

Compare & Contrast Essay: Research Availability Checker

Use this checklist to ensure your chosen topic has enough credible sources and information for meaningful analysis.

1. Topic Information

Subject 1: _____
Subject 2: _____

2. Source Availability

Check whether you can find at least three credible sources for each subject.

Subject	Source 1	Source 2	Source 3	Additional Notes
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Subject 1 _____

Subject 2 _____

3. Source Credibility

For each source, answer:

- Is the author or organization reputable? Yes / No
- Is the information accurate and verifiable? Yes / No
- Is it relevant to your comparison criteria? Yes / No

4. Balanced Information Check

- Do you have roughly equal information for both subjects? Yes / No
- Will this allow fair, meaningful comparison? Yes / No

If “No,” consider:

- Narrowing your topic
- Expanding to more documented subjects
- Replacing the topic

5. Research Depth

Do your sources provide enough detail to cover your planned essay length?

- Yes / No
If “No,” identify gaps:

6. Access Check

Can you access these sources?

- Freely available online: Yes / No
- Library or database access required: Yes / No
- If restricted, is there an alternative source? Yes / No

7. Final Research Readiness

Your topic is ready if all criteria are met:

- At least three credible sources per subject
- Balanced information between subjects
- Sufficient depth for meaningful analysis
- Sources are accessible

If all criteria are “Yes,” you may proceed to thesis development.

If any criteria are “No,” revise or select a new topic.