

Old New York

When you think of New York City today, what do you see in your mind? You probably see skyscrapers and crowded streets. What do you think the same city was like over 100 years ago? Even in old New York, the city's streets were busy. They were filled with people and horse-drawn carriages. Back then, though, people dressed differently. You wouldn't find boys and girls wearing jeans and sneakers on a sunny afternoon. Girls wore dresses and many boys wore knee-length pants called knickers.

Like today, the people of old New York lived in many different kinds of places. Many immigrants and poor people rented apartments in run-down buildings called tenements. In tenements, large families were crowded into a few small rooms. One bathroom was shared by many families. Other people, however, had a much better life. Some families lived in huge mansions with many large rooms. Green lawns and gardens surrounded the mansions. In the back, horses were kept in stables.

In old New York, there were no cars, buses, or underground trains—called subways—like today. People used horse-drawn trolley cars, elevated trains, or carriages and buggies to get around. And, of course, many people also walked from one place to another, just as they do today.

At the end of a long day at work or school, New Yorkers went back to their homes. There were no video games or televisions. So people had to make their own fun. They talked, read books, rode bicycles, or played games, like stickball, until the sun went down. There was one modern thing old New York did have, though. At night, its streets were lit with electric lights—some of the first in the country.

Use with page 298.

Resource Links RDI Book 1: p. 354

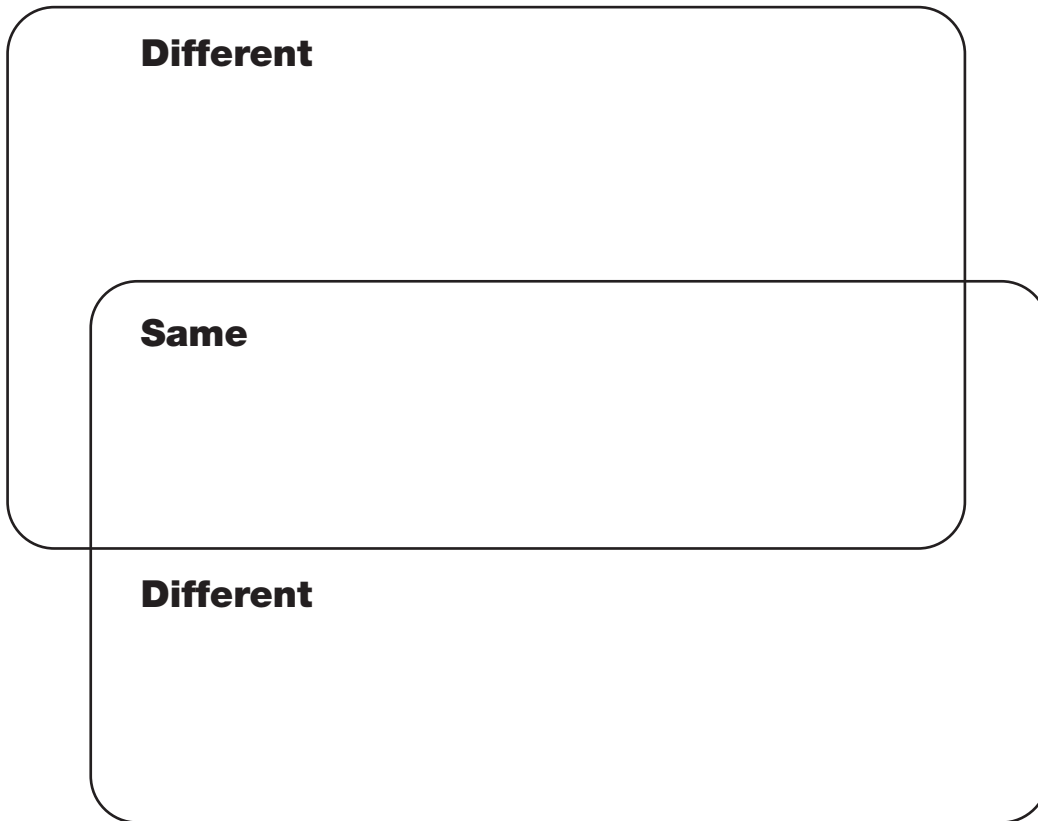
SAM Keyword: Compare

Compare and Contrast

When you **compare**, you tell how two or more things are *alike* or *similar*. When you **contrast**, you tell how two or more things are *different*. Use this organizer to help you compare and contrast.

- List ideas in the outer parts of the squares that show how the information is different.
- List in the center ideas that they both share.

Passage: _____



Resource Links

1 RDI Book 1: p. 397
SAM Keyword: Compare

