**Venn Diagram**

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**Purpose**: To compare and contrast two topics or aspects about one topic, while synthesizing understandings about a topic or text.

**Materials**: paper, pencils

**Procedure**:
- Venn diagrams can be made individually, in small groups, or as a large group.
- Draw two large overlapping circles on a piece of paper. Label each circle with elements of discussion to compare or contrast.
- Students compare each element by writing similarities in the space where the circles overlap.
- Students contrast the elements by writing descriptors unique to each element in their corresponding circles where the circles do not overlap.
- Share Venn diagrams with other students or groups. Discuss decisions about descriptors and decisions that were made about comparisons.

**Special Modification**
- More advanced students can compare and contrast 3 concepts by drawing 3 overlapping circles. When drawing the circles, remember to have the circles overlap each other in the enter of the graphic organizer. An example is provided below.

![Venn Diagram Example](image)