

Name _____

Ilyich Uncovered Answer Key

(Sample Annotations)

1. **Key Words:** “oppressing,” “not lived as he ought,” “weakness,” “nothing to defend.”
2. **Contrasts:** Ivan’s defense of his past life vs. the collapse of that defense.
3. **Tone:** The tone is despairing, heavy with regret, yet edged with a fleeting sense of possibility (“it could all be redone”).
4. **Philosophy:** Ivan realizes that a life focused on social approval and status lacks true meaning.

(Reflection - Example)

Responses will vary. A strong example might include: *“If I had Ivan’s realization, I would want to focus less on achievements others praise and more on relationships and compassion. His struggle reminds me that meaning comes from how we treat people, not the status we gain.”*