

SUMMER READING

If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact me through email:
estecker@rb157.org

THE ASSIGNMENT

***CRIME AND PUNISHMENT* by Fyodor Dostoevsky**

STEP ONE: READ AND ANNOTATE THE TEXT: As you read, mark any passages you feel are important to later use as support for future essays and/or for class discussion. These annotations may be on post it notes, in a notebook, or in the text itself if you own it. ***I will not be collecting these annotations.*** These are for your own benefit to prepare you for your reading quiz and discussion upon your return to school next year. It is suggested that you use [SparkNotes](#) and/or [Shmoop](#) ***after*** reading each chapter to ensure understanding. Prepare for class discussion using the discussion questions to guide your annotations. Be sure to read through the attached discussion questions to help guide your annotations.

If you choose to purchase your own book, here is the ISBN #: 0-553-21175-7. Please be sure to use this ISBN# as this is a translated text.

STEP TWO: REREAD: Good readers are re-readers. Give yourself the time and opportunity to re-read, take notes, pose questions, and make sense of what you have read. Attached, you will find notes on background information and the numerous characters in the novel to facilitate your reading and understanding of the text. Additionally, I have included the discussion questions we will use when you return to school in the fall. Use them to your benefit.

STEP THREE: PREPARE FOR TIMED WRITINGS and DISCUSSION

Be prepared to complete multiple in-class timed writings over *Crime and Punishment* when you return to school. If you have followed the directions above, you should be prepared.

Class Discussion Questions:

DIRECTIONS: Read and annotate the novel in preparation for discussion of the following questions **when you return to school.**

1. Look at Raskolnikov's personal and family life. What are some of the troubles he faces? How do these influence him?
2. What are Raskolnikov's motives in murdering Alyona Ivanovna and Lizeveta?
3. What is the setting of the text and how does it influence the characters?
4. What are the immediate and long term effects of the murders on Raskolnikov? What do we learn from (what themes are developed?) these effects?
5. Consider the relationships between Raskolnikov and the following characters. How are they important? How do these relationships help to develop each of the characters?
 - Marmeladov
 - Razumihin
 - Svidrigailov
 - Porfiry Petrovich
 - Sonia
6. Why does Raskolnikov decide to first confess to Sonia?
7. What is the superior man theory? How does Raskolnikov realize it is flawed?
8. Throughout the text numerous biblical allusions and symbols are mentioned. What are they and what is their function in the novel?
9. How does Porfiry get Raskolnikov to confess to his crime? Why is confession important to each these characters?
10. Crime, punishment, and suffering are key ideas developed within the text. What point is made about each of them? What themes can you discern?
11. What is the function/purpose of the dreams throughout the text? You may focus on one specific dream or all of them in general.
12. Raskolnikov is shocked to see that so many of his fellow inmates "loved and valued life more in prison than in freedom." Why do you think the prisoners felt this way? What prevents Raskolnikov from feeling this way at first? How and why do his views change while in prison?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION and NOTES

Some facts that the English reader should know:

1) Raskolnikov, Luzhin, Svidrigailov, Zametov, Marmeladov and Razhumikin have some symbolic meanings in their last names. For every Russian reader it is the obvious fact; however, in translation the meaning of names becomes lost.

Raskol'nik – schismatic

Luzha – puddle

Razum – reason, intelligence

Zametit' – to notice

Marmelad – sort of sweet candy

Svidrigailov – name from the medieval Russian history, Lithuanian prince

2) The story of Marmeladov's family came from the other Dostoevsky's novel The Drunkards, which the writer had never finished. Instead of turning the story into the complete literary work, Dostoevsky put it in the plot of Crime and Punishment.

3) The character of Raskolnikov could be compared to other characters in Russian literature of that time. These heroes of Romantic era often possessed the qualities of revolt, cynicism and moral flaw in intelligent and attractive light. The critics created a name for such type of literary character, superfluous person. The examples of these heroes are Pushkin's Yevgeniy Onegin and Lermontov's Pechorin (Hero of Our Time).

4) Russian word for "crime" is "*prestuplenie*" which in direct translation means "stepping over". "Stepping over the line" is also one of the phrases used by Raskolnikov in his "Louse or Napoleon" theory.

