

Compare and Contrast

This activity accompanies “Two Songs,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 4991.

Activity Title: Compare and Contrast

Description: The students will work with a partner to compare and contrast the three parts in the first song. Then, the students will explore reasons why Dunbar may have put these two songs under one named poem.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Compare and contrast and Literary Analysis

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will compare and contrast the three parts in the first song.
- The student will explain why Dunbar put these two songs under one named poem.

Materials:

- “Two Songs” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencils
- Venn diagram template (below)

Procedures:

Read the poem with the class, or have the students read it on their own. Discuss with the students why Dunbar may have put these two songs under a single title, instead of separating them into two poems. Next, have the students work with a partner to compare and contrast the three parts of the first poem, using a Venn diagram (below). Finally, have the students compare their Venn diagrams with another set of partners.



Name _____ Date _____

“Two Songs” Venn diagram

Part 1

Part 2

Part 3



This activity was downloaded from Lit2Go, a free online collection of stories and poems in MP3 (audio book) format. To download the audio file and text passage that accompany this lesson, visit <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>.
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