

Name _____

Effects of Ivan's Life Answer Key

(Sample Responses)

Ivan's Choice/Action	Immediate Effect	Long-Term Consequence
1. Marries Praskovya mainly for social convenience	Gains a socially acceptable marriage	Relationship becomes loveless; wife shows little compassion in his illness
2. Pursues career advancement and social respectability above all else	Achieves promotions and comfort	Life feels empty; friends and colleagues care more about status than about him
3. Ignores signs of illness at first and insists on normal routines	Avoids confronting reality	Illness worsens; denial deepens his suffering
4. Maintains appearances and hides suffering from family and colleagues	Family pretends everything is fine	Emotional isolation grows; he feels alone in his pain
5. Rejects genuine emotional connection until near death	Misses chances for comfort earlier	Only finds peace at the very end through Gerasim's compassion

(Sample Reflection)

Modern readers can learn that prioritizing status and appearances over authenticity leads to emptiness. Genuine relationships and honesty bring comfort, especially in times of suffering, while shallow choices bring isolation.