FICTION | 4TH GRADE | RL.4.9

COMPARE & CONTRAST themes & topics

LEXILE

TRUSTED BY OVER 2,000 TEACHERS

Compare Themes Name: _____ Date: _____

The Myth of Persephone

Origin: Greece

...e goddess of harvest, Demeter, had a daughter named Persephone whom she loved ...much. While Demeter tended the crops every day, she watched Persephone play in a field of flowers.

One day, Persephone was filling her basket with flowers when Hades, the god of the underworld, decided to come to earth. Hades saw Persephone from his chariot and instantly fell in love with her, so he captured her. Persephone screamed for her mother, and in fright, she dropped the flowers she had collected.

Soon after, Demeter found Persephone's dropped fl... she asked Helios, the sun god ... that Hades had taken Persep... the crops.

Hades ...ought Persepho... and offere... er food, but Per... underwor... yo... uldn't leave, ...

...e Blue Corn Maiden"

blue

In "The Blue ... winter. In the spring "The Blue ...ople underworld ... to Winter

Compare Theme ... Answer the follow...

1. How are the ...

a. They b...

810L

Compare Themes Name: _____ Date: _____

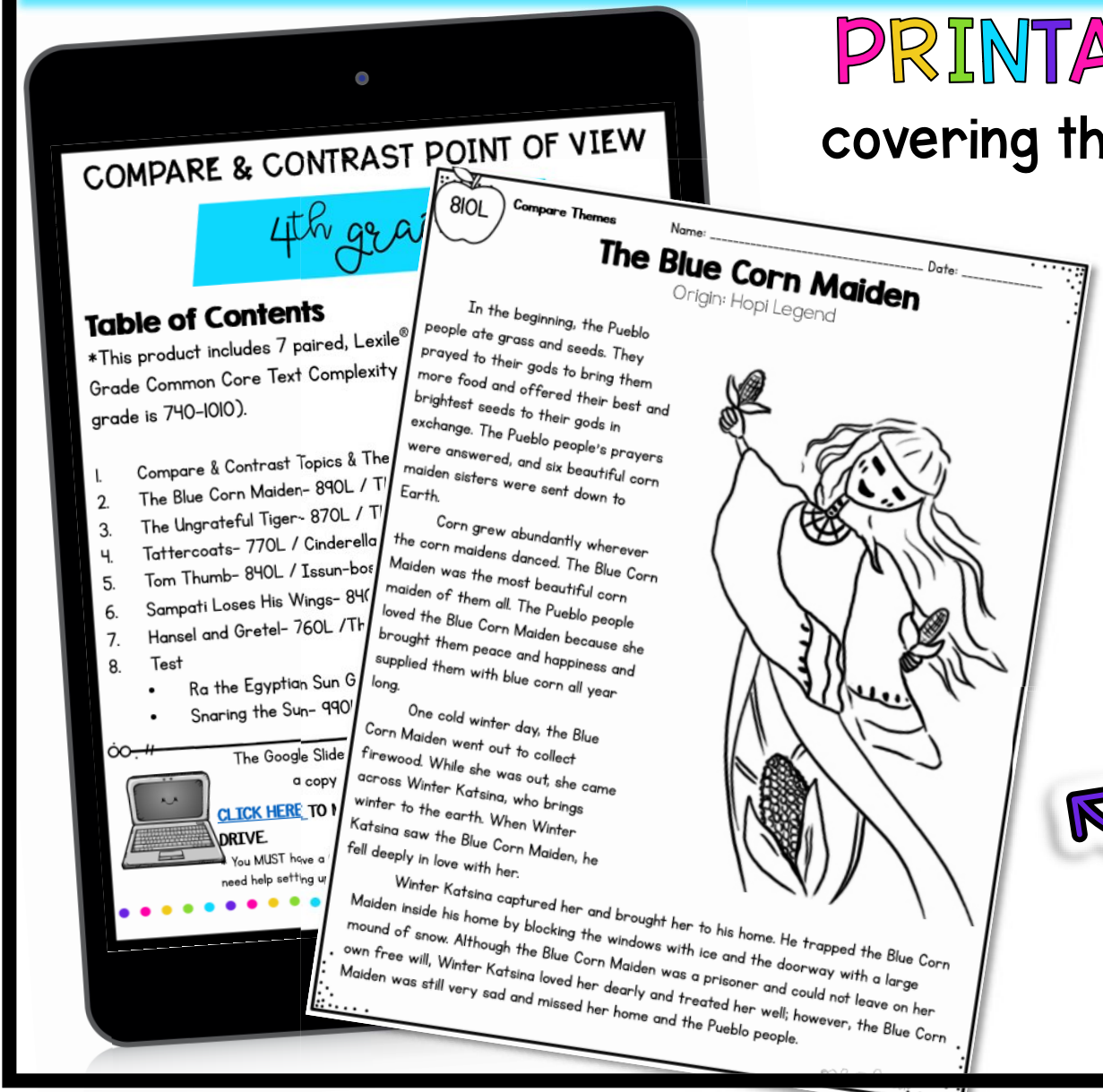
The Blue Corn Maiden

Origin: Hopi Legend

In the beginning, the Pueblo ...

MagiCORE

WHAT'S INSIDE?



PRINTABLE PDFs and **DIGITAL** Google Slides covering the 4th and 5th grade text complexity band with Certified Lexile Levels.

