Reading a compare page: Costco and Walmart, Home Depot and Lowe's

Name: Class: Date:

Two companies' numbers side by side look easy to compare. In this lesson you will check four things first: the months, the lines, the dates and the wording.

What to do

1. Read the receipts and cards below with a partner.
2. In Part C of your worksheet, check Costco and Walmart.
3. In Part D, check Home Depot and Lowe's.
4. The exit ticket is on page 2 of your worksheet.

The receipts

Where each $100 went: Costco, FY2026

Line	Per $100 that came in
Merchandise costs	$87.0
Running costs	$8.9
Interest and tax	$1.0
Kept as net income	$3.0
Total	$99.9

Source: Costco's FY2026 Form 10-K, filed Oct 7, 2026; Item 8, consolidated statements of income (Cityfort calculation: each line ÷ total revenue × 100). Lines are rounded to the nearest 10 cents, so the total may differ from $100 by a few cents.

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Where each $100 went: Walmart, FY2026

Line	Per $100 that came in
Goods and other cost of sales	$74.9
Operating, selling and admin costs	$20.7
Interest	$0.3
Tax and minority holders' share	$1.1
Kept as net income	$3.1
Total	$100.1

Source: Walmart's FY2026 Form 10-K, filed Mar 13, 2026; Item 8, consolidated statements of income (Cityfort calculation: each line ÷ total money in × 100). Lines are rounded to the nearest 10 cents, so the total may differ from $100 by a few cents.

Where each $100 went: Home Depot, FY2025

Line	Per $100 that came in
Cost of sales	$66.6
Selling, general and administrative (SG&A)	$18.6
Depreciation and amortization outside cost of sales	$2.0
Interest expense	$1.5
Income taxes	$2.7
Kept as net income	$8.6
Total	$100.0

Source: Home Depot's FY2025 Form 10-K, filed Mar 18, 2026; Item 8, consolidated statements of earnings (Cityfort calculation: each line ÷ net sales × 100).

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Where each $100 went: Lowe's, FY2025

Line	Per $100 that came in
Cost of sales	$66.5
Selling, general and administrative (SG&A)	$19.5
Depreciation and amortization outside cost of sales	$2.2
Interest, net	$1.6
Income taxes	$2.4
Kept as net income	$7.7
Total	$99.9

Source: Lowe's FY2025 Form 10-K, filed Mar 23, 2026; Item 8, consolidated statements of earnings (Cityfort calculation: each line ÷ net sales × 100). Lines are rounded to the nearest 10 cents, so the total may differ from $100 by a few cents.

Part A. Warm-up

1. A1. A friend says, "Walmart made more money than Costco." Write two things you would check first.

_____

_____

Part B. Words

Write each definition in your own words.

1. Fiscal year

_____

2. As of

_____

Part C. Costco and Walmart

Use the cards and receipts on the student page or slides 4–7.

C1. Costco's FY2026 ended on _____. Walmart's FY2026 ended on _____.

C2. About how many months do the two years share? _____

C3. Which receipt line has the same name on both receipts? _____

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1. C4. Costco's debt figure is dated Aug 30, 2026. Why does the date matter when you compare it with Walmart's?

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Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Part D. Home Depot and Lowe's

D1. Do the two FY2025 years cover about the same months? _____

D2. Which receipt line has a different name on each receipt? _____ and _____

D3. Kept as net income per $100: Home Depot $_____; Lowe's $_____

Part E. Fair sentences

Each sentence names both companies' periods and has no verdict.

1. E1. One sentence about Costco and Walmart:

2. E2. One sentence about Home Depot and Lowe's:

Exit ticket

1. Name two things to check before comparing two companies' numbers.

2. True or false? Two years with the same label always cover the same months.

3. Why does a compare page list lines only one company has?

4. Rewrite this sentence so it is fair: "Home Depot beats Lowe's."

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Word bank

Fiscal year	The 12 months (or 52 or 53 weeks) a company uses for its yearly results.
Compare page	A Cityfort page that shows two companies' facts side by side, in the same order.
Balance sheet	What a company owns and owes on one date.
As of	The date a number was measured.
Verdict	A judgment that one side is ahead. Fair comparisons leave it out.

Sentence starters

- ____'s FY____ ran from ____ to ____.
- ____ reported ____ in ____, and ____ reported ____ in ____.
- These two lines do not match because ____.

student page

Scan the code or type: **cityfort.co/class/compare-pages**

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