

Composition 2 (Pr. El Hadari)

- Lecture 2: Developing a comparison & contrast essay -

A comparison and contrast essay is an essay which is developed by means of comparison and contrast.

They are two methods to deal with writing a comparison and contrast essay: **Alternation** and **Group listing**.

Task 1 (Sentence mistakes): Match sentence/phrase with the type of mistake.

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|--|---|----------------------|
| 1) If I have money. | → | 1) Comma splices |
| 2) He is happy, he is optimistic. | → | 2) Sentence fragment |
| 3) She works hard she gets good marks. | → | 3) Fused sentence |

➤ Sentence fragment: a sentence mistake or error which can be the result of:

- A dependent clause without an independent one.
- A sentence missing a subject, a verb or a complement.
- A sentence not expressing a complete thought.

➤ Run-on sentence: they are 2 types of run-on sentences; “**Comma splice**” and “**Fused sentence**” :

- **Comma splice**: a sentence mistake or error when we use a poor and weak comma to connect two or more independent clause.
- **Fused sentence**: a sentence mistake or error when two or more independent clauses are joined without punctuation or coordinating conjunction.

Application: Islam and Christianity are two major religions embraced by people all over the globe. Write a comparison & contrast essay, highlighting the similarities and differences between the two faiths.

Islam & Christianity are **undoubtedly** two of the major religions embraced by millions of people all over the globe. Although the two faiths apparently look different, they have some important features in common, **that said**, in what ways are the two religions similar and different?

Islam and Christianity have some interesting points in common. **To exemplify**, both of them revere (respect) the early prophets like ABRAHAM,

MOSES, DAVID and JOSEPH. **One more thing**, they both worship their deity, Muslims call him ALLAH and Christians label him GOD. **In order to** have a better understanding of their faith, Muslims resort to their holy book, THE QURAN. **Similarly**, Christians turn to (come back to) the BIBLE for the same purpose. **In brief**, these two religions are the pure products of a divine power, and **thus**, it's no longer a surprise to see them sharing some common points.

However, the two faiths are dissimilar in many respects. **To begin with**, Christians hold the belief that Jesus was the son of God, and **thus** he was divine and sinless. **Contrarily**, Muslims consider Jesus one of the most important prophet and **hence** he was not divine. Muslims believe that Jesus **just like** ADAM and EVE was created by ALLAH. According to them, Jesus did not die on the cross. **Another difference** has to do with their guiding codes. Muslims stick to the five pillars of Islam. **Whereas** Christians adhere to the Ten Commandments. **All in all**, Islam and Christianity are different from each other at various levels, **though** they were created by the same divine power.