



5

Common Core State Standards

Fifth Grade Workbook

Grade 5

- **Math Standards**
- **English Standards**

**Worksheets and Activities
that teach every standard!**

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Common Core State Standards

Compare and contrast stories in the same genre (e.g., mysteries and adventure stories) on their approaches to similar themes and topics.

Comparing Themes



Directions:
Read the two passages. Using the Venn diagram, compare and contrast the stories on their approaches to similar themes and topics.



Standard: English Language Arts | Reading Literature | RL.5.9

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Passage #1

Needs and Wants Story By: Andrew Frinkle

"What is success?" Mr. Gruber asked his 6th grade business class. It was his opening conversation for the first class of the semester.

"Success is rolling in a sweet car, watching an 80 inch TV, and living in a place with at least twelve rooms." One student answered, earning a chorus of laughter.

Mr. Gruber smiled, but shook his head. "Tom, that is excess. That is not *success*."

"How about being able to provide for your family?" A blonde girl named Sandy in the front suggested as an answer.

"Now we're getting closer," Mr. Gruber smiled, "but try thinking about it in terms of what you need and what you want."

"Getting everything you want." Tom shouted out an answer again, trying for more laughs.

Mr. Gruber sighed. "I believe we've already talked about excess versus success."

"Getting everything you need, but some of what you want?" James, sitting in the back, wondered aloud.

"Exactly!" Mr. Gruber clapped. "Success is getting everything you need and some of what you want. The more you get that you want, the more successful you are. You do reach a point where you are living in excess, though."

"What does this have to do with business?" Tom demanded. It seemed if it wasn't funny, he wasn't happy. "Well, Tom, think of it this way: the point of business is to make a living to support your family. Once you have properly seen to their needs, you can then see to getting the extras that you want."

"What if I don't have a family?" He continued to be difficult.

"Then you have to provide for yourself, a family of one."

"He has goldfish to think about!" Peter, Tom's friend, shouted out. "Then he needs to provide for a family of one with a fishbowl." Mr. Gruber corrected himself.

Tom nodded, satisfied with that answer. "So in the next nine weeks, we're going to study basic business situations, like having a checking account, balancing household budgets, and understanding credit cards."

Tom rubbed his hands together excitedly. "When do we get to start spending?"

"You already are, Tom. You're spending time with us!" Mr. Gruber laughed. "Now, let's see what you guys know about credit cards..."

Passage #2

I Want That! Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Ethan's eyes grew wide. This store had the newest Super-Mega-Changer! "Mom, mom!" Ethan cried excitedly. "Yes, dear?" She wasn't really listening, but he got her attention by pulling on her arm.

"I want that!" He pointed at the toy, all shiny and blue in its plastic package. He smiled as he thought about using scissors to open the child-proof packaging, releasing the toy into his large collection at home.

Ethan's mother frowned at the package and looked completely uninterested. "No, dear, not today." Her answer was simple and final. Shock ran through his body as if he'd been slapped across the face. "What?" His dreams of playing with the newest Super-Mega-Changer were vanishing like clouds blown away on a windy day.

"Not today, dear." Mother repeated, checking off something inconsequential from her shopping list. Who cared about eggs, bacon, cheese, and milk when he didn't have the newest Super-Mega-Changer? Ethan inhaled deeply and let out a bloodcurdling cry. "I WANT THAT!" He howled. His mother stopped what she was doing and looked at him as if he'd just grown twenty feet tall and his skin had taken on angry shade of glowing green. "What do you think you're doing, young man?"

"I want that!" He repeated. "You will not make a scene." Mother hissed, clutching his arm with her talon-like nails digging in. She dragged him bodily away from the toy section and back into the grocery section of the store.

"I want that really bad?" Ethan whined, slipping free. He ran back to the toy shelf and grabbed the toy. Mother barked an angry laugh. Her eyes were wild, like a horse ridden too hard. She was ready to rear up and crush him beneath her powerful hooves. He cowered away from her imminent wrath.

Instead, she took a calming breath. "Another word of this, and we shall have to see about weeks of extra chores and grounding on top of that. I thought we'd grown past these little tantrums?" That hurt. Her tone suggested that he was little more than a toddler, and it burned like acid thrown upon his skin. Was he really being that unreasonable? All he wanted was one toy, and it wasn't like it was... He strained to see the price tag. Wow, it was quite expensive! It was \$37.99. That was like two month's allowance for him, and that was if he skipped out on candy and comic books.

"I'm sorry, Mom." Her mouth twitched, ready to say something snappy, because she was clearly expecting more arguing. "Maybe you can get it some other time."

Ethan nodded and looked at the shopping list. "What can I help you get?" Sometimes it was easier to be helpful, especially after making trouble. It helped parents get over the mistakes you'd just made.

Comparing Themes

Passage #1

Passage #2

Genre and Theme

Directions: Compare and contrast the two mysteries below. What theme do they share?

Something Wickedly Weird: The Silver Casket by Chris Mould	Misty Gordon and the Mystery of the Ghost Pirates by Kim Kennedy
Characters: 	Characters: 
Setting: 	Setting: 
Plot: 	Plot: 

How do the authors approach the theme differently within each story?

Genre and Theme

Directions: Compare and contrast the two historical fiction stories below. What theme do they share?

<p align="center">Weedflower by Cynthia Kadohata</p>	<p align="center">A Boy At War by Harry Mazer</p>
<p>Characters:</p> 	<p>Characters:</p> 
<p>Setting:</p> 	<p>Setting:</p> 
<p>Plot:</p> 	<p>Plot:</p> 

How do the authors approach the theme differently within each story?



Common Core State Standards

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