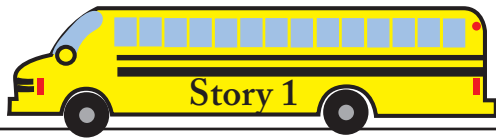


Compare and Contrast Fictional Stories:

Directions: Read the texts below. Pay attention to the similarities and differences between the two stories.



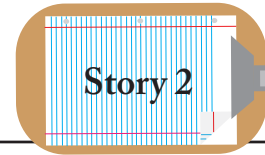
Denise got off the bus with the other kids from her neighborhood. Although she had met some really nice kids while she was at the bus stop that morning, she couldn't help feeling nervous as she began her first day at the new school. The other kids looked like they already knew everyone, and it seemed that they weren't interested in having Denise as a friend.

She found her classroom and went inside. Denise looked around and did not see a single familiar face. Normally, she had so many friends in her class and school days were her favorite. She was worried that she would not make any friends at this new school. She desperately missed her friends in her old town.

After class started, Denise felt better as she focused on her teacher's lessons. She worked hard to follow along and take notes. If she kept her mind on her schoolwork, she would learn and get good grades. That was something she could feel good about! She almost forgot about the fact that she was the new girl. But as soon as her teacher, Mrs. Anderson, directed the students to prepare for lunch and recess, Denise felt that pit in her stomach return. She would have to face the fact that she didn't know anyone.

Mrs. Anderson dropped the students off at the lunchroom. Denise followed her classmates to their assigned table, but she didn't know where to sit. She asked one of the other girls in the class if she knew where there was an empty seat, and the girl, Nina, politely helped her. Denise took her seat and began opening her lunch. At least she had a place to sit and a thoughtful classmate.

Denise and Nina chatted all through lunch. Denise almost did not finish eating her food because she was busy learning all about her new friend Nina. They decided they would hang out during recess, too. Denise was relieved that she had asked for help. Sometimes good things come even when you don't expect them!



When Nina walked into class, she noticed there was a new student. The girl looked a little nervous, but she was busy getting started on her morning work. Nina decided that she would talk to her later.

As Mrs. Anderson taught the math lesson, Nina lost focus. Instead of paying attention to the new strategy Mrs. Anderson demonstrated on the board, Nina was thinking about her first day at this new school just a few months ago. She remembered it clearly. She thought about the nerves, the fear, and the tears. Starting a new school was hard, and Nina wanted to make sure to help this new girl, Denise, feel comfortable in her new class. She couldn't wait until lunch so she could talk to her and maybe make a new friend.

When Mrs. Anderson instructed the class to line up for lunch and recess, Nina realized she had no idea what her homework assignment was. She hoped she could talk to Denise at lunch and get caught up on what she missed. She noticed that Denise had been very focused on the lesson, while Nina was not paying attention to the teacher at all.

"Excuse me," Denise said to Nina. "Do you know where there is an open seat? I'm not sure where I should sit."

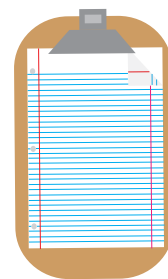
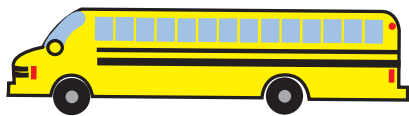
Nina happily directed Denise to the open seat next to her. Together, they sat perched on their seats and opened their lunchboxes. At first, their conversation was short, but after a few minutes the girls held a steady conversation. Nina repeatedly checked the clock to make sure they had enough time to eat. It was so much fun to meet a new friend, but it was also lunchtime and they needed to eat their food. Nina made sure to ask Denise to help her get caught up with the math that she had missed that morning.

Nina and Denise spent recess that day together. They chatted the entire time and even joined a game with the other students. Nina was so glad that she had befriended the new student. She knew how it felt to be new, and she always wanted to be kind to others who might be having a hard time.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Compare and Contrast Fictional Stories:



Directions: Complete the chart with information from both fiction texts.

	Differences Story 1	Similarities	Differences Story 2
<p>Characters What character traits do they have in common? What traits are different?</p>			
<p>Setting How is the setting from Story 1 different from Story 2? How are the settings the same?</p>			
<p>Problem How is the character's problem in Story 1 similar to the character's problem in Story 2?</p>			
<p>Major Events What parts of the plot in the stories are similar or different?</p>			
<p>Resolution What did the characters do at the end of the story to solve the problems? How are the solutions the same or different?</p>			
<p>Theme What lesson does the character learn in Story 1? How is this the same or different from the lesson learned in Story 2?</p>			