5) The murder weapon in the novel is an axe, a tool so often associated with Russian peasantry. It also carries the connotations of peasant unrest. However, Porfiry, is not deluded by the traditional weapon of a peasant and dismisses two painters from the list of suspects. Instead the 'axe' is used in his conversation with Raskolnikov as a double edged metaphor.

Characters of the Novel

Characters are listed alphabetically according to the names by which they are commonly known. Included in each entry are other names by which a character is known, the pronunciation *of* the name (in italics), and the identification of the character. Roman and arabic numerals refer to the part and chapter in which the character first appears. If there are two notations, the first refers to the first mention *of* the character, the second to his first appearance. The letter (m) indicates a character who is mentioned, but does not appear.

Pronunciation

- A *y* between a consonant and a vowel is palatalized (front of tongue held close to hard palate so that the sound acquires some of the quality of a *y*)
- An apostrophe indicates palatalization between a palatalized consonant and another consonant.
- Pronounce *i* like *ea* in *beat*.
- Pronounce *a* like *a* in *father*.
- An accent (') over a vowel indicates stress.

Russian Proper Names

- The name is composed of three parts: first (baptismal), middle (patronymic), and last (family).
- The patronymic includes the first name of the person's father plus "ovitch" ("son of") or "ovna", ("daughter of"). (Raskolnikov's full name is Rodion Romanovitch Raskolnikov, i.e., Rodion, son of Roman; Raskolnikov's sister's full name is Avdotya Raskolnikov, i.e., Avdotya, daughter of Roman.)
- The customary way of addressing a person is to use the baptismal name and the patronymic. (Marmeladov is addressed as Semyon Zaharavitch.)
- At times, as in the case of Porfiry Petrovitch, no last name is given.
- Although only first names are used for servants (e.g., Nastasya), Porfiry Petrovitch is sometimes addressed or spoken of as Porfiry.
- Diminutives (e.g. "Rodya" for "Rodion"; "Sonia" for "Sofya") are used to indicate nicknames or close relationships.
- Several German names are noted.

ALYONA IVANOVNA (Alyo'na Iva'novna) (I, I), the pawnbroker whom Raskolnikov murders

AMALIA IVANOVNA; AMALIA IVANOVNA LIPPEVESCHEL (Ama'lia Iva'novna Li'ppuhfe'shel) (German) (I, 2), the Marmeladovs' landlady. (Katerina Ivanovna calls her AMALIA LUDWIGOVNA (Lyudvi'govna); Marmeladov calls her AMALIA FYODOROVNA (Fy6dorovna).

DARYA FRANTSOVNA (Da'rya Frantso'vna) (I, 2) (m), a prostitute

DMITRI; MITKA (Dmi'tri; Mit'ka) (II, 4), a house painter who is suspected of the murder of Alyona Ivanovna, the pawnbroker

DOUNIA; AVDOTYA ROMANOVNA RASKOLNIKOV (Du'nya) (*du* as in *too*) (Avdotya Roman'ovna Ruskol'nikof) (I, 3; II, 7), Raskolnikov's sister; Luzhin's fiancée

DUSHKIN (Dush'kin) (II, 4) (m), a pawnbroker and receiver *of* stolen goods

HERUVIMOV (Heruvi'mof) (II, 2) (m), bookseller and publisher who hires Razumihin to translate articles

ILYA PETROVITCH (Il'ya Pyetrovitch) (II, I), assistant superintendent of the police district; called the "explosive lieutenant"

IVAN AFANASYEVITCH (Ivan' Avana'syevitch) (I, 2) (m), a civil service official who obtains a job for Marmeladov

KAPERNAUMOV (Kaperna'mof) (I, 2) (m), Sonia's landlord

KATERINA IVANOVNA MARMELODOV (Katyeri'na Ivan'ovna Marmyela'dof) (I, 2), Marmeladov's second wife

KOCH (Kokh) (I, 7), a man who comes to buy unredeemed pledges from Alyona Ivanovna; is suspected of murdering her

KOLYA (Kol'ya) (I, 2; name first mentioned in V, 2), Katerina Ivanovna's son by her first marriage

