Comparison Essay: Integrated Approach

In the integrated approach to the comparison essay, you compare different aspects of the two (or more) articles or topics in each of the body paragraphs. While there are no paragraphs devoted exclusively to summary as in the block comparison, you will describe every relevant part of each article by the end of the essay. In this form of the comparison essay your transitions are especially important, and provide good opportunities to affirm your thesis.

**Introduction:**
Briefly introduce the two articles or items you are comparing and state your thesis.

**Body #1**
Discuss one aspect of both articles or topics.

**Body #2**
Discuss a second aspect of both articles or topics.

**Body #3**
Discuss a third and final aspect of both articles or topics.

**Conclusion**
Briefly summarize the evidence you have presented and reiterate how the evidence supports your thesis.
Example of the Comparison Essay: Integrated Approach

**Introduction:**
While football and baseball share many similar characteristics, they are fundamentally different sports due to the different levels of physical danger involved. It is clear from the rules of each game, the amount of padding that each sport requires, and the physiques of the individual athletes, that football is a much more dangerous sport than baseball.

**Body #1**
In football, attacking a member of the opposite team is not only allowed, but encouraged. The tackle is one of the key moves in the game. In contrast, in baseball, if a player attacks a member of the opposite team, the player will be chastised and can even be removed from the game.

**Body #2**
It is clear from the amount of padding that is required of football players that the game is physically dangerous. All of the players must wear helmets as well as heavily padded clothing. In comparison, only the catcher in baseball wears protective clothing. It is logical to conclude, therefore, that football is a much more physically dangerous game.

**Body #3**
By looking at the physique of the average player in football, it is clear that this sport is extremely physically intimidating. Not only are the players tall, they are broad and well-built. In baseball brute strength is not as important. While some players have the physique of a football player, many are smaller and rely upon concentrated strength in a specific area, such as the arm in the case of pitchers.

**Conclusion**
By comparing the specific attributes of football and baseball, it is evident that each sport involves different levels of physical contact; in the end, football is a more dangerous sport than baseball.