**Compare/Contrast Paragraph**

1. Choose one of the three topics we have been discussing in class

* Opportunities
* Belonging
* Outlook

1. **Consider this topic** and think about the similarities and differences between your neighborhood and Junior’s neighborhood - Remember your Venn diagram
2. When creating your argument/main point consider:

* Do you see any patterns?
* Do your observations lead more to one side or another?
* At every stage ask yourself the 5 W’s and H - Who, What, When, Where, Why, How

Topic Sentence: Central point, main/big idea - When you think about the similarities and differences between your neighborhood and Junior’s neighborhood, what conclusions/observations have you reached? What is the main point you wish to communicate to readers about your topic (Opportunities/Belonging/Outlook)?

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Differences:Opening sentence and examples (include quotations from the novel when talking about Junior’s neighborhood)

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Similarities:Opening sentence and examples (include quotations from the novel when talking about Junior’s neighborhood)

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Concluding Sentence: Open with to conclude, in summary, as expressed, therefore, in summary, briefly

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Example of compare/contrast paragraph:

*There are more opportunities in my community when contrasted with Junior's. Junior says for example, "what kind of job can an Indian boy get," proving that there are limited opportunities for employment on his reservation (Sherman 10). In my community, on the other hand, an individual can start working at 15 years old and there are various businesses such as grocery stores and restaurants that will hire. When it comes to similarities, both Junior and I have access to education. He goes to a high school on his reservation and I attend one in my local community. It is important to discover however whether the education is meeting the needs of the local community.*

Excerpts from the novel about Junior’s life on the reservation:

“My parents came from poor people who came from poor people who came from poor people, all the way back to the very first poor people….they dreamed about being something other than poor, but they never got the chance to be anything because nobody paid attention to their dreams.” (11)

“But we reservation Indians don’t get the chance to realize our dreams. We don’t get those chances. Or choices. We’re just poor. That’s all we are. It sucks to be poor, and it sucks to feel that you somehow deserve to be poor….it’s an ugly circle and there’s nothing you can do about it..” (13)

“When I first started teaching here, that’s what we did to the rowdy ones, you know? We beat them. That’s how we were taught to teach you. We were supposed to kill the Indian to save the child...we were supposed to make you give up being Indian. Your songs and stories and language and dancing. Everything. We weren’t trying to kill Indian people. We were trying to kill Indian culture.” (35)

“So I draw because I feel like it might be my only real chance to escape the reservation” (6)

“...but I am really just a poor-ass reservation kid living with this poor-ass family on the poor-ass Spokane Indian Reservation.” (7)

“Jeez how stupid was I? What kind of a job can a reservation Indian boy get….” (10)

“The Spokane Tribe holds their annual powwow celebration over the Labor Day weekend. This was the 127th annual one, and there would be singing, war dancing, gambling, storytelling, laughter, fry bread, hamburgers, hot dogs, arts and crafts, and plenty of alcoholic brawling....those rhythmless, talentless, tuneless Indians are most likely going to get drunk and beat the shit out of any available losers” (17)

“So Rowdy and I walked the three miles to the powwow grounds. It was dark, maybe eight o’clock or so, and the drummers and singers were loud and wonderful. I was excited.” (19)

“So that means my mother was born an Adams and she was still an Adams when she wrote her name in that book….my school and my tribe are so poor and sad that we have to study from the same dang books our parents studied from. That is absolutely the saddest thing in the world.” (31)

“And now you have to take your hope and go somewhere where other people have hope...you’re going to find more and more hope the farther and farther you walk away from this sad, sad, reservation.” (43)