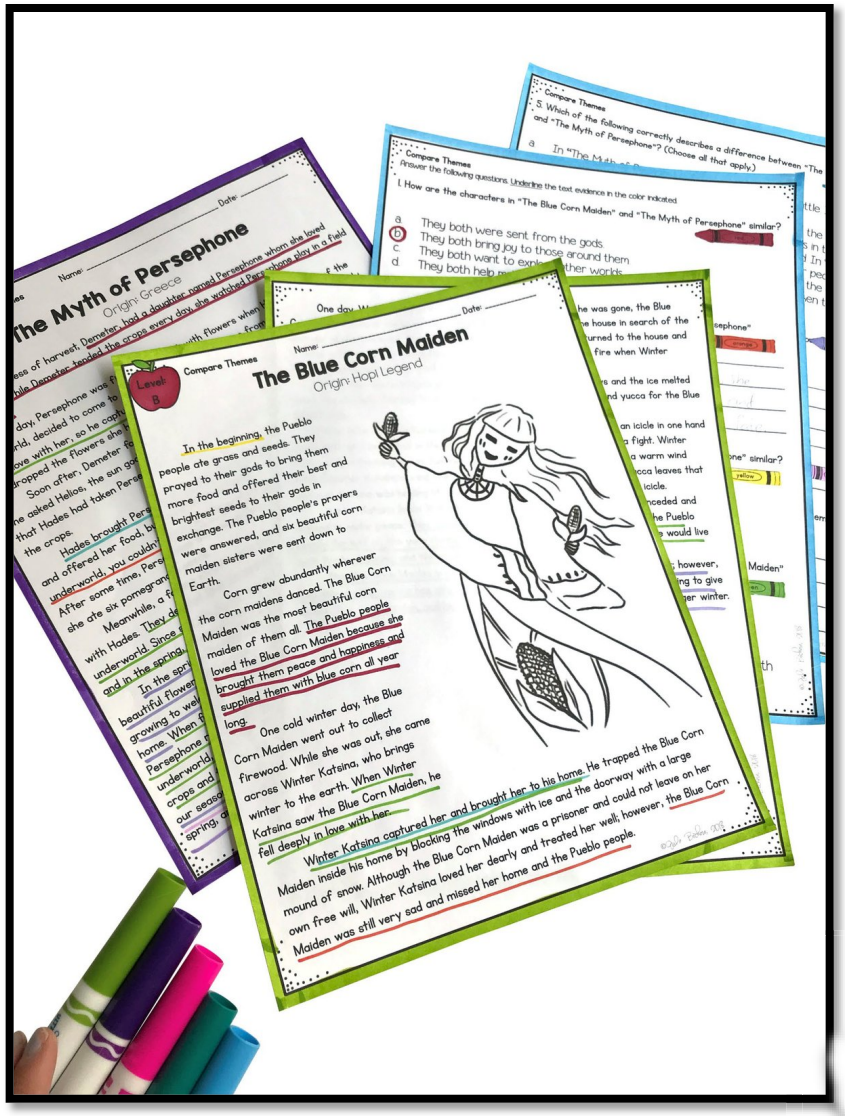
- Anchor charts and question sets
- Color coding to encourage students to use text evidence
- AND two assessments on nonfiction reading passages

