

# BIOGRAPHY COMPARE & CONTRAST

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**Time:** 10-15 minutes for focus; 10-15 minutes for teach model; 15-20 minutes for guided practice; 45-75 minutes for independent practice; 15-20 minutes for closure

## Instructional Goals:

- Students will use the **PebbleGo** Next Biographies online database to learn how to compare and contrast.
- Students will find similarities and differences between two influential people.
- Students will create a Venn diagram to share similarities and differences in a visual format.

## Integrated Content Standards

- AASL Standards Framework for Learners (<http://standards.aasl.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/AASL-Learner-Framework-Spread.pdf>)
- Common Core English Language Arts/Literacy Standards ([www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/))
- National Educational Technology Standards for Students (<https://www.iste.org/standards/for-students>)
- NCTE/IRA Standards for English Language Arts ([www.ncte.org/standards/ncte-ira](http://www.ncte.org/standards/ncte-ira))
- National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies (<http://socialstudies.org>)

## Materials/Resources:

- **PebbleGo Next** Biographies online database
- Pencil
- **Biography Notes** handout
- **Biography Venn Diagram** handout

## Procedures/Lesson Activities:

### Focus

1. Ask students to think of people who are famous for their accomplishments. Briefly discuss some of these individuals and why they are well known.

### Teach/Model

2. Tell students they will have the opportunity to select two well-known people and explore their similarities and differences.
3. Show students how to navigate the **PebbleGo Next** Biographies database. Discuss the different categories and encourage students to think about which interests them most.
4. Navigate to “Advocates and History Makers.” Click on the article “Malala Yousafzai.”

5. Review how to move between the tabs within the article by clicking on “Early Life” and “Continuing to Inspire.”
6. Remind students that they can utilize the readaloud feature if they would like.
7. Demonstrate how to play the video within the article by clicking the appropriate icon.
8. Tell students they always need to give proper credit to their research source by including a bibliography section on their final product. Point out the cite button near the bottom of the article.
9. Explain to students that they will need to choose two people in one category to compare and contrast. They will fill out a Venn diagram with the similarities and differences they find. When they are finished, they will share their Venn diagram with a partner.
10. Pass out the **Biography Notes** and **Biography Venn Diagram** handouts.

## Guided Practice

11. Model filling in parts of the **Biography Notes** handout using the articles “Malala Yousafzai” and “Rosa Parks.”
12. Model filling in parts of the **Biography Venn Diagram** handout using the **Biography Notes** handout. Show students how they can revisit the articles and add to their notes if more information is needed.
13. Discuss how, while these women lived at different times and took action in different ways, both worked to further human rights.

## Independent Practice

14. Allow each student to choose a category in the **PebbleGo Next** Biographies database. They should then choose two influential people from that category to compare and contrast.
15. Allow students time to navigate the **PebbleGo Next** Biographies online database and fill out the **Biography Notes** handout.
16. Allow students time to complete their **Biography Venn Diagram** handout using information they collected on the **Biography Notes** handout.

## Closure

17. Give students time to share their Venn diagrams.
18. Remind students that all people have similarities and differences. Encourage students to recognize and respect similarities and differences, both in well-known leaders and celebrities, and in everyone they meet.

## Extend/Enrich

Encourage students to use the information in their Venn diagrams to write a compare and contrast essay. This essay could be written on paper or typed as an article with the addition of images and citations. It should have a title that shares its topic. You could suggest the following breakdown:

- Paragraph 1: Introduction
  - o Write a paragraph that introduces both people and what they are known for (e.g., supporting a cause, playing sports, making music). This paragraph should also make the point that these two people have important similarities and differences.
- Paragraph 2: Compare
  - o Write a paragraph that explains the similarities of the two people. Students should use signal words such as “also,” “like,” and “too” to compare.
- Paragraph 3: Contrast
  - o Write a paragraph that explains the differences of the two people. Students should use signal words such as “although,” “but,” and “while” to contrast.
- Paragraph 4: Conclusion
  - o Write a paragraph highlighting a couple of the main points from the exercise. Students could end by explaining the value of comparing and contrasting two people, places, or things.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Biography Notes

