

Name _____

Exit Slip: Judging Willy Answer Key

Sample Sympathetic Responses:

- Yes, I sympathize with Willy because he worked his entire life trying to provide for his family, even if he failed. For example, he tells Linda, "I am vital in New England," showing his deep desire to feel important. His tragic flaws make him human, and that makes me feel sorry for him.
- I sympathize with Willy because society's harsh version of the American Dream left him behind. He gave decades to his company, only to be fired without compassion.

Sample Unsympathetic Responses:

- No, I do not sympathize with Willy because he lied to himself and his family for too long. He pressured Biff into chasing a dream that wasn't right for him. His affair also showed selfishness, which makes it hard to feel sorry for him.
- I don't sympathize with Willy because instead of changing his ways, he kept clinging to illusions. He had chances to accept reality, like taking Charley's job, but his pride stopped him.