Printable and Google Slides Included

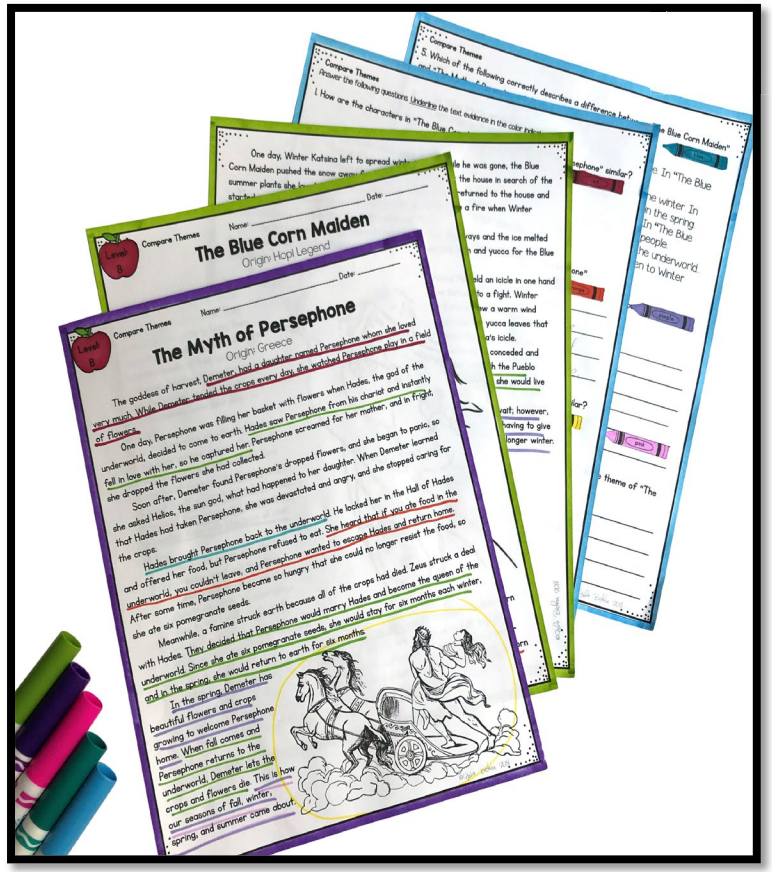
LEXILE®

MagiCORE

10 FICTION PASSAGES



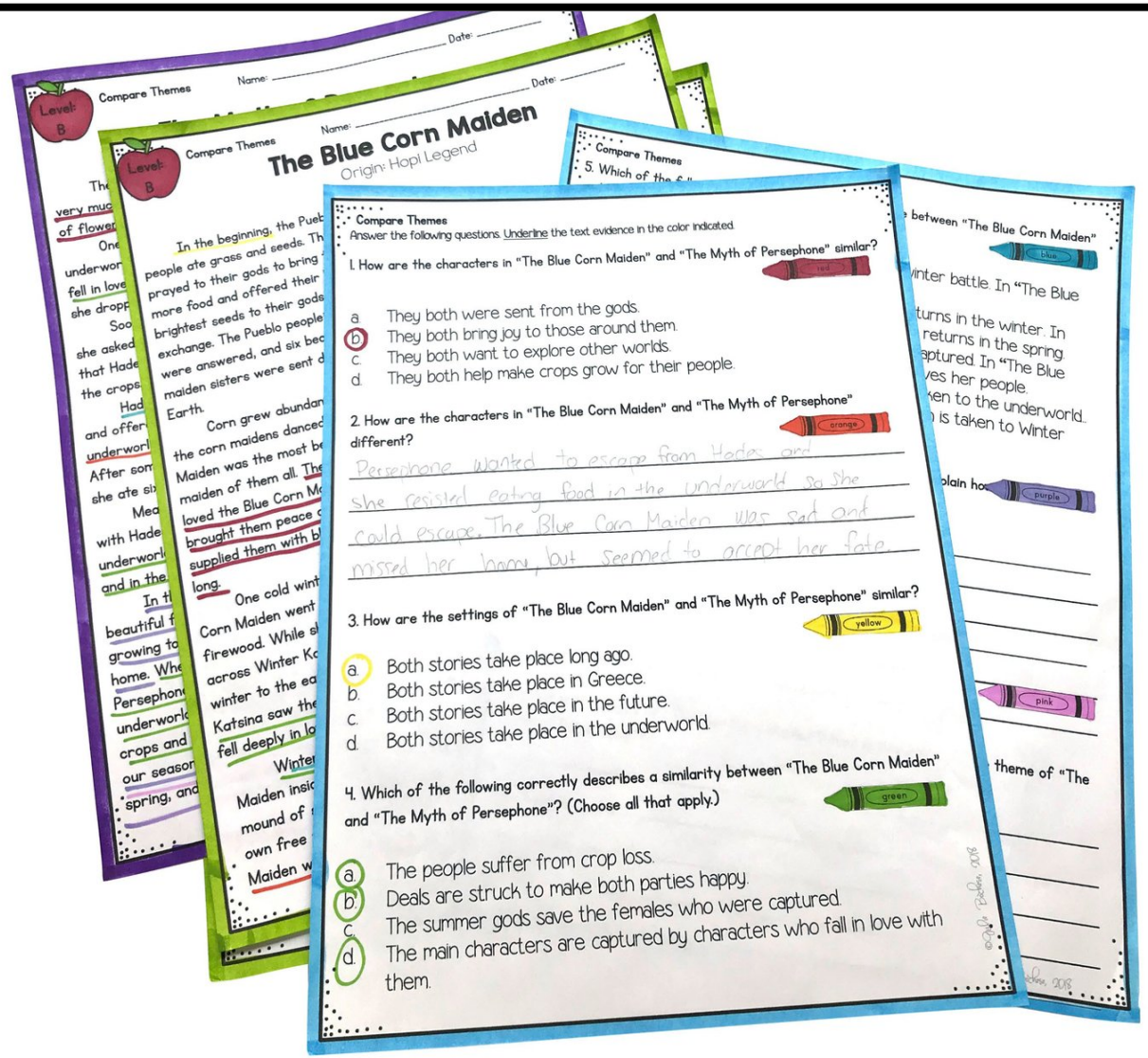
- Learn in color! Visual cues reinforce text evidence
- Teachers can quickly check student work.



- Variety of text structures to spark comprehension AND curiosity.
- Dive into literary texts including fictional from around the world.

