Comparative Essay Structure

**Introduction**

* Hook – get the reader’s attention with a quote, statistic, rhetorical question etc
* Background information – introduce the two things you are comparing
* Thesis statement – lets the reader know whether you will focus on similarities, differences, or both. Lists your 3 main points of comparison.

**Body Paragraphs (PEEL)**

* **P**OINT – state one similarity or difference
* **E**VIDENCE – give a specific example, from both films. Use a quote or describe a scene
* **E**LABORATE – what this means, why you have used this example, how it proves your point
* **L**INK – relate this back to your thesis (main idea) or link to your next point of comparison

**Conclusion**

* Re-state your thesis – mostly similarities, mostly differences, or both
* Restate your 3 main points of comparison
* Finish with a takeaway message or opinion about the topic as a whole.

Difference between comparative essay and normal essay

* Body paragraphs in a normal essay each contain one main point
* Body paragraphs in a comparative essay each contain a COMPARISON
  + A similarity or a difference
  + An example from BOTH of the films or texts that you are comparing