

Text Structure - Compare and Contrast  
Chapter Four: Turtles and Tortoises  
A True Book: Reptiles

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Read through the selection. Circle keywords that help you determine the structure of the text. As you read, use these questions to guide your thinking:

- What two topics are being compared or contrasted?
- What do they have in common?
- How are they different?

Turtles are different from other **reptiles** because part of their skeleton surrounds their body. We call this hard outer covering a shell. Turtles live in fields, forests, deserts, swamps, the ocean, ponds, lakes, and rivers.

You can tell where a turtle lives by looking at its feet. Turtles that spend time in ponds, lakes, and rivers have toes with claws. Sometimes they have webbing between their toes. Turtles that spend most of their time in the ocean have flippers. On the other hand, turtles that spend all their time on land are called tortoises. Unlike the toes of their land-based friends, the toes of these turtles are **fused** together, so that their feet look something like an elephant's feet.

Almost all turtles lay eggs on land. Some land turtles can live for more than 100 years.

1. What two topics were being compared and/or contrasted?

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2. List ways that they are the same:

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3. To show how they are different, complete the chart with facts from the passage.