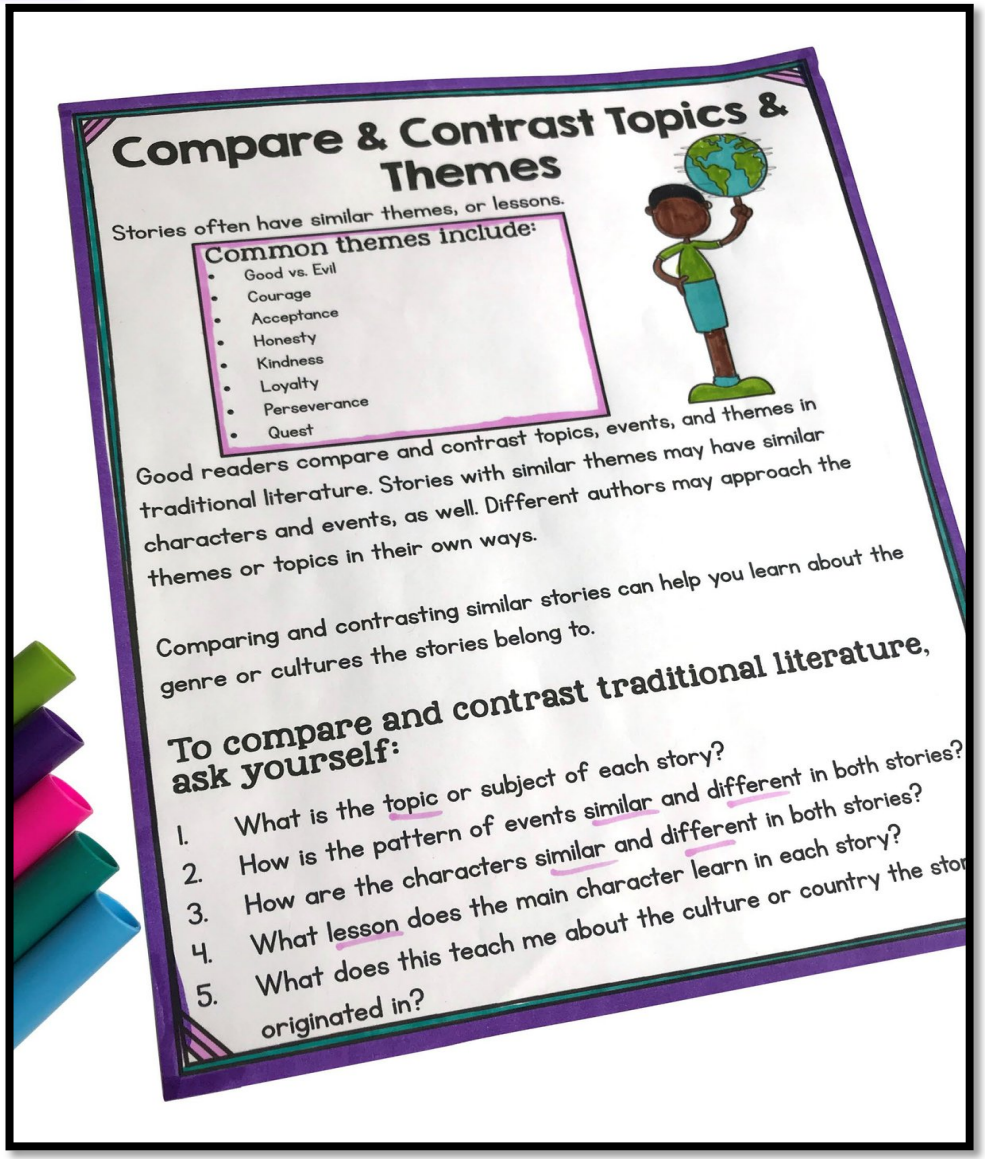
QUESTIONS

- Skill-focused, scaffolded questions
- Multiple choice and short answer
- Preps students for state testing
- Rigorous and research-based approach to questioning



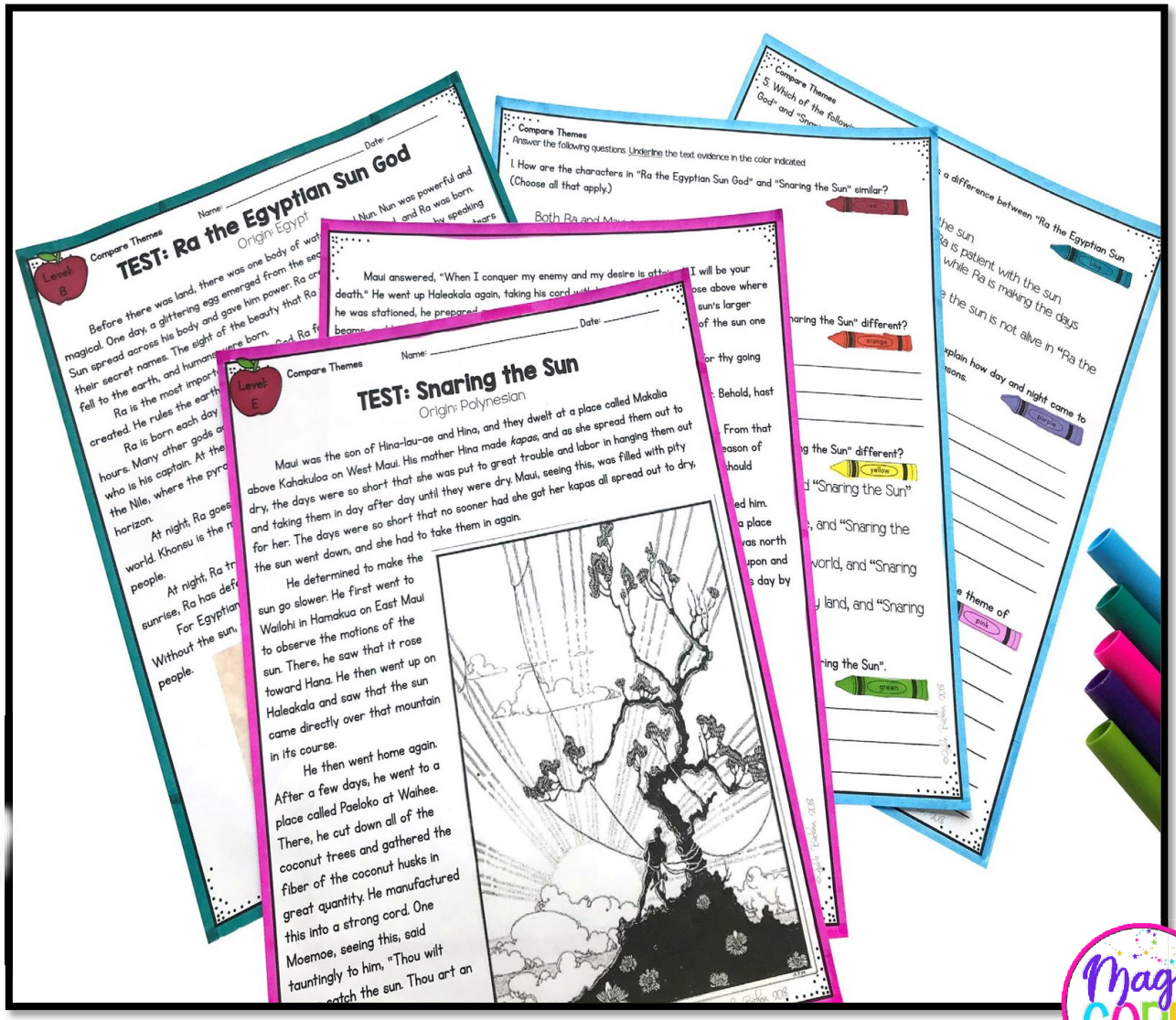
ANCHOR CHART

- Anchor chart
- Use to introduce the skill
- Students reference throughout the unit
- Use in student journal as a reference



