

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Tolstoy's Purpose Answer Key

### Sample Response

Tolstoy's main purpose was to confront readers with the reality of death and expose the emptiness of a life lived only for social approval. By showing Ivan's suffering, Tolstoy forces readers to question their own lives and values.

### Reflection Questions (Sample Responses)

1. Tolstoy critiques society for rewarding appearances, wealth, and status while neglecting compassion and truth.
2. Society often avoids speaking about death, but Tolstoy portrays it directly, as unavoidable and spiritually revealing.
3. A legal official represents the "ordinary successful man," showing that even respected, conventional lives can lack true meaning.