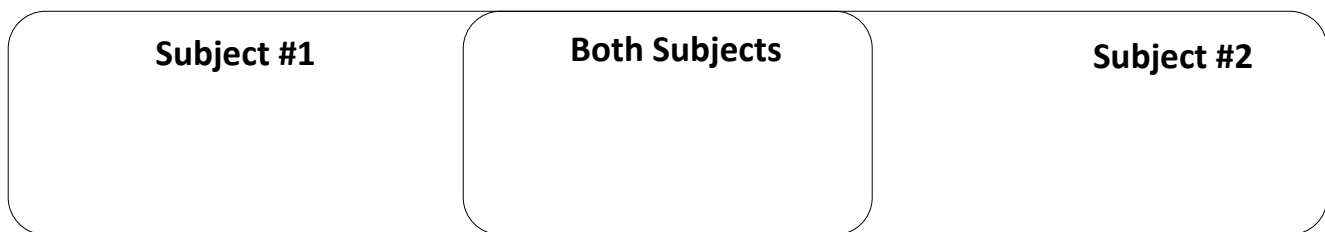




# The Venn Diagram

A Venn Diagram is a visual representation of what is the same and what is different about two things. You can use a Venn Diagram before writing a compare-and-contrast paper to organize your thoughts about how the two subjects are related to each other. Below is an example of a Venn Diagram. What is the same about both subjects is written in the overlapping center area.



## DIRECTIONS:

1. **Choose a topic.** You are going to write a paragraph with the objective of giving the reader a deeper understanding of the relationship between two things. For example: types of pets, urban vs. rural gardening, etc.
2. **Generate ideas.** Write down as many things as possible that you can think of about your topic. Make two lists, one for each thing.
3. **Sort your ideas.** Use a Venn Diagram to compare and contrast your ideas.
4. **Determine your approach.** Will you use an alternating or dividing pattern to present your ideas? In the *alternating* method, you compare and contrast two subjects point for point. In the *dividing* method, you make all of your points about the first subject; then you make all of your points about the second one.
5. **Draft your paragraph.** Draft your paragraph on a separate sheet of paper.