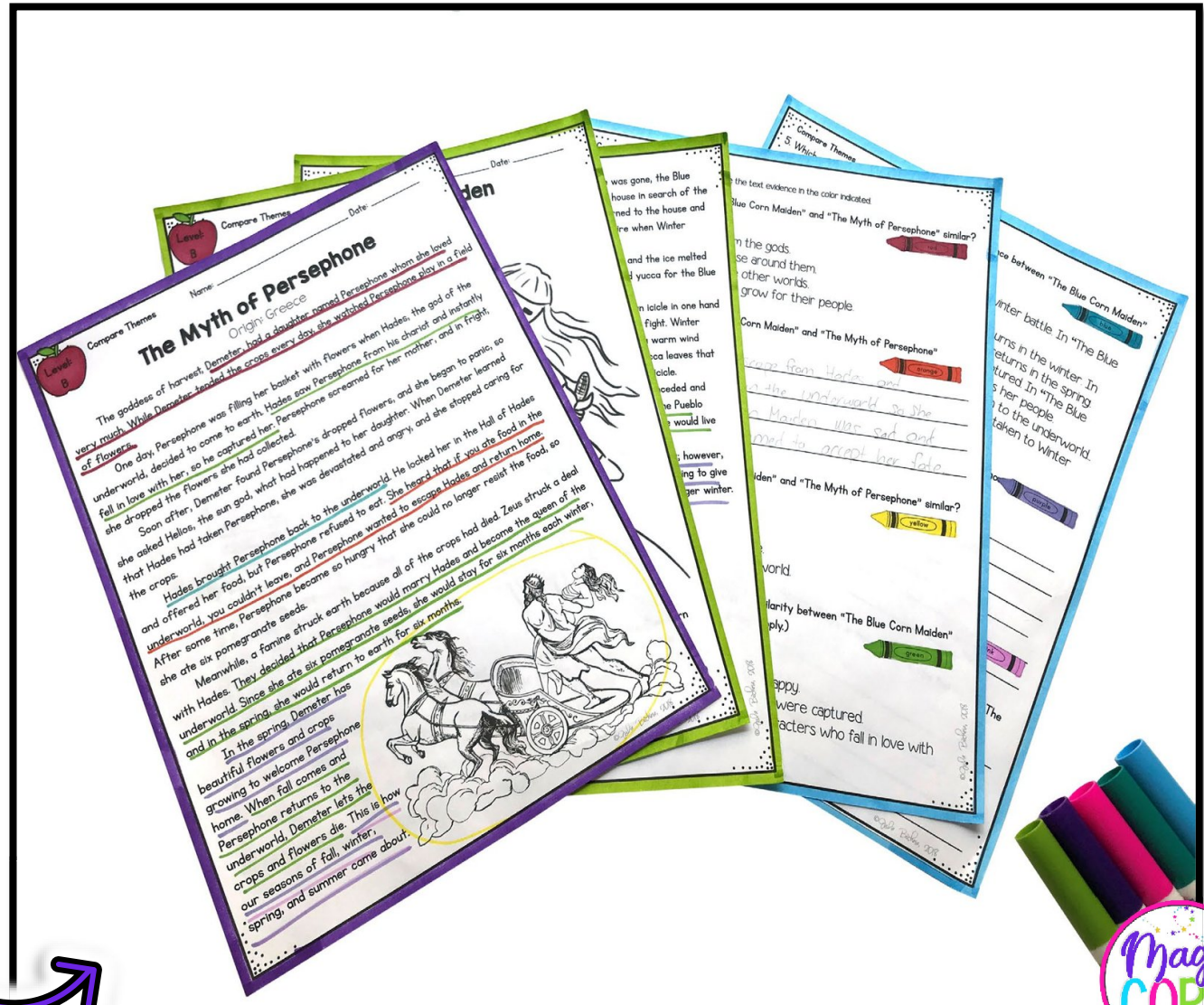
ASSESSMENTS

- Same format as practice
- Two tests with different Lexile levels
- Color-coding
- Follows best practices for standardized assessments



WHY IT WORKS

- Certified Lexile measures
- High - interest texts to motivate readers
- Cross - curricular topics
- Scaffold approach will help your students meet grade level expectations.
- Classroom tested! Trusted by over 2,000 teachers... and counting!... To help students grow their reading skill



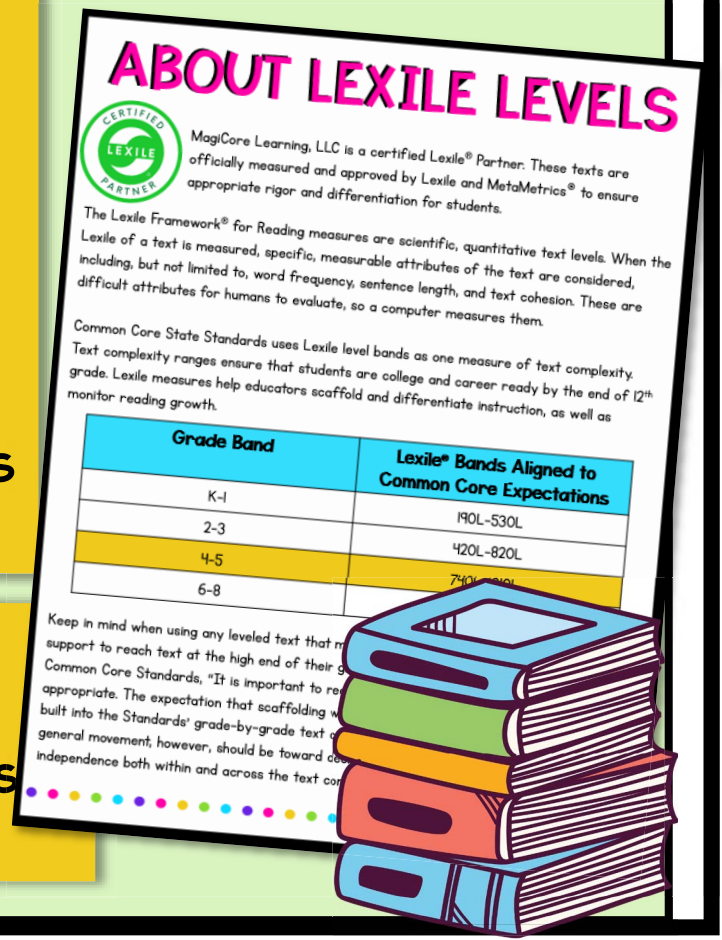
ALIGNS TO SCIENCE OF READING

Research shows that wide reading has the biggest impact on student reading progress.

