

GRAPHIC ORGANIZER FOR ACTIVE READING

The Rocking-Horse Winner

D. H. Lawrence

Pupil's Edition page 996

The Root of All Evil

In the right side of the following chart, explain why each character listed is motivated to acquire money.

Character	Motive
Paul's mother	
Paul	
Uncle Oscar	
Bassett	

1. Which of the above characters is corrupted by materialism? Why?

2. Do you think that any of the above characters regret their actions? Why or why not?

The Rocking-Horse Winner

Identify the type of error, if any, in each underlined passage, and circle the letter next to the correct answer.

Over the centuries, immeasurable evil has sprung from the lust for riches. Even on the most personal level—wife to husband, parent to child,
¹
freind to freind—the craving for wealth can be devastating. “The Rocking-Horse Winner” is about
²
greed In this story and in his other works,
³
D. H Lawrence depicts characters torn between their instinct and their upbringing. Which of these do you think he preferred
⁴

- 1 A Spelling
 B Capitalization
 C Punctuation
 D No error

- 3 A Spelling
 B Capitalization
 C Punctuation
 D No error

- 2 F Spelling
 G Capitalization
 H Punctuation
 J No error

- 4 F Spelling
 G Capitalization
 H Punctuation
 J No error

GRAMMAR LINK**The Rocking-Horse Winner**

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Varying Sentence Structure

Varying the structure of your sentences helps make your writing more interesting and holds the reader's attention. That means using a combination of simple, compound, and complex sentences. The following chart provides examples of different sentence structures.

A **simple sentence** consists of one independent clause—a clause containing a subject and a predicate (the verb and its modifiers and objects). Such a clause is independent because it can stand alone as a sentence.

EXAMPLE: Paul's mother could not love her children.

A **compound sentence** consists of two or more independent clauses but no subordinate clauses. Independent clauses may be joined together by a comma and a coordinating conjunction (*and, but, or, nor, for, so, or yet*); by a semicolon; or by a semicolon and a conjunctive adverb or a transitional expression.

EXAMPLE: Paul and his family live in a comfortable style, **but** they never have enough money.

A **complex sentence** contains an independent clause and one or more subordinate clauses. In a complex sentence, the idea in the independent clause is more important than the idea in the subordinate clause, and the subordinate clause needs the independent clause to make it complete.

SUBORDINATE

INDEPENDENT

EXAMPLE: When Paul is on his rocking horse, he appears to be in a trance.

EXERCISE A Identifying Sentence Structure

In the blank to the left of each sentence, write the letter of the appropriate sentence structure.

a. simple

b. compound

c. complex

- _____ 1. While his sisters play with their dolls in the nursery, Paul rocks wildly.
- _____ 2. Paul's mother says that the family is poor because her husband has no luck.
- _____ 3. Paul and Bassett have a secret partnership, and it proves to be very profitable.
- _____ 4. Uncle Oscar has to promise that he will not reveal Paul's secret.
- _____ 5. Paul's uncle promises to take the boy to Lincoln and Richmond Park, where racing events are held.
- _____ 6. Paul watches excitedly, but his mother does not react to the letter.
- _____ 7. Once his mother has the money, it seems the whispering is worse than ever.
- _____ 8. Paul moves the rocking horse to his room on the top floor of the house.
- _____ 9. Paul makes one last frenzied ride on the rocking horse, and he learns the name of the Derby winner.
- _____ 10. Paul's luck makes his mother a rich woman.