

Archetype Card Clash

Compare how two texts use a familiar character pattern.

GRADE 8 • ELA.8.R.3.3

ELA.8.R.3.3 "Compare and contrast the use or discussion of archetypes in texts."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Choose two class texts everyone knows; keep copies nearby.

2 An archetype is a recurring character pattern, such as a hero or mentor.

3 Support each interpretation with a specific action or detail from each text.

4 Listen and respond to others; different supported interpretations can be valid.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose a Topic card and two familiar class texts. Name the shared archetype.
2. Each player takes a different Role card. With three players, share the fourth job.
3. Print two card sheets. Use one set of topics and roles. Combine 16 Move cards; deal four per player and set extras aside.
4. Take turns using or adapting a starter to make a supported comparison. Play that card. After the first turn, respond to a previous speaker.
5. Finish all dealt cards. Then each player states a similarity, a difference and an effect on meaning, using evidence from both texts.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I supported the same archetype in both texts.

☐ I compared a specific similarity.

☐ I contrasted a specific difference.

☐ I explained an effect on meaning.



TOPIC CARDS · choose one; keep both class texts available

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Hero Paths Compare two texts with a hero archetype. How do the heroes respond to a challenge, and what do their responses suggest?	Powerful Opponents Compare two texts with a tyrant: a ruler who abuses power. How does each use this recurring pattern, and what meaning does it create?	Helpful Guides Compare two texts with a mentor archetype. How do the guides help others, and what changes because of that help?

ROLE CARDS · one per player; combine jobs with three players

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Pattern Scout Ask for a clear archetype and evidence that each character fits it.	Text Tracker Ask speakers to support ideas with details from both texts.	Contrast Coach Listen for a similarity and a difference in how the archetype is used.	Meaning Maker Ask how each use of the archetype shapes the meaning of its text.

MOVE CARDS · two sheets give 16 cards; deal four each; set extras aside

MOVE CARD NAME ARCHETYPE “In ____, the ____ archetype appears when ____.”	MOVE CARD NAME ARCHETYPE “The character in ____ fits the ____ pattern because ____.”	MOVE CARD COMPARE USES “Both texts use ____ characters who ____, as shown by ____.”	MOVE CARD COMPARE USES “Building on that, both ____ and ____ show ____ through ____.”
MOVE CARD CONTRAST USES “Unlike ____, the character in ____ responds by ____.”	MOVE CARD CONTRAST USES “While ____ uses the archetype to ____, ____ uses it to ____.”	MOVE CARD EXPLAIN IMPACT “This difference suggests ____ because in each text ____.”	MOVE CARD EXPLAIN IMPACT “The similar pattern gives different meanings: ____ and ____.”

Print 2 copies of this card sheet per team of 3 or 4. Use one set of topic and role cards; combine the move cards, deal 4 per player, and set extras aside. Cards last longer on thick paper.

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Use texts the class has already read or viewed. Ask students to identify the versions they mean; details can vary across retellings. With three players, combine role jobs. Four cards alone do not guarantee a complete response: require the final comparison from every learner.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Ava	In the familiar Cinderella story, the fairy godmother is a mentor who helps Cinderella attend the ball.
Ben	In Moana, Grandmother Tala is also a mentor. She encourages Moana to explore her connection with the ocean.
Carlos	Both guides help a young person move beyond a limit: Cinderella lacks a way to attend, and Moana doubts her path.
Ava	But the fairy godmother gives magical objects for one evening; Tala offers encouragement about who Moana can become.
Ben	That contrast can suggest different kinds of guidance: help that opens an opportunity, and support that builds a sense of purpose.

LISTEN FOR

- Identifies a defensible shared archetype.
- Uses accurate details from both selected versions.
- Explains a similarity and a difference in use.
- Connects archetype choices to the meanings of the texts.

Interpretations may differ, but textual details must be accurate. Assess each learner's supported similarity, difference and explanation of meaning. The model uses the familiar fairy-godmother version of Cinderella and the film Moana; use other shared texts when needed.