COMPARING/Contrasting

This handout can help you organize your compare/contrast essay.

Making a Venn diagram can help you quickly and efficiently compare and contrast two or more ideas or subjects. To make a Venn diagram, simply draw two overlapping circles, one circle for each subject you are comparing. In the central area where they overlap, list the traits the two items have in common. Below is a Venn diagram comparing and contrasting the movies Star Wars and Indiana Jones.

Useful words to help emphasize your intentions:

Comparing:
Like Likewise
Still Also
Again Similarly
Similar to
In the same way
In like manner
At the same time
Compared to

Contrasting:
Unlike
Yet
Even though
But
Nevertheless
Conversely
Regardless
Despite