

Synthesis Across Two Texts

Combine related information from two texts into a new explanation while preserving differences and avoiding copied wording.

LEARN • PRACTISE • CREATE • REFLECT

Original BrightPencil Kids resource - adult-led where appropriate

A4 edition • 12 purposeful pages • review copy

Print. Learn. Grow.

Grown-up guide

Learning objective

Combine related information from two texts into a new explanation while preserving differences and avoiding copied wording.

Use this pack well

- Model the first example aloud, then let the learner try.
- Ask “How do you know?” more often than “Are you finished?”.
- Use real objects, talk, movement or observation when the activity suggests it.
- Stop or shorten the session if attention or enjoyment drops.
- Open-ended pages can have many successful answers.

Quality note

This resource was written originally for BrightPencil Kids. Curriculum sources informed scope and progression only; no third-party worksheet or story text is reproduced.

Learn the idea

1 Synthesis connects ideas; it is more than listing two summaries.

2 Shared ideas can be combined, while important differences should remain visible.

3 Paraphrasing changes wording and structure without changing the source meaning.

Talk about it

Explain one idea in your own words. Give an example from real life, a drawing or an object if that helps.

Identify one shared idea and one difference across two original passages.

Group evidence by idea rather than by source.

Paraphrase a short factual sentence without changing its meaning.

Write a synthesis paragraph using information from both texts.

Check the paragraph for copied phrases and unsupported additions.

Try it beyond the page

Real-world / hands-on connection

After reading two short trusted sources with an adult, give a spoken synthesis beginning: “Both sources show..., while only one explains...”.

Before you finish

What did you notice?

What evidence, object or example helped you?

What would you change if you tried again?

Create something

Your project

Design a two-source synthesis organiser with shared ideas, differences, evidence and a final combined explanation.

Use this space for planning, drawing, mapping, designing or notes.

CHALLENGE

Think deeper

1. Is synthesis the same as copying one sentence from each source?

2. Should differences between sources be hidden?

3. What must a paraphrase preserve?

Quick review

1. In one sentence, explain the big idea of “Synthesis Across Two Texts”.

2. Draw or write one example that shows you understand.

3. Choose one activity from this pack and explain the strategy you used.

4. Write one question you still have.

Answer & discussion notes

Use these as guidance, not scripts. Open questions can have different successful responses when the reasoning is sensible and evidence-based.

1. Suggested response

No.

2. Suggested response

No.

3. Suggested response

The original meaning.

Review before publication

Check age fit, factual accuracy, clarity, accessibility, rights provenance and whether the activity works in practice. This file remains a review copy until those checks are signed off.

FINISH

My learning reflection

I finished this BrightPencil learning pack.

One thing I understand better now:

A strategy that helped me:

Something I created or noticed:

My next small question or goal:

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