

Writing for Tests

Prompt Think about two things in nature. They might be two birds, two trees, or two seasons. Write a compare/contrast paragraph for a nature magazine that tells how the two things are alike and different. Use compare/contrast words to signal similarities and differences.

Two Beautiful Blossoms

Both and *also* signal similarities.

However, while, and *but* signal differences.

The final sentence sums up the paragraph.

Roses and tulips are **both** beautiful flowers. They grow in a variety of bright colors, such as yellow, red, and pink. Tulips look pretty in vases. Roses **also** make lovely flower arrangements. Tulips usually bloom in early spring. **However**, roses often bloom in the middle of summer. Tulips grow on long smooth stalks, **while** roses have thorny stems. Tulips grow in the ground, **but** roses grow on bushes. **Although** these two flowers are different in some ways, **both** are sure to brighten your day.