

Name _____

Hunting For Ilyich's Symbols Answer Key

(Sample Responses)

1. The **black sack** symbolizes Ivan's terrifying descent toward death and the suffocating inevitability of mortality.
2. The **light at the bottom** represents the possibility of spiritual release, peace, or redemption that Ivan only recognizes at the end.
3. Ivan's **illness** symbolizes not only physical decline but also the moral and existential corruption of a shallow life lived for appearances.
4. Connected emotions: **fear** (the sack's darkness), **relief/hope** (the light), **loneliness** (the illness separating him from others).