

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Sentence Types and Writing Style

Follow the directions provided below to analyze the use of sentence types and how that use affects the author's message. Your response will be assessed using the following rubric:

Standard	4	3	2	1
Reading 2 - Analyze an author's choice of language (diction, figurative language, imagery, syntax) to determine its impact on meaning and tone.	I can provide a thorough and insightful analysis of how carefully considered language choices impact meaning and/or tone.	I can provide a clear and accurate analysis of how specific language choices impact meaning and/or tone.	I can provide a partial or somewhat flawed analysis of how general language choices impact meaning and/or tone.	I cannot yet provide an analysis of how general language choices impact meaning and/or tone.

Pre-Reading

Respond to these questions before doing the reading activity.

1 - What are some of the themes and tones Ayn Rand communicated to readers in writing *Anthem*?

2 - What are some of the themes and tones Cormac McCarthy communicated to readers in writing *The Road*?

Reading

Complete these instructions while reading the provided passages.

3 - In each of the numbered sentences, identify the subject(s), verbs, and label conjunctions appropriately.

4 - At the bottom of the sheet, identify the sentence type used by the author. Possible types include:

- Incomplete
- Simple
- Compound
- Complex
- Compound-Complex

Post-Reading Questions provided on the back --->

Post-Reading

Respond to these questions after completing the reading activity

5 - Compare and contrast the sentence structure used by Rand in *Anthem* to that which *McCarthy* uses in *The Road*.

6 - Choose one of the authors and discuss how the types of sentences they use enables them to communicate the themes and tones you identified in number 1 or 2 above.

From *The Road*:

Long curve of the beach beyond.¹ Gray as lava sand.² The wind coming off the water smelled faintly of iodine.³ That was all.⁴ There was no sea smell to it.⁵ On the rocks the remnants of some dark seamoss.⁶ They crossed and went on.⁷ At the end of the strand their way was blocked by a headland and they left the beach and took an old path up through the dunes and through the dead seaoats until they came out upon a low promontory.⁸ Below them a hook of land shrouded in the dark scud blowing down the shore and beyond that lying half over and awash the shape of a sailboat's hull.⁹ They crouched in the dry tufts of grass and watched.¹⁰ What should we do? the boy said.¹¹

Let's just watch for a while.¹²

I'm cold.

I know. Let's move down a little ways.¹³ Out of the wind.¹⁴ He sat holding the boy in front of him. The dead grass thrashed softly. Out there a gray desolation. The endless seacrawl. How long do we have to sit here? the boy said.

Not long.

Do you think there are people on the boat, Papa?

I don't think so.

They'd be all tilted over.

Yes they would. Can you see any tracks out there.

No.

Let's just wait a while.

I'm cold.

From *Anthem*:

We placed our glass box upon the table before them.¹⁵ We spoke of it, and of our long quest, and of our tunnel, and of our escape from the Palace of Corrective Detention.¹⁶ Not a hand moved in that hall, as we spoke, nor an eye.¹⁷ Then we put the wires to the box, and they all bent forward and sat still, watching.¹⁸ And we stood still, our eyes upon the wire.¹⁹ And slowly, slowly as a flush of blood, a red flame trembled in the wire.²⁰ Then the wire glowed.²¹

But terror struck the men of the Council.²² They leapt to their feet, they ran from the table, and they stood pressed against the wall, huddled together, seeking the warmth of one another's bodies to give them courage.²³

We looked upon them and we laughed and said:

“Fear nothing, our brothers.²⁴ There is a great power in these wires, but this power is tamed.²⁵ It is yours.²⁶ We give it to you.²⁷”

Still they would not move.²⁸

“We give you the power of the sky!”²⁹

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