

GED 2002 Teachers' Handbook of Lesson Plans

Area/Skill—LA, Reading	Cognitive Skill Level - Analysis	Correlation to Framework - 04.03/04.07	Lesson Number - 17
<p>Activity Title - Compare and Contrast</p> <p>Goal/Objective</p> <p>To compare and contrast information from reading passages.</p> <p>Lesson Outline Introduction</p> <p>The ability to compare and contrast information can help a student in many areas of his/her life. Students need to compare and contrast products that they purchase, so they get the most for their money. They also need to compare and contrast information from various sources when making decisions about their lifestyles, diet, nutrition, etc. On the GED Language Arts, Reading Test students will be expected to compare and contrast information from multiple reading passages.</p> <p>Activity</p> <p>Distribute copies of the excerpts about the lives of Milton Hershey and Forrest S. Mars. Have students use the Comparison Alley form to compare and contrast the lives of each of the men.</p> <p>Debriefing/Evaluation Activity</p> <p>Discuss the similarities and differences in the lives of the two men. Have students discuss how the men were possibly influenced by their parents, and how that may or may not have affected the success they experienced in their professional lives.</p>			<p>Materials/Texts/Realia/Handouts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handout– Milton Hershey and Forrest S. Mars • Comparison Alley • Paper and pencils
<p>Real-Life Connection</p> <p>Have students conduct comparison tests using a variety of products, such as 2-3 types of potato chips, cookies, sodas, etc. Have students write up the results showing the similarities and differences among each of the products.</p>			<p>Extension Activity</p> <p>Have students compare and contrast different times in their lives, indicating how things are the same and how they are different from 1 year ago, 3 years ago, 10 years ago, etc.</p> <p>ESE/ESOL Accommodations</p> <p>Pair students who need help with another student who will help them.</p> <p>Highlight important concepts in article.</p> <p>Provide an audio-tape of the two articles for students to listen to while they read.</p>

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Activity Title—			
Introduction			
<p><i>Say:</i> Being able to compare and contrast information can help you in many areas of your life. <i>Ask:</i> Have you ever done comparison shopping? Why did you do that? <i>Say:</i> Most likely you comparison shopped so you could make decisions about which product was the best buy. This same process can help you as you read. Often we are called on to compare and contrast information from two or more sources. You will need this skills when you take the GED Language Arts, Reading Test.</p>			
Main Activity			
<p>Distribute copies of the excerpts about the lives of Milton Hershey and Forrest S. Mars. Have students use the Comparison Alley form to compare and contrast the lives of each of the men.</p>			
Debriefing/Evaluation Activity			
<p>Discuss the similarities and differences in the lives of the two men. Have students discuss how the men were possibly influenced by their parents, and how that may or may not have affected the success they experienced in their professional lives.</p>			

**Excerpts from Chocolate: The Bitter Sweet Saga
Palm Beach Post, Thursday, April 19, 2001**

Milton Hershey

Milton Hershey was born in rural Pennsylvania to Mennonite parents who didn't agree on much. His mother was a strict observer of the frugal religion. His father could have been a changeling – he read Shakespeare, loved science and politics and was a dreamer. He also was a dismal failure at all he tried.

(So much did his mother despise his father that when he died, she left his deathbed, piled all of his books into a nearby field and danced around the bonfire she had lit.)

Hershey ended up with his father's dreams and, it appears none of his mother's meanness.

After several missteps of his own (two ailed candy operations, one at the over expansion urgings of his father), he hit on a winner with a caramel factory in Lancaster, Pa. In 1898, at the age of 41 and very wealthy, he married. In 1990, he sold the nation's No. 1 caramel factory for \$1 million.

And then it was on to chocolate. But more than chocolate – he wanted his own Candyland. He purchased 1,200 acres of farmland near his birthplace and set to work.

Eventually, Hershey, Pa., would house the Hershey factory, schools, houses, a library, a hospital and, most important an orphanage – Hershey School.

Today, all profits of this public company is invested in the Hershey Trust to be directed to the school's 1,000 orphans and abandoned children from mostly inner cities. Those children receive the equivalent of a \$35,000-a-year education at the behest of Milton Hershey, who died in 1945 as a widower with no heirs. The trust is now worth \$5 billion.

**Excerpts from Chocolate: The Bitter Sweet Saga
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Forrest S. Mars

Forrest S. Mars has a background just as mean in spirit as Hershey's. His parents divorced, after his dreamer of a father tried and failed at several candy companies – usually leaving town just before the bill collectors arrived.

Forrest was sent to live with his mother's parents in Canada. With the help of a very quick mind, he landed a scholarship to the University of California at Berkeley in 1922.

By odd happenstance, he met up with his father, whom he hadn't seen since he was 6, in Chicago. And his father was still in the candy business – albeit with more success this time. He was making butter-creams and selling them, like most candy makers, locally. Only Milton Hershey was selling a national product.

Mars and his father came up with the idea for the Milky Way – a big, fat, nougat candy bar that could compete the flat 5-cent Hershey bar. The first year it was on the market, 1924 the Milky Way raked in \$800,000.

Forrest was on his way. But not before having a falling-out with his father (he was absent from his father's funeral).

Or before his father-in-law had to rescue his daughter and grandchildren from the unheated apartment Forrest had rented so that he could put more money into his business. And not before badgering his cancer-stricken half sister to sell him her part of his father's company.

Forrest died in 1999 at age 95. Mars, a private company, is still run by his three children in McLean, Va.

The trio tied for 40th-richest American on last year's Forbes list, with \$7 billion each.

Comparison Alley
Compare/Contrast
The Life and Times of Hershey and Mars

Subject: Milton Hershey

Differences

Similarities

**Comparison
Alley**

Differences

Subject: Forrest S. Mars

Contrast the lives of the two chocolate barons in the corner sections at the top and bottom; compare similarities of these men's lives in the center.