

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### “Casey at the Bat” : Two Points of View

**Directions:** Read the final six stanzas of Thayer’s original 1888 version of “Casey at the Bat” and Keillor’s 1994 parody “Casey at the Bat (Road Trip).” Then, reread the stanzas, identifying five words in each that you think best capture or illustrate the two points of view regarding Casey in these poems.

Final Six Stanzas from “Casey at the Bat” (by Earnest Lawrence Thayer, 1888)	Final Six Stanzas from “Casey at the Bat (Road Trip)” (by Garrison Keillor, 1994)
<p>And now the leather-covered sphere came hurtling through the air, And Casey stood a-watching it in haughty grandeur there. Close by the sturdy batsman the ball unheeded sped- "That ain't my style," said Casey. "Strike one," the umpire said.</p> <p>From the benches, black with people, there went up a muffled roar, Like the beating of the storm-waves on the stern and distant shore. "Kill him! Kill the umpire!" shouted some one on the stand; And it's likely they'd have killed him had not Casey raised his hand.</p> <p>With a smile of Christian charity great Casey's visage shone; He stilled the rising tumult, he bade the game go on; He signaled to the pitcher, and once more the spheroid flew; But Casey still ignored it, and the umpire said, "Strike Two."</p> <p>"Fraud!" cried the maddened thousands, and echo answered "fraud"; But one scornful look from Casey and the audience was awed; They saw his face grow stern and cold,</p>	<p>And then the Dustburg pitcher stood majestic on the hill, And leaned in toward the plate, and then the crowd was still, And he went into his windup, and he kicked, and let it go, And then the air was shattered by the force of Casey's blow.</p> <p>He swung so hard his hair fell off and he toppled in disgrace And the Dustburg catcher held the ball and the crowd tore up the place, With Casey prostrate in the dirt amid the screams and jeers We threw wieners down at him and other souvenirs.</p> <p>We pounded on the dugout roof as they helped him to the bench, Then we ran out to the parking lot and got a monkey wrench And found the Mudville bus and took the lug nuts off the tires, And attached some firecrackers to the alternator wires.</p> <p>We rubbed the doors and windows with a special kind of cheese That smells like something died from an intestinal disease. Old Casey took his sweet time, but we</p>

<p>they saw his muscles strain, And they knew that Casey wouldn't let that ball go by again.</p> <p>The sneer is gone from Casey's lip, his teeth are clenched in hate; He pounds with cruel violence his bat upon the plate. And now the pitcher holds the ball, and now he lets it go, And now the air is shattered by the force of Casey's blow.</p> <p>Oh, somewhere in this favored land the sun is shining bright; The band is playing somewhere, and somewhere hearts are light, And somewhere men are laughing, and somewhere children shout; But there is no joy in Mudville -mighty Casey has struck out.</p>	<p>were glad to wait And we showered him with garbage as the team came out the gate.</p> <p>So happy were the Dustburg fans that grand and glorious day, It took a dozen cops to help poor Casey away, But we grabbed hold of the bumpers and we rocked him to and fro And he cursed us from inside the bus, and gosh, we loved it so!</p> <p>Oh sometimes in America the sun is shining bright, Life is joyful sometimes, and all the world seems right, But there is no joy in Dustburg, no joy so pure and sweet As when the mighty Casey fell, demolished, at our feet.</p>
<p><b>Identify five key words used by Thayer to describe Casey or his actions:</b></p> <p>1. _____</p> <p>2. _____</p> <p>3. _____</p> <p>4. _____</p> <p>5. _____</p>	<p><b>Identify five key words used by Keillor to describe how Casey is treated by the Dustburg fans:</b></p> <p>1. _____</p> <p>2. _____</p> <p>3. _____</p> <p>4. _____</p> <p>5. _____</p>