

## The Wonder Williams! by Sydney Nguyen

If you were a pro tennis player, would you rather be playing against Serena Williams or Venus Williams? As kids, both girls were committed tennis players, as they are now. They even went to the tennis academy of Rick Macci, but soon got pulled out by their dad to continue tennis but under his tutelage. At first glance, they're a lot alike: twin sisters with right-handed forehand and two-handed backhand. But each player possesses strengths that help her win tournaments and matches.

Venus Williams turned pro October, 1994. Since then, she has been a sensation. Venus Williams started being number one on February 25, 2002. She was the first black woman to ever hold this ranking! Right now, she is ranked number 133, but still continues to play her strongest game. This amazing tennis player made a lot of money in her career, even though she is ranked number 133. She made \$27,750,151 as of 2012. Venus Williams's game style is unique as well. She has a serve that is 125 mph, but more of a defensive player. Her forehand is very strong, though breaks under pressure.

Serena Williams turned pro September 1995. She was also number 1 July 8, 2002. She regained this ranking in November 2, 2009, but right now holds number 11. Serena Williams makes a lot of money, because of her ranking, earning \$34,883,357 in her career. She also has a very important game style. Her serve is 128 mph, which is very good for a female player. Also, her forehand is considered the strongest in women players.

Some people think that Serena Williams is stronger and more consistent than Venus Williams, but both athletes have their strong and weak points. Even though Serena's serve might be faster, and Venus's pro career may have been longer, both players are very determined and strong. Many game qualities make them equal. We see that no tennis player can be perfect at every stroke or serve, but the ones who never give up and keep trying their hardest are the ones that succeed.



Below is the opening paragraph from an essay about bullying. Note how it provides some background (which relates to the reader's experiences) while introducing the items to be contrasted. Some **similarities** (comparisons) are mentioned in this opening paragraph. The next two paragraphs will provide the differences.

When you think of bullying, you most likely picture a larger, stronger student picking on a smaller, weaker one. But are the students you picture boys or girls? Some researchers are discovering that in middle school, girls are actually more likely to bully than boys. **In both cases, students are being hurt emotionally and physically, and in both cases, much of what occurs goes unreported to teachers and administrators.** What researchers are now beginning to explore, however, are the differences in the *types* of bullying that happen between girls and boys.