IELTS Academic comparing and contrasting exam overview
Choose one of the contrasting pairs below and compare the things written there or ask your partner to do so. First say how similar or different they are in general, then say what the similarities and differences are. You can look in your textbook, at a practice exam, etc to help your discussion if you like.

IELTS Academic Writing
- IELTS Academic Writing Task 1 tasks/ IELTS Academic Writing Task 2 tasks
- IELTS Academic Writing/ Other writing tests (Cambridge exams such as First Certificate and C1 Advanced, TOEIC, ToEFL, etc)
- IELTS Academic Writing/ IELTS General Writing
- IELTS Academic Writing Task 1 flowchart tasks/ Other IELTS Academic Writing Task 1 tasks
- IELTS Academic Writing/ Real academic writing (e.g. a dissertation or journal paper)
- Describing all the information that you are given in IELTS Academic Writing Task 1/ What you are actually asked to do in the exam
- Comparing/ Contrasting
- An okay performance in IELTS Academic Writing/ A bad performance in IELTS Academic Writing
- An okay performance in IELTS Academic Writing/ A great performance in IELTS Academic Writing
- "and give your own opinion" tasks/ "to what extent do you agree or disagree with this idea" tasks
- Giving your opinion in the introduction/ Only giving your opinion in the final paragraph
- A summary/ A conclusion
- The introduction to an IELTS Academic Writing Part Task 1 essay/ The introduction to an IELTS Academic Writing Task 2 essay

IELTS Speaking
- IELTS Speaking/ Other speaking exams (Cambridge exams such as First Certificate and CAE, TOEIC, ToEFL, etc)
- IELTS Speaking Part One/ IELTS Speaking Part Three
- IELTS Speaking Part Two/ The other two parts of IELTS Speaking
- An okay performance in IELTS Speaking/ A great performance in IELTS Speaking

IELTS Academic Reading
- IELTS Academic Reading/ Other reading tests (Cambridge exams such as First Certificate and CAE, TOEIC, ToEFL, etc)
- The first IELTS Academic Reading text/ The second IELTS Academic Reading text/ The last IELTS Academic Reading text
- Task types with IELTS Academic Reading text one/ Task types with IELTS Academic Reading text two/ Task types with IELTS Academic Reading text three
- When you should choose "False"/ When you should choose "Not given"
- Multiple matching tasks/ Most other tasks
- Single questions at the end of the tasks for one text/ Most other tasks
- Scanning in IELTS Academic Reading/ Scanning as taught in textbooks

IELTS Listening
- IELTS Listening/ Other listening tests (Cambridge exams such as First Certificate and CAE, TOEIC, ToEFL, etc)
- The Listening Part Two situation/ The Listening Part Four situation
- The Listening Part One situation/ The Listening Part Three situation
- The task types with the four different texts
- A correct answer to a gapfill task/ A wrong answer to a gapfill task
- The word(s) that you have to put in the gaps/ The words before and after those words
- Instructions to gapfill tasks in different tests or for different texts

Overall
- Language in IELTS Academic Writing/ Language in IELTS Speaking
- Transferring your answers to the answer sheet in IELTS Reading/ Transferring your answers to the answer sheet in IELTS Listening
- The four papers in IELTS/ The papers in other exams (Cambridge exams such as First Certificate and CAE, TOEIC, ToEFL, etc)
- IELTS Academic/ IELTS General
- IELTS now/ IELTS in the past
- Computer-based IELTS/ Paper-based IELTS

Ask your teacher about any of the contrasts above which you'd like to check.