

Crime and Punishment

Fyodor Dostoevsky

What changes when Raskolnikov's confession becomes one plain sentence with no theory attached?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	The confession finally becomes literal
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Part VI, Chapter VIII
START	“It was I...” began Raskolnikov.
END	“It was I killed the old pawnbroker woman and her sister Lizaveta with an axe and robbed them.”
PASSAGE ID	sec-cp-04

THE MOVE

Compare rehearsed inner confession with public factual speech

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Earlier, Raskolnikov surrounds the murder with theories, motives, and philosophical language. The public confession strips those explanations away and states the act in one factual sentence, changing speech from self-interpretation to acknowledgment.

MARK

Underline any hesitation immediately before the confession. Circle the plain factual verbs in the final sentence. Star what is absent—justification, theory, or qualification.

NOTICE

- What kinds of language have previously stood between Raskolnikov and the simple fact of the crime?
- Why is a plain sentence harder to hide inside than a theory?
- What changes when confession means naming what happened rather than explaining why it should be understood differently?

THINK

Answer provisionally: What changes when Raskolnikov's confession becomes one plain sentence with no theory attached? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: What changes when Raskolnikov's confession becomes one plain sentence with no theory attached? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	The plain public sentence removes the theories and self-interpretations that had surrounded the murder. Confession becomes acknowledgment of fact: he names what he did without explaining it away.
EVIDENCE	Use the hesitation before speaking, the simple factual verbs of the confession, and the absence of philosophical qualification.
WATCH FOR	Do not say the sentence proves complete moral transformation. It marks a change in how the act is spoken, not necessarily the end of inner conflict.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

STUDENT PAGE · SAME PASSAGE, SAME THINKING

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What changes when Raskolnikov's confession becomes one plain sentence with no theory attached?

START ANCHOR	"It was I..." began Raskolnikov.
END ANCHOR	"It was I killed the old pawnbroker woman and her sister Lizaveta with an axe and robbed them."

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OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. **MARK** - Underline any hesitation immediately before the confession. Circle the plain factual verbs in the final sentence. Star what is absent—justification, theory, or qualification.
2. **NOTICE** - What kinds of language have previously stood between Raskolnikov and the simple fact of the crime? Why is a plain sentence harder to hide inside than a theory? What changes when confession means naming what happened rather than explaining why it should be understood differently?
3. **THINK** - Answer provisionally: What changes when Raskolnikov's confession becomes one plain sentence with no theory attached?
4. **WRITE** - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.