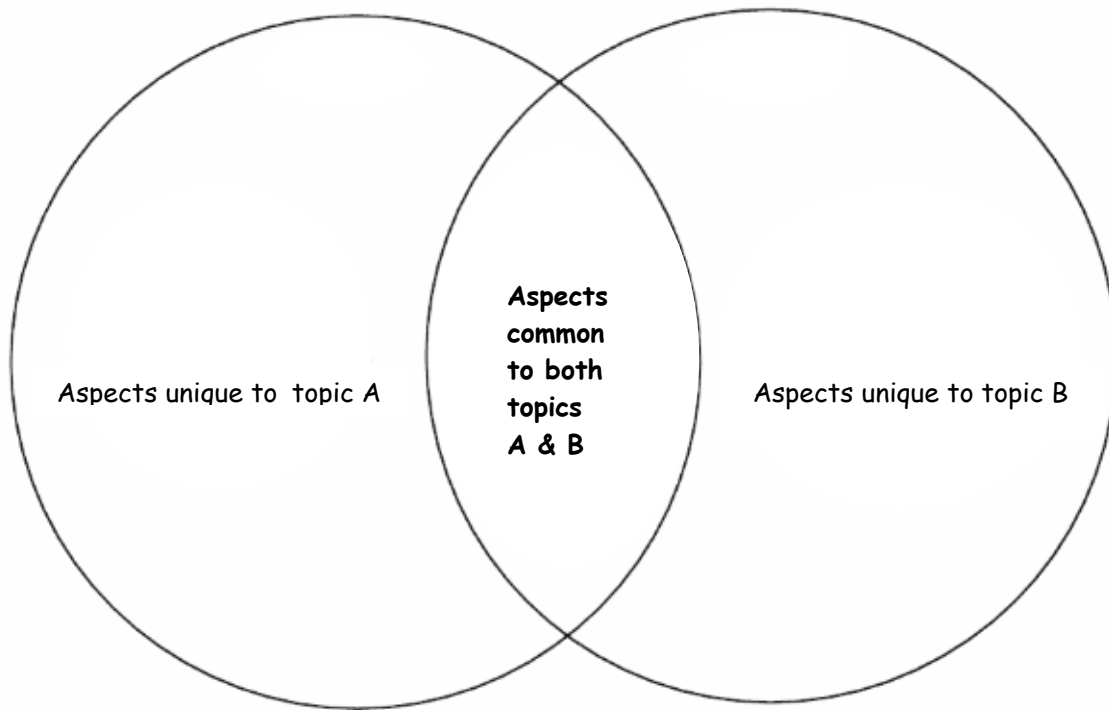


The following graphic is a Venn diagram that illustrates a compare and contrast relationship.



☺ Read the following article and complete the activities that follow.

The Funny Thing About Cats and Dogs

- 1 A funny thing about cats and dogs is that they both come from the same ancestor. This animal lived 40 million years ago in caves. The animal is called Miacis. Many scientists think that the Miacis was a tree climber, and lived in a den or cave. Scientists believe that cats and dogs make good house pets because their relative, the Miacis, lived inside of a dwelling.
- 2 Unlike wild animals like the tiger and the wolf, cats and dogs can live around people. This may be why they are so popular as pets. Most of the time, cats and dogs will not harm children or adults.
- 3 Cats and dogs have other things in common. They both can be trained to do tricks. They will also eat leftover food. The dog is often believed to be friendly. The cat is believed not to be as friendly as the dog. Cats can make good pets if they are allowed to do what they please. Dogs and cats both

like to be petted. Dogs like to run, catch balls and sticks, and play. Cats are more settled and quiet. Many people think that cats enjoy playing with a ball or yarn or a rubber mouse.

4 Many people also think that cats will look you in the eye and that dogs will turn away when you stare at them. Dogs are seen as humble and cats are seen as proud. Others believe that dogs depend on people for their care. Cats mainly take care of themselves.

5 Another funny thing about cats and dogs is that most people think that they are enemies. Cartoons and some books show cats and dogs fighting each other. People who own both cats and dogs disagree with this belief. These two animals can be good friends.

6 Yet another funny thing about cats and dogs is that even though they are the most popular pets in America, most Americans do not know all the facts about them.



Student Practice

☺ Your Turn

Story: *The Funny Thing About Cats and Dogs*

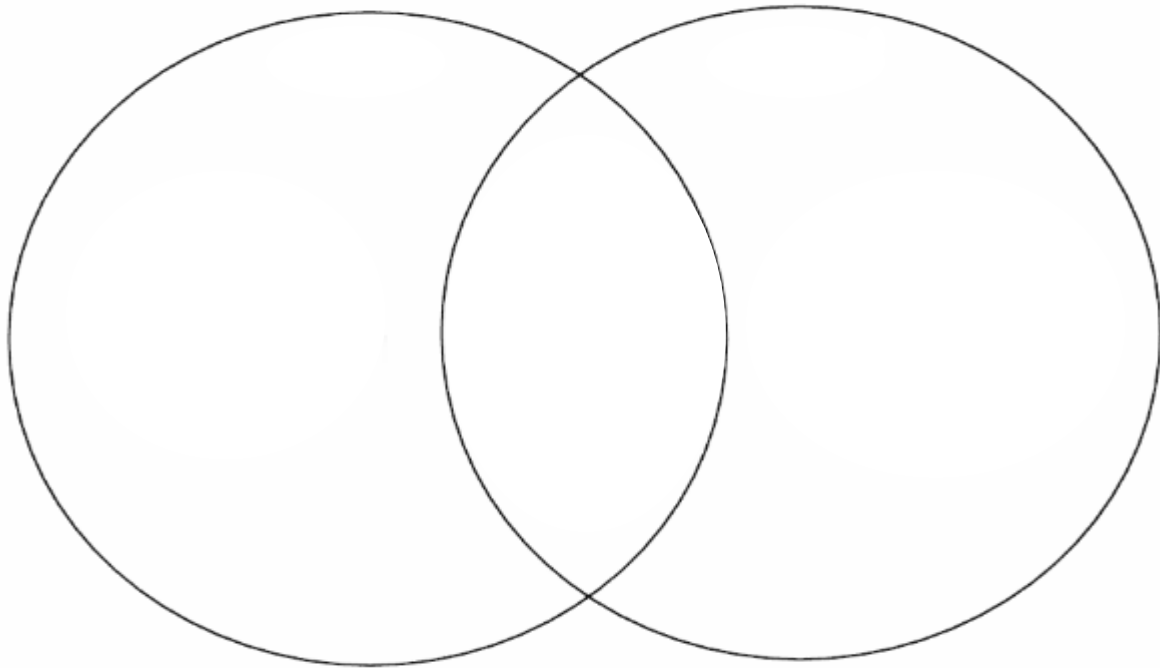
☺ Complete the following chart.

Cats	Similarities	Dogs
Clean Themselves		Waits to be washed

☺ Now draw a Venn diagram around the information in the chart.

😊 Working Through the TAKS

1. Complete the following Venn diagram showing how dogs and cats are alike and how they are different.



Additional TAKS practice:

2. Read the meanings below for the word funny.

funny (fun'e)
1. causing laughter 2. odd
3. interesting 4. joke

Which meaning best fits the way funny is used in paragraph 1?

- Meaning 1
- Meaning 2
- Meaning 3
- Meaning 4