

name _____

History of Social and Political Philosophy
Fall, 2007

Writing exercise 3: Comparing views

In this exercise you will work on comparing two authors' views of the topic you have chosen..

1. What topic are you working on? _____

2. Which authors are you working on? _____

3. State two *comparative claims* about the authors' views on your topic. Your claims should summarize the most important points of comparison.

a. How are their views similar?

b. How are their views different?

4. Provide *evidence* that supports your claims, in the form of four quotations from the authors' texts.

a. On the copies you brought to class, underline one quotation from each author that demonstrates the *similarity* of their views. Label the quotations S-1 and S-2. In the space below, paraphrase the two quotes (i.e. restate them in your own words).

S-1 _____

S-2 _____

- b. On the copies you brought to class, underline one quotation from each author that demonstrates the *difference* between their views. Label the quotations D-1 and D-2. In the space below, paraphrase the two quotes (i.e. restate them in your own words).

D-1 _____

D-2 _____

5. *Explain* how the quotations you provide support your claims.

- a. Write several sentences that use the evidence you give in 4-a to *prove* that the two authors' views are *similar*. You should refer to the quotations by their labels – e.g. S-1.

- b. Write several sentences that use the evidence you give in 4-b to *prove* that the two authors' views are *different*. You should refer to the quotations by their labels – e.g. D-1.
