

Raskolnikov's Ripple Effect Answer Key

Decision 1 - Murdering the Pawnbroker

- *Immediate Effect:* Gains stolen goods but also panic, illness, and accidental killing of Lizaveta.
- *Long-Term Consequence:* Consumed by guilt, paranoia, and moral collapse.

Decision 2 - Sparing Marmeladov's Family Some Money

- *Immediate Effect:* Family receives relief in poverty.
- *Long-Term Consequence:* Foreshadows Sonia's loyalty and her role in his redemption.

Decision 3 - Rejecting Friends' Help (Razumikhin, etc.)

- *Immediate Effect:* Raskolnikov becomes isolated and mistrustful.
- *Long-Term Consequence:* Cuts himself off from support, worsening his mental torment.

Decision 4 - Delaying His Confession

- *Immediate Effect:* Extends his anxiety, suspicion, and alienation.
- *Long-Term Consequence:* Suffering intensifies, making eventual confession both inevitable and transformative.

Decision 5 - Following Sonia's Guidance

- *Immediate Effect:* He admits the truth and begins serving his punishment.
- *Long-Term Consequence:* Opens the path toward spiritual renewal and redemption through suffering.