

Salesman's Struggles Answer Key

(Sample Answers)

1. Willy Loman

- Beginning Motivation: Willy wants success and respect, convinced that being well-liked will guarantee prosperity.
- Evidence: He boasts, "Someday I'll have my own business, and I'll never have to leave home."
- End: His motivation doesn't change; he still chases false dreams, leading to his suicide for the insurance money.

2. Biff Loman

- Beginning Motivation: Biff seeks direction after years of drifting and disappointment.
- Evidence: He admits, "I'm like a boy. I'm not married, I'm not in business..."
- End: He realizes he cannot live Willy's dream, saying he must "be what I am," breaking from illusion.

3. Happy Loman

- Beginning Motivation: Happy craves validation through women, money, and recognition.
- Evidence: "I'm losing weight, Pop, you notice?" reflects his shallow drive for approval.
- End: He refuses change, vowing to continue Willy's dream: "I'm not licked that easily."

4. Linda Loman

- Beginning Motivation: Linda is motivated by loyalty, determined to protect Willy from despair.
- Evidence: She insists, "Attention, attention must finally be paid to such a person."
- End: Her devotion collapses into grief; in the Requiem she laments, "We're free..." but is heartbroken and lost.