Name:

Pd:

**Richard Cory**

BY [EDWIN ARLINGTON ROBINSON](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/edwin-arlington-robinson)

**Poetic Form Analysis:**

1. How many stanzas are there?

2. What is this type of stanza called?

3. What is the rhyme scheme?

Whenever Richard Cory went down town,

We people on the pavement looked at him:

He was a gentleman from sole to crown,

Clean favored, and imperially slim.

And he was always quietly arrayed,

And he was always human when he talked;

But still he fluttered pulses when he said,

"Good-morning," and he glittered when he walked.

And he was rich—yes, richer than a king—

And admirably schooled in every grace:

In fine, we thought that he was everything

To make us wish that we were in his place.

So on we worked, and waited for the light,

And went without the meat, and cursed the bread;

And Richard Cory, one calm summer night,

Went home and put a bullet through his head.

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**Questions:**

1. What is the purpose of the poem?

2. Where does the tone shift in the poem? The tone shifts from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

3. Which type of irony is used in the poem? Explain your answer.

**Written Response:**

Write an *introductory paragraph* for an essay in which you plan to answer the following prompt: **Is the man described in “Richard Cory” more like Santiago Nasar or Bayardo San Roman from *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*?**

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**Perfect Introductory Paragraph Recipe**

**for the Literary Analysis Essay**

* **Opening Capture or Hook**
* **TAG Sentence:  Title, Author, Genre with connection of the work to your idea in the capture sentence.**
* **Contextualize:  Build on the idea and how it relates to the work as you provide context for your thesis.**
* **State your thesis, or answer to the prompt, as a complex sentence using a subordinating conjunction**

**Opening Capture or Hook -**  An idea about the prompt that is original, thought-provoking, surprising, and/or otherwise engaging.  This idea is often “outside” the work you’re writing about, and applies to people or life in general:

**Ex: It is a well-worn adage that pride comes before a fall.**

**TAG Sentence** - Connect your capture with a sentence that introduces the title, author, and genre of the work and your main theme:

**Ex:  In the ancient Greek tragedy *Antigone*, written by Sophocles, Antigone stands inflexibly for what she believes is right when most think her choice to bury her brother, Polyneices, a traitor to Thebes, is wrong.**

**Contextualize** - Begin to narrow your theme toward an answer to the prompt using brief summary of applicable characters, scene(s), and/or choice details:

**Ex: Antigone’s stubborn actions ultimately bring harm to the city by undermining its laws.  In the face of Creon’s opposition, Antigone even wants everyone to know about her choice. Her words to Ismene, “Oh tell it!  Tell everyone! Think how they’ll hate you when it all comes out if they learn you knew about it all the time” exemplify her pridefulness.**

**State your thesis as a complete answer to the prompt** - A complex sentence using a subordinating conjunction (although, because, since, whereas, while, etc.) is ideal to express your reasoning along with your answer to the prompt.  You may preview your key points (a closed thesis) or leave them for the body of your essay (an open thesis). Is the following example a closed thesis or an open thesis?

**Ex:  Because Antigone’s unyielding hubris leads to her and others’ suffering, Antigone is the most prideful character in the play.**

One additional sentence would make the above thesis a “closed thesis”.

**Ex:  Her hubris leads to her own death, the deaths of Haimon and Eurydice, and harm to the city through her act of disobedience.**

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**Example:**

**It is a well-worn adage that pride comes before a fall.  In the ancient Greek tragedy *Antigone*, written by Sophocles, Antigone stands inflexibly for what she believes is right when most think her choice to bury her brother Polyneices, a traitor to Thebes, is wrong.  Antigone’s stubborn actions ultimately bring harm to the city by undermining its laws. In the face of Creon’s opposition, Antigone even wants everyone to know about her choice.  Her words to Ismene, “Oh tell it! Tell everyone! Think how they’ll hate you when it all comes out if they learn you knew about it all the time” exemplify her pridefulness. Because Antigone’s unyielding hubris leads to her and others’ suffering, Antigone is the most prideful character in the play.**