Our passages provide that essential variety of nonfiction structures and topics.

Students need scaffolded instruction to access grade level texts. Without it, students are not exposure to linguistic and textural features, putting them further behind.

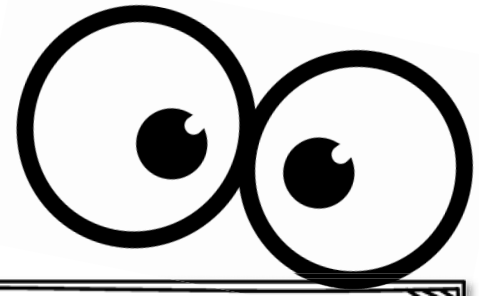
Our texts help students grow full-steam ahead. With certified Lexile levels in the Common Core text complexity band, students will 100% engage with appropriate text and sentence structures, vocabulary, and more. Plus, every passage provides teachers with opportunities to scaffold instruction.



Fun fact! From 2nd grade on, students make greater reading gains when taught from texts that are as much as two grade levels above their "instructional" reading level.

Lead the way! Our texts are leveled to master grade-level expectations and set students up for success.

TAKE A PEEK



COMPARE & CONTRAST POINT OF VIEW

4th grade

Table of Contents

*This product includes 7 paired, Lexile® leveled stories in the 4th-5th Grade Common Core Text Complexity Band (the range for 4th-5th grade is 740-1010).

1. Compare & Contrast Topics & Themes Anchor Chart/Journal Page
2. The Blue Corn Maiden- 890L / The Myth of Persephone- 750L
3. The Ungrateful Tiger- 870L / The Lion and the Mouse- 760L
4. Tattercoats- 770L / Cinderella- 890L
5. Tom Thumb- 840L / Issun-boshi- 870L
6. Sampati Loses His Wings- 840L / Icarus and Daedalus- 980L
7. Hansel and Gretel- 760L /The Baba Yaga- 920L
8. Test
   - Ra the Egyptian Sun God- 790L
   - Snaring the Sun- 990L



The Google Slides version of this resource requires that you make a copy of the resource to your own Google Drive.

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You MUST have a Google account in order to access this resource. Click HERE if you need help setting up a Google account.

ABOUT LEXILE LEVELS

MagiCore Learning, LLC is a certified Lexile® Partner. These texts are officially measured and approved by Lexile and MetaMetrics® to ensure appropriate rigor and differentiation for students.

The Lexile Framework® for Reading measures are scientific, quantitative text levels. When the Lexile of a text is measured, specific, measurable attributes of the text are considered, including, but not limited to, word frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion. These are difficult attributes for humans to evaluate, so a computer measures them.

Common Core State Standards uses Lexile level bands as one measure of text complexity. Text complexity ranges ensure that students are college and career ready by the end of 12th grade. Lexile measures help educators scaffold and differentiate instruction, as well as monitor reading growth.

Grade Band	Lexile® Bands Aligned to Common Core Expectations
K-1	190L-530L
2-3	420L-820L
4-5	740L-1010L
6-8	925L-1185L

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that many students will need scaffolding and support to reach text at the high end of their grade band. According to Appendix A of the Common Core Standards, "It is important to recognize that scaffolding often is entirely appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding will occur with particularly challenging texts is built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text complexity expectations, for example. The general movement, however, should be toward decreasing scaffolding and increasing independence both within and across the text complexity bands defined in the Standards."

Compare & Contrast Topics & Themes



Stories often have similar themes, or lessons.

Common themes include:

- Good vs. Evil
- Courage
- Acceptance
- Honesty
- Kindness
- Loyalty
- Perseverance
- Quest

Good readers compare and contrast topics, events, and themes in traditional literature. Stories with similar themes may have similar characters and events, as well. Different authors may approach the themes or topics in their own ways.

Comparing and contrasting similar stories can help you learn about the genre or cultures the stories belong to.

To compare and contrast traditional literature, ask yourself:

1. What is the topic or subject of each story?
2. How is the pattern of events similar and different in both stories?
3. How are the characters similar and different in both stories?
4. What lesson does the main character learn in each story?
5. What does this teach me about the culture or country the story originated in?

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MagiCORE

AND ANOTHER PEEK

870L

Compare Themes

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Ungrateful Tiger

Origin: Korea

Long ago, there lived a ferocious tiger that stalked a small Korean village. The people of the village were so scared that they didn't leave their houses. Something had to be done, so the village elders met to devise a plan.

The village elders discussed the situation in great lengths until they finally had a plan. They would set a trap for the tiger by digging deep holes around the village, and then they would fill each hole with meat for bait and cover the hole with branches.

Everyone in the village helped build the traps, and every family spared a little meat to place inside the traps. Finally, everyone went to their houses to await the troublesome tiger.

The following morning, the village chief's son journeyed to the village from the city. As he approached the village, he heard the frightening roar of the tiger, so he carefully investigated the hole that the sound was coming from. There was the tiger, roaring miserably.

"Please help me out of here, or I'll die of starvation! I will forever be in your debt," said the tiger.



The young man replied, "You would surely eat me if you were free!"

"I promise that I will not eat you," replied the cunning tiger.

The young man was convinced, so he found a long branch that was strong enough for the tiger to grab. He put one end of the stick into the hole, and the tiger gripped it and climbed out.

The tiger pounced out of the hole and into the path of the young man. Licking his lips, he said, "Thank you; you will make the perfect dinner!"

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760L

Compare Themes

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Lion and the Mouse

Origin: Greece

Once when a lion was asleep a little mouse began running up and down upon him; this soon wakened the lion, who placed his huge paw upon him and opened his big jaws to swallow him.

"Pardon, oh king," cried the little mouse. "Forgive me this time; I shall never forget it. Who knows but what I may be able to do you a turn some of these days."

The lion was so tickled at the idea of the mouse being able to help him that he lifted up his paw and let him go. Sometime after that, the lion was caught in a trap, and the hunters who desired to carry him alive to the king tied him to a tree while they went in search of a wagon on which to carry him.