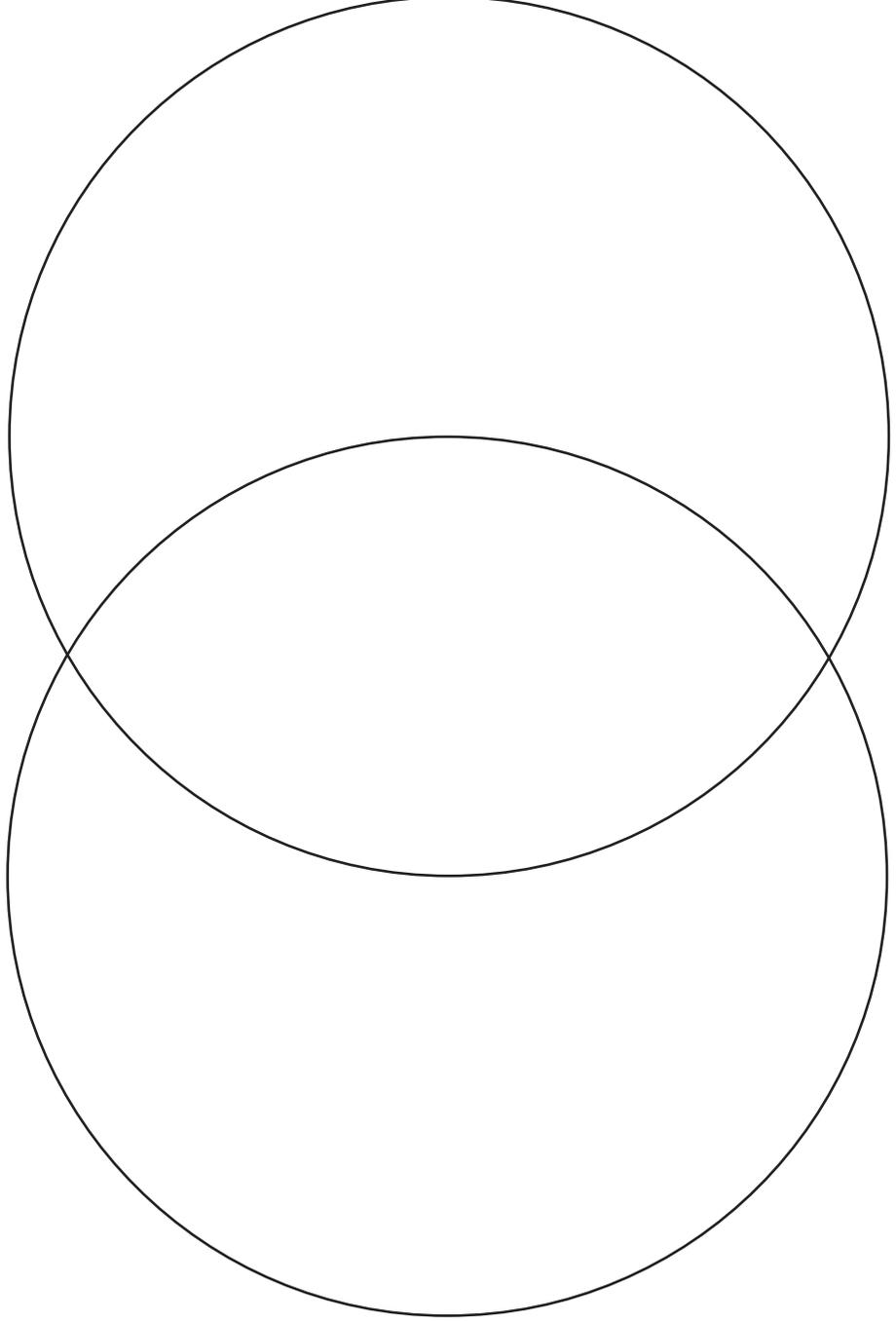
<b>Name of Person 1:</b>	<b>Name of Person 2:</b>
<b>Facts About Person 1:</b>  •  •  •  •  •  •  •  •  •  •  •	<b>Facts About Person 2:</b>  •  •  •  •  •  •  •  •  •  •  •

Bibliography: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Biography Venn Diagram

Person 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Person 2: \_\_\_\_\_



Bibliography: \_\_\_\_\_