

Empathy Vs. Sympathy Answer Key

Sample Responses

1. understand or feel
2. feel sorry
3. "I understand how you feel. I've been there too."
4. "I'm sorry you're going through that."
5. Empathy is about sharing the feeling; sympathy is about noticing it.
6. When I comfort a friend who lost a pet by sharing my own experience.
7. When I send a kind message to someone who is upset.

Teacher's Guide

- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - Read the passage aloud and pause to discuss the difference between "feeling with" and "feeling for."
 - Provide sentence starters for struggling writers to complete the blanks.
 - Use visuals or short role-play examples to reinforce understanding.
- **Engagement Strategies:**
 - Have students act out a scenario showing empathy and another showing sympathy.
 - Ask the class to vote which example showed deeper understanding and why.
 - Encourage small group discussion using the question, "When is it easier to feel empathy?"
- **Extension Ideas:**
 - Ask students to write a journal reflection about a time they felt empathy or sympathy.
 - Connect the topic to community service and discuss how empathy motivates action.
 - Have students create short skits or digital messages that model empathy in daily life.