Comparing/Contrasting

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*.

**Star Wars**
- Follows the tragic rise and fall of Anakin Skywalker
- Family-oriented
- Takes place in a land far, far away
- Rebel Alliance vs. the Galactic Empire

**Indiana Jones**
- Revolves around the life of an adventurous archeologist
- Mature audience
- Takes place on Earth
- Protagonist vs. Nazis

**BOTH**
- Episodic
- Starred Harrison Ford
- Written and produced by George Lucas
- Good vs. evil

Useful Words to Help Emphasize your Intentions

As you write a compare/contrast essay, consider using the following words to emphasize both your points of comparison and your points of contrast.

**Comparing:**
- Like
- Still
- Again
- Similar to
- In like manner
- At the same time

**Contrasting:**
- Likewise
- Also
- Similarly
- In the same way
- Compared to

**Comparing:**
- Unlike
- Compared to
- In contrast
- Contrasted with
- On the contrary
- However
- Although
- On the other hand

**Contrasting:**
- Yet
- Even though
- But
- Nevertheless
- Conversely
- Regardless
- Despite