

Name _____



Mortality Reflections

Directions: Write a response for every prompt about facing mortality and truth.

Step 1: Ivan's Dilemma

Ivan avoids admitting the truth about his illness for much of the story. Imagine you are Ivan, realizing death is near. Write 4-5 sentences responding to this situation:

- Would you want people around you to be honest about your condition, or to protect you from fear? Why?

Step 2: Truth vs. Comfort

Tolstoy contrasts Gerasim's honesty with Ivan's family's denial. Reflect in 1 paragraph:

- Which is more compassionate: telling someone the truth about their mortality, or shielding them with comforting lies? Support your opinion with reasoning.

Step 3: Universal Connection

Write 1 paragraph connecting Ivan's moral dilemma to a broader human experience:

- Why do people often avoid talking about death?
- How can facing mortality honestly shape how someone chooses to live?
