Identifying Similarities and Difference

Purpose:
Comparing, classifying, creating metaphors and analogies, each involves identifying how items, events, process, or concepts are similar and different.

- To **Compare** is to identify similarities and differences between or among things or ideas.
- **Classifying** involves grouping things into definable categories based on like characteristics.
- **Metaphors** link two things that appear to be quite different on the surface but have some likenesses (e.g. "she was a grizzly bear in the morning")
- **Analogies** involve relationships between pairs of concepts. Typically, an analogy follows the form A:B as C:D. (e.g. "happy is to sad as big is to small")

Procedures:
- **Comparing**
  1. What do I want to compare?
  2. What things about them do I want to compare?

  How are they the same? How are they different?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Items to be Compared</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Similarities</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Differences</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Differences</td>
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<td>Conclusions</td>
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Comparison Matrix
• **Classifying**
  1. What do I want to classify?
  2. What things are alike that I can put into a group?
  3. How are these things alike?
  4. What other groups can I make? How are the things in each group alike?
  5. Does everything fit into a group now?
  6. Would it be better to split up any of the groups or put any groups together?

  **Classification Organizer**

  ![Classification Organizer Diagram]

• **Creating Metaphors**
  1. What is important here?
  2. How can I say the same thing in a more general way?
  3. What else has the same general pattern?

  **Metaphor Organizer**

  ![Metaphor Organizer Diagram]
• Creating Analogies
  1. What is the connection between the first two things?
  2. How can I describe this connection?
  3. Do the second two things have a connection like the first two?

Analogies Organizer

A

is to

B

As

C

is to

D