

Name _____

Comparing Willy and Ben Answer Key

Willy vs. Ben (Sample Answers):

- **View of the American Dream:** Willy believes in popularity and material wealth; Ben believes in risk-taking and opportunity (e.g., Alaska, Africa).
- **Relationship with Family:** Willy seeks approval from his sons; Ben offers little family loyalty, only ambition.
- **Attitude Toward Work:** Willy is stuck in sales; Ben thrives as an adventurer and capitalist.
- **Relationship with Willy:** Ben serves as Willy's idealized figure, fueling his illusions.
- **Outcome in Life:** Willy dies clinging to false dreams; Ben becomes a figure of success, though without warmth.

Reflection Question (Sample Response):

The comparison shows that Willy's shallow definition of success destroys him, while Ben's boldness lead to stability or gain. Miller critiques blind faith in illusions.