

Compare Two Marked Answers

Discuss why two answers differ in quality and separate subject accuracy from language control.

5 min preparation | Science, Maths and Humanities

Before the lesson

Prepare two responses to the same question with a meaningful difference in quality.

Teach it in four steps

1. Discuss why two answers differ in quality and separate subject accuracy from language control.
2. Read both responses for meaning.
3. Annotate the difference that improves evidence, precision or explanation.
4. Close the models and apply that move to a new question.

Worked example: Compare Two Marked Answers

Compare two answers marked against the same criteria. Ask staff or learners to identify the evidence behind the marks and agree the next improvement, rather than just announcing the higher score.

Teacher prompt: "Show the relationship and explain the choice you made."

Check understanding

Check a fresh response for the identified quality move.

Fade the support

Remove labels and ask learners to evaluate their own response against the question.

Adapt it across subjects

Maths: compare result-only and justified solutions. Humanities: compare supported and unsupported interpretations.

Adjust the language support

A1-A2 access: keep the subject goal; use visuals, a small word bank, pointing or drawing and partner rehearsal. Use a home language to establish meaning where helpful.

B1-B2 extension: ask for fuller explanations, precise subject vocabulary and qualifications. Reduce sentence openings when learners can organise the response independently.

These are starting points, not placement rules. Judge support from the learner's response to this task; proficiency can differ across skills.