

To **compare** and **contrast** ideas in a passage, a reader determines how the ideas are alike and how they are different.

Before reading the following passage, copy and complete the first two columns in the diagram below. When you are done, write what you learn in the last column.

What I know about dogs and cats	What I want to know about dogs and cats	What I learn about dogs and cats

The cat and the Dog

The cat lives in and about our homes; so we call it a domestic animal. It belongs to the same tribe of animals as the lion and tiger. They are savage—puss is tame. Like them, it is a beast of prey—that is, it catches and eats other animals. They cannot hear it coming with its soft, padded feet. The cat leaps upon its prey. It sticks its strong, sharp claws into a mouse, and soon kills it with its sharp teeth. Puss is covered with fur; she has five claws on each fore-paw, and four on each hind one. She draws them into little sheaths when not angry. With its rough tongue the cat can lap up milk, and also clean its fur. It likes to be clean. It opens its eyes wider in the dark, and can see to run about at night. On each side of its head are long whiskers, with which it feels its way.

The dog is larger and more active than the cat. It is also of more use to man, for it guards the house, minds the sheep, and will not allow anyone to harm its master. There are many kinds of dogs. All are of some use—from the large Newfoundland dog to the little fox-terrier. Dogs are like cats in some things. They have padded feet and strong claws. But their claws are blunt. They cannot draw them into sheaths as puss does; so they make more noise in walking. The dog is also a beast of prey. But it is not so fierce as the wolf or the fox, which belong to the same tribe of animals. It likes meat and bones, but will also eat bread and vegetables. Its teeth are very strong and sharp. Most dogs have keen scent, pointed noses, and quick sight.

Name _____

Comparing and contrasting

Compare and contrast the dog and cat. Write words in each area that describes the dog and cat. In the middle write what they have in common.