Just then, the little mouse happened to pass by. Seeing the sad plight in which the lion was, he went up to him and soon gnawed away the ropes that bound the king of the beasts.

"Was I not right?" asked the little mouse.

Little friends may prove to be great friends.



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Compare Themes

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. How are the tiger in "The Ungrateful Tiger" and the lion in "The Lion and the Mouse" similar? (red)

a. They were both foolish.
b. They were both cunning.
c. They were both cooperative.
d. They were both understanding.

2. How are the tiger in "The Ungrateful Tiger" and the lion in "The Lion and the Mouse" different? (orange)

3. How are the settings of "The Ungrateful Tiger" and "The Lion and the Mouse" similar? (yellow)

a. Both stories take place in Asia.
b. Both stories take place in nature.
c. Both stories take place in small villages.
d. Both stories take place in present time.

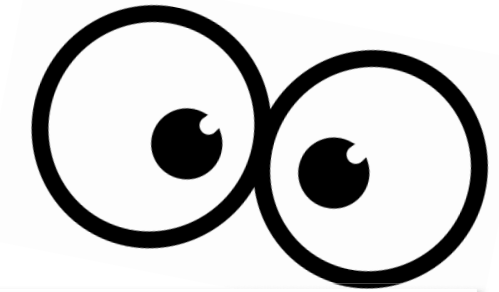
4. Which of the following correctly describes a similarity between "The Ungrateful Tiger" and "The Lion and the Mouse"? (Choose all that apply.) (green)

a. Both stories are about predators that want revenge on humans.
b. Both stories have small brave creatures that are fearless of predators.
c. Both the little mouse and the young man are foolish enough to help dangerous predators.
d. Both the little mouse and the young man want to help dangerous predators that are trapped.

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Sample

CHECK THIS OUT TOO!



890L

Compare Themes

Name: _____ Date: _____

Cinderella

Origin: France



Once upon a time, there was a man who married a wonderful wife. The man's wife was the most pleasant and kind person that one could imagine. The man and his wife had a daughter who grew to be as sweet and gentle as her mother. Sadly, the man's wife became very sick, and she grew ill and died. The man eventually remarried another woman, who, through the marriage, became a stepmother to his daughter. The new wife was a cruel and unsympathetic woman who also had two daughters, each with the same bad temper and cruel demeanor as the mother.

The stepmother was resentful of the man's daughter, so she treated her like a servant. The stepdaughter had to clean, and she was forced to sleep in the attic. The poor girl was so kind and tolerant that she didn't complain to her father. When she finished her work, she would sit by the cinders in the chimney, so she was known as Cinderella. Her shabby clothes did not hide that Cinderella was a hundred times more beautiful than her stepsisters.

One day, the prince threw a ball, and the two sisters called Cinderella to help them get ready. They said, "Cinderella, would you like to go to the ball?"

"The fine ladies would laugh at me," replied Cinderella.

"That is very true; people would laugh to see a maid in the ballroom," agreed the sisters.

At last, the happy day arrived, and away they went as Cinderella watched them and began to weep. Her godmother found her in tears and asked what was troubling her.

"I would like to go to the ball," answered Cinderella.

"Then you will go. Go into the garden, and fetch me a pumpkin," said her godmother.

Cinderella brought a pumpkin to her godmother, and her godmother struck it with her wand, turning the pumpkin into a beautiful coach.

At her godmother's request, she found six mice. The fairy godmother gave a pat with her wand and transformed the mice into horses. Next, she fetched a rat, and the fairy godmother made a coachman of him. Finally, her godmother transformed six lizards into footmen.

Cinderella's godmother said, "Now you can go to the ball."

"Should I go in my ugly clothes?" asked Cinderella.

Her godmother touched her with her wand, and in an instant, her clothes were altered into a dress of gold and silver, and a pair of glass slippers were on her feet. Her godmother told her not to stay past midnight, and she warned her that if she stayed a moment longer, everything would change back. Cinderella promised her godmother that she would leave before midnight.



The people at the ball had never seen such a beautiful princess, and the prince danced with Cinderella all night. When Cinderella heard the clock strike a quarter to twelve, she left hastily.

When Cinderella arrived home, she thanked her godmother and declared that she wished to go to the ball the next day.

Her two sisters soon arrived home.

"There was the most splendid princess," said one of the sisters.

Cinderella was overjoyed to hear that she had made an impression.

The next day, the two sisters went to the ball, and so did Cinderella. She was even more beautifully dressed than the first time, and Cinderella enjoyed herself so much that she lost track of time. When the clock struck midnight, she suddenly realized that she should have already left the ball. She fled the ball immediately, but the prince followed her. Despite his best efforts, the prince could not catch her. One of her glass slippers fell, so the prince picked it up.

Cinderella ran home in her shabby clothes. When her two sisters returned, Cinderella asked them if the beautiful lady had been there, and they told her that she was, but she had fled and lost one of her glass slippers.

A few days later, the prince declared that he would marry the owner of the slipper. They tried the slipper on the princesses first, but it was in vain, so they brought it to the home of the two sisters. They tried to squeeze the sisters' feet into the slipper, but they could not manage.

"Let me see if it will fit me," Cinderella cried.

Her sisters laughed, but the man who was trying on the slipper declared that he was to try the slipper on every maiden, so he put the slipper on Cinderella's little foot. It slid on without trouble.

The two sisters were astonished as Cinderella took the other slipper out of her pocket and put it on. At that very moment, her godmother appeared. She gave a tap with her wand, changing Cinderella's clothes into the most magnificent dress.

The sisters recognized her as the princess from the ball, and they threw themselves at her feet, begging her forgiveness. Cinderella embraced them and declared that she forgave them with all her heart.

