

'How To' Guide – Venn Diagrams





A Venn diagram – named after John Venn (1834 – 1923).

Venn diagrams are a visual way of categorising information using overlapping circles.

Data is put into the overlapping sections of the circles when a piece of information falls into more than one category.

Example

Categorise the characteristics of fiction and non-fiction using a Venn diagram.

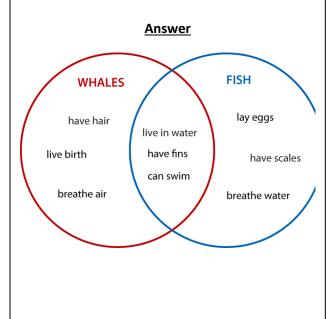
Answer Nonfiction Tells a story - Relates information characters and chapters On a spedfic subject Can be sequential Follows arc Gives information in a variet of orders – sequential, order o (exposition, rising Table of contents action, climax, - Title page falling action, resolution, indudes headings, denouement) and publisher included subheadings, graphics, charts, Often have bolded key words, side bars pull out information (forward for non, back - Includes bibliographies, Indexes, glossaries,

How we teach it

- Draw 2-3 overlapping circles depending on how many categories the information is being split into. Make sure that each of the sections (particularly the overlaps) are large enough to write in.
- It may be better to have the Venn diagrams printed for neatness.
- Label each circle with the category it represents.
- Start to enter your information into the circles.
- If it falls into one category only, it should not be in an overlapping section.
- If it falls into more than one category, enter the information into the section where those circles overlap.
- If it falls into none of the categories, write your information in the space outside of the circles.

Example

Show the similarities and differences between whales and fish using a Venn diagram.



Example

Use a Venn diagram to categorise the works of some authors as funny, exciting, boring, sad, or a combination of these.

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