians are captured mid-stride, faces blurred by motion. Neon signs reflect in wet pavement. One figure stands completely still at the centre of the frame, facing away from the camera, the only sharp point in a sea of movement. — *Writing Club practice visual, Year 8 Skill Mastery*

Activity 1 — Comparative Analysis Table (15 min)

Analyse both texts and complete the table below:

Theme	Isolation in the modern city	_____
Key technique	Personification: city as a 'machine'	_____
Effect on audience	_____	_____
Composer's purpose	_____	_____

Activity 2 — Comparative Thesis (10 min)

Write a thesis statement that addresses both texts and identifies a shared theme:

Sentence starter: "Both [Text A] and [Text B] explore the theme of [theme] through the use of [technique], positioning the audience to feel [effect]." Your thesis: _____

Activity 3 — Comparative TEEL Paragraph (20 min)

Using your thesis, write a sustained comparative paragraph integrating evidence from both texts.

T — Topic Sentence	State your comparative point. Reference both texts.
E — Evidence	Embed a quote or description from Text A, then Text B.
E — Explanation	Analyse the technique and effect in each text. Use metalanguage. Compare similarities or differences.
L — Link	Connect your analysis to the shared theme and composer purpose.

Critical Vocabulary Bank

- | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|
| • juxtaposes | • contrasts | • similarly | • conversely |
| • reinforces | • whereas | • both composers | • unlike |
| • in contrast | • parallels | • echoes | • diverges |

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