**How to structure a comparison response**

A comparison response still follows the basic essay structure:

* an introduction
* four or five main points supported by details
* a conclusion - this must link back to the question, and mention both texts

When you compare texts, it’s important to talk about **both texts** all the way through. **Don’t** write all about one text, then all about the other.

In each paragraph, make sure you mention both, even if a point is mostly about one of them.

**Sentence starters**

Some key phrases can help you to compare texts.

| **Similarities** | **Differences** |
| --- | --- |
| Similarly… | In contrast… |
| Equally… | However… |
| In the same way | On the other hand… |
| Just as... so does.... | Alternatively… |
| Both... and... | In a different way… |

When comparing poems, you are making a point about two different poems, backing up ideas with evidence and explaining the idea. Then using a linking statement, you can connect the two ideas together.