

## How to Structure your Comparative Individual Oral?

### Structuring a Comparative Commentary

#### Introduction

- ~ Introduce the texts (text types, sources, and publication details)
- ~ Common theme shared by both texts
- ~ Summary of the texts (intended groups of audience, purposes, and contexts)
- ~ Thesis statement

Formula of a good thesis statement: Through the use of (major techniques and styles), author of Text A (purpose and significance of context), while author of Text B (purpose and significance of context).

(Key: address major similarity and/or difference between the two texts; highlight the difference between literary and non-literary texts)

For example:

Through the use of pathetic fallacy, irony and violent imagery, the short story *Popular Mechanics* (1978) and the short film *What I See* (2016) intend to educate the audience how the vast gender inequality amongst the patriarchal system within the domestic space traumatizes the next generation.

#### Significance of Contexts

How the contexts shaped the authors' purposes in response to the common theme

Contexts include: Personal, historical, social, political, and cultural.

#### Intended Groups of Audience, Text Types and Purposes

Formal features:

Technical analysis on conventions of the two text types, and compare how these formal features target various groups of intended audience and achieve purposes.

Adhere to the PEEL format.

e.g. Layout and graphology of website vs poetic form

(Include color symbolism, fonts, sizes, framing & composition, camera angles, and camera shots)

#### Use of Literary Techniques vs Non-Literary Techniques

Stylistic features:

Technical analysis on the use of diction and figurative language vs use of camera angles and lighting. Analyze how they shape the tones of the authors and moods of the texts. Adhere to the PEEL format.

e.g. Compare the use of emotive diction with dim lighting

e.g. Compare the use of sensory imagery with colourful costume

## Structural Techniques

Compare overall organization of the texts

e.g. cyclical narrative structure vs building of tension until a final climatic moment

e.g. Use of polysyndetons vs long shots

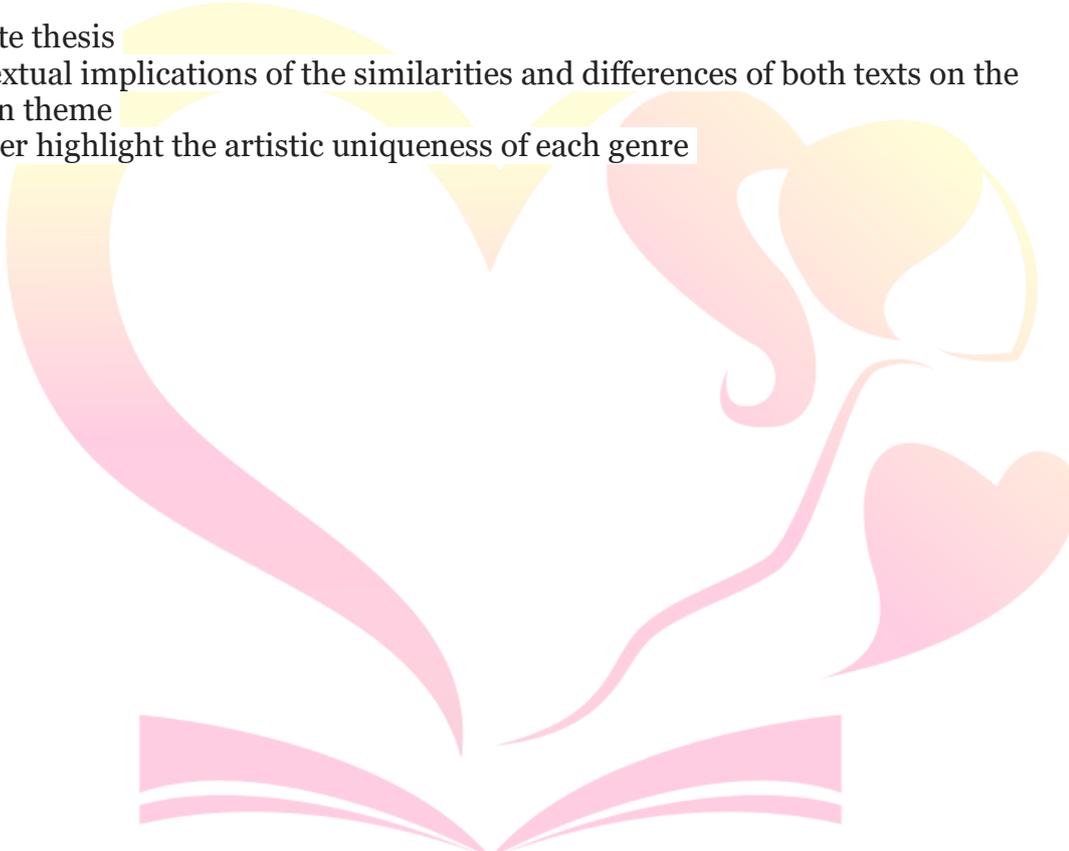
E.g. Use of ellipsis vs jump cuts

## Conclusion

~ Restate thesis

~ Contextual implications of the similarities and differences of both texts on the common theme

~ Further highlight the artistic uniqueness of each genre



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