

# Compare & Contrast Essay

Mr. Page  
Vista Murrieta High School  
Ceramics

**RATIONALE:** To educate you about the world of ceramics beyond what you would find in stores like Target. To better understand the cultures that have poured their whole identity into their pottery — from the various functions, cultural purpose, and artistic design that embellished their work.

**OBJECTIVE:** You are to write a two to three page paper that compares and contrast the pottery of two civilizations. Please emphasize the cultural aspects of the artwork such as the purpose of their pottery and any artistic designs that were put on their pottery. I don't want you write about 'how' they made their artwork but 'why' they made their artwork. Include one good picture that best demonstrates each of the cultures you are writing about. Lastly, you are to explain which one you like more. You must use MLA format. To get started, I would recommend going to [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) or any other search engine and type in: ancient pottery. You can also search various cultures to find pottery.

- **STANDARD 1.3** Research and analyze the work of an artist and write about the artist's distinctive style and its contribution to the meaning of the work.
  - **STANDARD 3.1** Identify similarities and differences in the purpose of art created in selected cultures.
  - **STANDARD 3.4** Discuss the purpose of art in selected contemporary cultures.
  - **WHST 7** Conduct short as well as more sustained research project to answer a question (including self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize understanding of the subject under investigation
  - **WHST 8** Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas; avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
  - **WHST 9** Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
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