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Compare Themes

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. How are the characters in "Cinderella" and "Tattercoats" similar? red

_____

_____

2. How are the characters in "Cinderella" and "Tattercoats" different? orange

a. Cinderella is a princess. Tattercoats is a servant.
b. Cinderella is an orphan. Tattercoats has a father.
c. Cinderella is kind and sweet. Tattercoats is tough.
d. Cinderella has a mean stepmother and stepsisters. Tattercoats has a mean grandfather and servants.

3. How are the settings of "Cinderella" and "Tattercoats" similar? yellow

a. Cinderella and Tattercoats both go to balls.
b. Cinderella and Tattercoats are both from France.
c. Cinderella and Tattercoats both take place by the sea.
d. Cinderella and Tattercoats both lived in castles before they met the princes.

4. Which of the following correctly describes a similarity between "Cinderella" and "Tattercoats"? (Choose all that apply.) green

a. Both stories have elements of magic.
b. Both stories are about loyal friends who help each other.
c. Both stories are about young girls who turn into princesses.
d. Both stories are about young girls who are mistreated after their mothers die.

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PREVIEW

UPGRADE THEIR SKILLS!

790L

Compare Themes Name: _____ Date: _____

TEST: Ra the Egyptian Sun God

Origin: Egypt

Before there was land, there was one body of water called Nun. Nun was powerful and magical. One day, a glittering egg emerged from the sea. The egg hatched, and Ra was born. Sun spread across his body and gave him power. Ra created all other living things by speaking their secret names. The sight of the beauty that Ra witnessed brought him to tears. His tears fell to the earth, and humans were born.

Ra is the most important Egyptian God. Ra formed the world and is the ruler of all created. He rules the earth, sky, and underworld.

Ra is born each day in the east, and then he sails across the sky in a boat for twelve hours. Many other gods accompany Ra through his journey, including Horus, god of the sky, who is his captain. At the end of each day, Ra dies in the west. Therefore, the west bank of the Nile, where the pyramids are, is the side of the dead. As Ra dies, the sun sets below the horizon.

At night, Ra goes to the underworld and leaves the moon in his place to give light to the world. Khonsu is the moon god. In Ra's absence, Khonsu travels across the world to guide people.

At night, Ra travels through the underworld and fights Apep, the snake demon. By sunrise, Ra has defeated Apep and once more goes on his journey across the sky.

For Egyptians, the sun is a source of life that gives them energy, light, and warmth. Without the sun, crops could not grow. This is why the god Ra holds such a significance to the people.



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990L

Compare Themes Name: _____ Date: _____

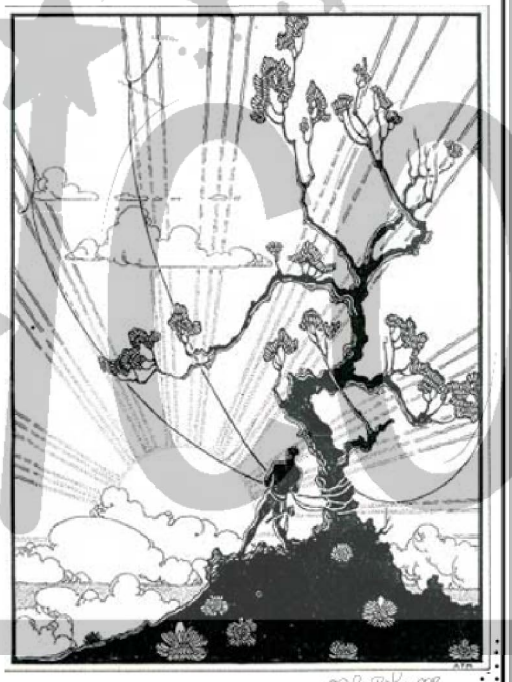
TEST: Snaring the Sun

Origin: Polynesian

Maui was the son of Hina-lau-ae and Hina, and they dwelt at a place called Makalia above Kahakuloa on West Maui. His mother Hina made *kapas*, and as she spread them out to dry, the days were so short that she was put to great trouble and labor in hanging them out and taking them in day after day until they were dry. Maui, seeing this, was filled with pity for her. The days were so short that no sooner had she got her kapas all spread out to dry, the sun went down, and she had to take them in again.

He determined to make the sun go slower. He first went to Wailohi in Hamakua on East Maui to observe the motions of the sun. There, he saw that it rose toward Hana. He then went up on Haleakala and saw that the sun came directly over that mountain in its course.

He then went home again. After a few days, he went to a place called Paeloko at Waihee. There, he cut down all of the coconut trees and gathered the fiber of the coconut husks in great quantity. He manufactured this into a strong cord. One Moemoe, seeing this, said tauntingly to him, "Thou wilt never catch the sun. Thou art an idle nobody."



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Compare Themes

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. How are the characters in "Ra the Egyptian Sun God" and "Snaring the Sun" similar? (Choose all that apply.) red

a. Both Ra and Maui are selfish.
b. Both Ra and Maui are determined.
c. Both Ra ad Maui have mythical abilities.
d. Both Ra and Maui are fearful of the underworld.

2. How are the characters in "Ra the Egyptian Sun God" and "Snaring the Sun" different? orange

3. How are the settings of "Ra the Egyptian Sun God" and "Snaring the Sun" different? yellow

a. "Ra the Egyptian Sun God" takes place in Egypt, and "Snaring the Sun" takes place in Polynesia.
b. "Ra the Egyptian Sun God" takes place in the future, and "Snaring the Sun" takes place in the past.
c. "Ra the Egyptian Sun God" takes place in the underworld, and "Snaring the Sun" takes place in the sky.
d. "Ra the Egyptian Sun God" takes place in an imaginary land, and "Snaring the Sun" takes place in Polynesia.

4. Describe a similarity between "Ra the Egyptian Sun God" and "Snaring the Sun". green

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Preview

UPGRADE THEIR SKILLS!

The COMPARE & CONTRAST THEMES IN LITERATURE SKILL PACK Contains:

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- Boom Learning Task Cards



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- anchor charts
- questions focused on skills for each standard

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