KOZEL (Kazyol') (I, 2) (m), owner of the house in which the Marmeladovs live

LEBEZIATNIKOV; ANDREY SEMYONOVITCH (Lyebzyat'nikof; Andrey' Syemyon'ovitch) (I, 2; V, 1), a young government clerk who believes in "progressive" ideas; rooms with Luzhin

LIDA (Li'da) (I, 2; name first mentioned in IV, 4), one of Katerina Ivanovna's daughters by her first marriage

LIZAVETA; LIZAVETA IVANOVNA (Lizavet'a Ivan'ovna) (I, 1; I. 5), Alyona Ivanovna's sister; also murdered by Raskolnikov

LUISE IVANOVNA (Luise Ivanovna) (II, 1.), a woman who is summoned to the police station for disturbing the peace of the neighborhood

LUZHIN; PVOTR PETROVITCH (Loo'zhin; Pyotr Pyetro'vitch) (I. 3; II, 5) lawyer and government official; Dounia's fiancé; rooms with Lebeziatnikov

MARFA PETROVNA; MARFA PETROVNA SVIDRIGAILOV (Mar'fa Pyetrovna Sfi'driga'ylof) (I, 3) (m), Svidrigailov's wife

MARMELADOV; SEMYON ZAHAROVITCH (Marmyela'dof; Syemyon Zakhar'ovitch) (I, 1-2), a dismissed government clerk; a drunkard; Katerina Ivanovna's second husband

MIKOLKA (Mikolka) (I, 5), appears in one of Raskolnikov's dreams as a peasant who beats a mare to death

NASTASYA (Nasta'sya) (I, 3), servant and cook in lodging house of Praskovya Pavlovna, Raskolnikov's landlady

NIKODIM FOMITCH (Nik'odim Fomitch) (II, I), superintendent of the police district

NIKOLAY; NIKOLAY DEMENTYEV (Nikola'y Dyemyen'tyef) (II, 4), a house painter who is suspected of the murder of Alyona Ivanovna; confesses to the murder

PESTRYAKOV (Pyestryakof) (I, 7; name first mentioned in 11,4), a student who is suspected of murdering Alyona Ivanovna

PHILIP (Filyip) (IV, 2) (m), one of Marla Petrovna's servants POLENKA (Polen'ka) (I, 2; name first mentioned in II, 7), one of Katerina Ivanovna's daughters by her first marriage

PORFIRY PETROVITCH (Porfi'ry Pyetrovitch) (II, 4; III, 5), head of the Investigation Department; in charge of the murder case

PRASKOVYA PAVLOVNA; PASHENKA (Praskovya Pavlov'na; Pashen'ka) (I, 3) (m), Raskolnikov's landlady

PULCHERIA ALEXANDROVNA; PULCHERIA ALEXANDROVNA RASKOLNIKOV (Pool'khye'riya Alyeksan'drovna Raskol'nikof) (I, 3; II, 7), Raskolnikov's mother

RASKOLNIKOV; RODION ROMANOVITCH; RODYA (Raskol'nikof; Rodion Roman'ovitch; Rodya) I, I, a poor student who plots a murder

RAZUMIHIN; DMITRI PROKOFITCH (Razoomi'khin; Dmi'tri Prokofitch) (I, 4; II, 2), a student; Raskolnikov's friend

MADAME RESSLICH (Ruh'slich) (German; guttural "ch") (III, 4) (m), Svidrigailov's landlady

SONIA; SOFYA SEMYONOVNA MARMELADOV (So'nya; Sofyya Syemyonovna Marmyela'dof) (I, 2; II, 7), Marmeladov's daughter by his first marriage

SVIDRIGAILOV; ARKADY IVANOVITCH (Sfidriga'ylof; Arkadiy Ivan'ovitch) (I, 3; III, 6), Dounia's former employer; Marla Petrovna's husband

VAHRUSHIN; VASSILY IVANOVITCH (Vahru'shin; Vass'ily Ivan'ovitch) (I, 3) (m), a merchant who lends money to Raskolnikov's mother

ZAMETOV ALEXANDR GRIGORIEVITCH (*Zamyotof*; Alyeksan'dr Grigor'yevitch) (II, I), head clerk at the police station; one of Razumihin's friends

ZOSSIMOV (Zosi'mof) (II, 3-4), a doctor who is interested in mental diseases; one of Razumihin's friends