**The Compare and Contrast Essay**

**Point by Point**

**Opening Paragraph**– Introduction that leads us into a thesis

 Thesis: contains three parts 1.) the two (or more) things being considered

 2.) a controlling idea

 3.) what you will do to develop the idea (indicate if you will compare or contrast)

\*Plan of Development (Optional) Tells the readers the categories by which you will compare or contrast.

**Body Paragraph #1** – First point of comparison (Cost)

 Subject A (Puppy)

Transition

Subject B (Mature Dog)

**Body Paragraph #2** – Second point of Comparison (Purpose/Aim)

 Subject A (Puppy)

Transition

Subject B (Mature Dog)

**Body Paragraph #3** – Third Point of Comparison (Personality)

 Subject A (Puppy)

Transition

Subject B (Mature Dog)

**Body Paragraph #4** – Fourth Point of Comparison (Training)

 Subject A (Puppy)

Transition

Subject B (Mature Dog)

**Final Paragraph – Conclusion**

* + Restates the thesis in new words.
	+ Moves from narrow to broad
	+ Uses a technique to close

**BLOCK/HALVES**

Paragraph #1 – Introduction

Paragraph #2 - 1st topic of comparison on contrast (Puppies)

* Cost
* Purpose
* Personalities
* Training

Paragraph #3 – 2nd topic of contrast (Mature Dogs)

* Cost
* Purpose
* Personalities
* Training

Paragraph #4 - Conclusion

Sample thesis for my topic:

Although both puppies and mature dogs have many similar traits, it is their differences that help us distinguish which pet is best to own.

Some transitional phrases to try:

To Compare:

similar to                                at the same rate

similarly                                 as

like, alike                               just as

likewise                                  in a like manner

correspondingly                   in the same way

resemble                                in resemblance to

to have....in common            by the same token

To Contrast:

differ from                             however

nevertheless                           even so

dissimilarly                           different from

less than                                 more than

unlike                                      in contrast (to)

in opposition (to)                  on the contrary

on the other hand                at a different rate

although                                  while

still                                         yet

otherwise                               by contrast