Purpose: The purpose is to illustrate similarities and/or differences between two topics.

There are two different styles for this type of paper: block arrangement and point-by-point arrangement.

Block Arrangement: Each paragraph discusses one of the two topics to be compared and/or contrasted, stating all of the similarities/differences of that one topic.

Ex.: I. Introduction states the purpose: to discuss the differences between face-to-face and online courses.

II. Body paragraph 1 states the components of face-to-face courses.
   A. Teacher-student interaction
   B. Student-student interaction
   C. Grading process

III. Body paragraph 2 states the components of online courses.
   D. Teacher-student interaction
   E. Student-student interaction
   F. Grading process

IV. Conclusion restates the main points of comparison and/or contrast and offers no further points about the topic. It points out the importance of the compare/contrast shown throughout the essay.

Point-by-Point Arrangement

I. Introduction states the purpose: to discuss the differences between face-to-face courses and online ones.

II. Body paragraph 1 states the contrast of teacher-student interaction in face-to-face courses and online courses.

III. Body paragraph 2 states the contrast of student-student interaction in face-to-face courses and online courses.

IV. Body paragraph 3 states the contrast of the grading process in face-to-face courses and online courses.

V. Conclusion restates the main points of comparison and/or contrast and offers no further points about the topic. It points out the importance of the compare/contrast shown throughout the essay.
Additional Help with Compare/Contrast Essay:

Fill out the Venn diagram with your ideas.

Block Arrangement:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Comparison/Contrast 1</th>
<th>Comparison/Contrast 2</th>
<th>Comparison/Contrast 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topic 1</td>
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<td>Topic 2</td>
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</tbody>
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Point-by-Point Arrangement:

<table>
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<tbody>
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