

STUDENT BOOK **G**

FOCUS on

COMPARING AND
CONTRASTING



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Lesson

Preview

Read this sample passage about salt and pepper. As you read, think about the ways in which salt and pepper are alike and the ways in which they are different. Look for clue words.

Salt and Pepper

Do you use salt and black pepper when you eat a meal? Both salt and pepper are popular condiments that are used in cooking to season or flavour food. Long ago, Europeans considered salt and pepper alike to be valuable because both products were difficult for them to obtain. The public's demand for black pepper, for example, spurred Christopher Columbus to search for a sea route from Europe to Asia in the fifteenth century and the demand for salt helped establish trade routes in Europe and Africa.

Black pepper is a spice that comes from the fruit of a plant that grows in Asia. The ripe, red berries of the pepper plant are gathered, cleaned and dried until they turn black. Then the black peppercorns are ground and sifted. Most black pepper today comes from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, and other countries with hot climates. Black pepper has a sharp, biting taste.

In contrast to black pepper, salt is clear. Unlike pepper, salt is a mineral that comes from seas and salt lakes around the world. Salt is obtained either from the evaporation of salty water or from the mining of salt deposits located deep under the ground. Most of the world's salt today comes from the United States, China, Germany, Canada and India.



1. What is one way that salt and black pepper are alike?

- (A) Both come from a plant.
- (B) Both come from the sea.
- (C) Both are used to flavour food.
- (D) Both are clear.

2. One way in which black pepper differs from salt is that black pepper is

- (A) a mineral.
- (B) a spice.
- (C) mined from the ground.
- (D) a condiment.

Look at the answer choices for each question. Read why each answer choice is correct or not correct.

1. What is one way that salt and black pepper are alike?

- Ⓐ Both come from a plant.

This answer is not correct because the passage states that salt comes from the sea or salt lakes, but black pepper comes from a plant.

- Ⓑ Both come from the sea.

This answer is not correct because salt comes from the sea or salt lakes, but black pepper comes from a plant.

- Ⓒ Both are used to flavour food.

This answer is correct because both salt and black pepper are condiments used to season or flavour food.

- Ⓓ Both are clear.

This answer is not correct because salt is clear, whereas black pepper is black.

2. One way in which black pepper differs from salt is that black pepper is

- Ⓐ a mineral.

This answer is not correct because pepper is a spice, whereas salt is a mineral.

- Ⓑ a spice.

This answer is correct because pepper is a spice. Salt, however, is a mineral.

- Ⓒ mined from the ground.

This answer is not correct because pepper comes from the berries of a plant, but salt is mined from the ground or obtained from the evaporation of salty water.

- Ⓓ a condiment.

This answer is not correct because both salt and pepper are condiments used to flavour or season food.