Worksheet 6. Crime and Punishment in Practice

Name: ___________________________           Date: _________________
Teacher: ___________________________           Class: _________________

The crime takes place in the last chapter of Part 1, and punishment dominates the rest of the novel. According to theory, a great man is exempt from limits that constrict ordinary human behavior. Does Raskolnikov’s experience support or refute the theory? Answer the following questions to consider this issue.

1. In Part 1, Chapter 5, after his terrible dream, Raskolnikov concludes that, despite the validity of his theory, he cannot commit the murder he planned. How does he feel after that realization?

2. Part 2, Chapter 1, describes his situation in the hours after the murders. What are his states of mind and body?

3. Describe the split between intellect and emotions that it is evident through Parts 2–6, and provide specific textual evidence to support your view.

4. What factors prompt Raskolnikov’s confession at the end of Part 6? Has that confession been inevitable from the very beginning? Has the war between intellect and emotion been resolved?

5. What is the new story referred to in the book’s closing words? How does it relate to the theory of crime and punishment?