

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Use the chart below to **analyze key elements of your texts** and brainstorm ideas that you could develop in your essay. Jot down the first thoughts that come to mind as you read the guiding questions.

	Text 1: Author:	Text 2: Author:
<b>Theme or Central Idea:</b> What big ideas or messages about life does the text suggest? How does the author reveal these ideas?		
<b>Structure:</b> Does the author make interesting choices about line or sentence length? For <b>narratives</b> , is the story linear or does it jump around in time? For <b>poetry</b> , how are the lines and stanzas arranged, and how does this affect the reader?		
<b>Point of View:</b> Who is the text's narrator or speaker? For <b>narratives</b> , how does the narrator's perspective affect the reader? For <b>poetry</b> , how does the speaker feel about the topic?		
<b>Word Choice:</b> Does the author make any interesting word choices or use any figurative language? How does word choice affect the reader?		
<b>Imagery:</b> What are the most vivid images that come alive in the text? What can the reader clearly see, hear, taste, smell, or touch? How do these images make the reader feel?		
<b>Characters:</b> For <b>narratives</b> , do the main characters change over time? How do these changes affect the story or the reader?		

Step back and look at your notes. Star (☆ or \*) three rows where you notice interesting similarities or differences between the two texts that you could write about in your essay.