

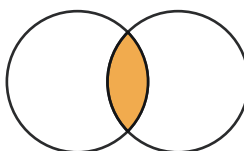
Nonfiction Text Structures #1

Compare and Contrast

Nonfiction writers use the compare and contrast text structure to show how two or more things are alike or different. The chart below shows clues to help you know when a writer is using the compare and contrast text structure.

Compare and Contrast: Signal Words

similarities, differences, whereas, unlike, share, both, however, unlike

Compare and Contrast: Visuals

Venn diagrams are often used to compare and contrast.

Directions: Read the passage, underlining signal words that offer clues about the text structure.

**Ice Cream vs. Frozen Yogurt**

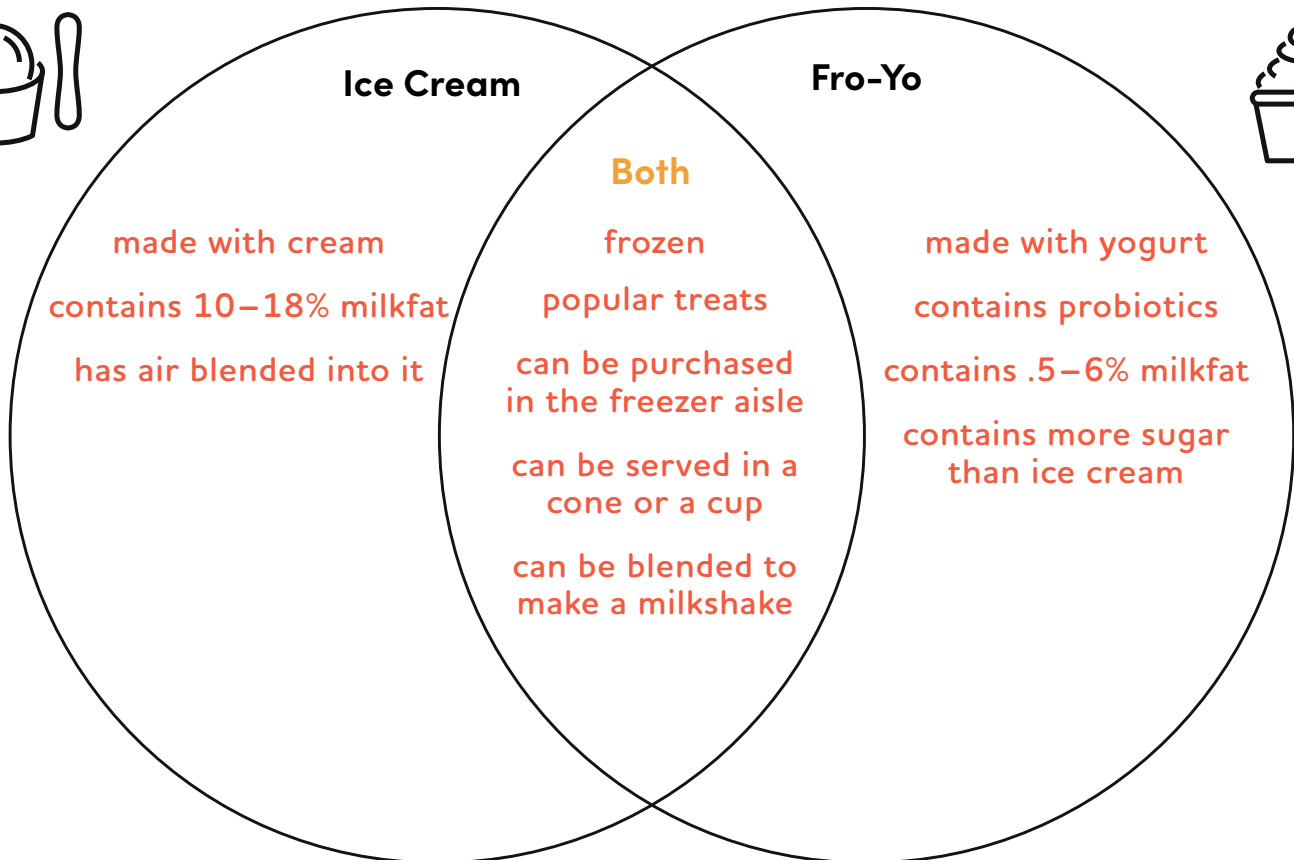
Years ago, ice cream was the frozen dessert that one could order on a cone. My, how times have changed! Frozen yogurt is now just as popular of a tasty treat as good, old fashioned ice cream. So, what are some similarities and differences between frozen yogurt and ice cream?

Frozen yogurt, also known as fro-yo, contains the healthy, gut bacteria called probiotics. If a frozen yogurt brand contains these probiotics, it is marked with the Live and Active Cultures label. Frozen yogurt substitutes yogurt in place of the bulk of the cream used in ice cream. As a result, frozen yogurt contains anywhere from 0.5-6% milkfat by weight, whereas ice cream contains as much as 10-18%. Less isn't always more, though, because there is typically more sugar in frozen yogurt than ice cream. Lastly, unlike frozen yogurt, ice cream has air blended into it to increase its volume and give it its fluffy texture.

Among these differences, frozen yogurt and ice cream do share some similar characteristics. For one, they are both frozen and you can purchase either one of them in the freezer aisle of your grocery store. Also, both of these treats can be served in a cone or a cup. And, if you're in the mood for a milkshake, either one of these products can be used to blend up this drink. With all of this information swirling around in your mind, which of these sweet snacks would you choose on a hot, summer day?

Nonfiction Text Structures #1**Compare and Contrast**

Directions: Refer to the passage you read on page 1 to complete the Venn diagram below.



List the signal words in this passage. (**Hint:** Look for words that compare and contrast.)

similarities

unlike

differences

share

whereas

both

How would you answer the last question in the passage you have just read?

Student answers will vary.