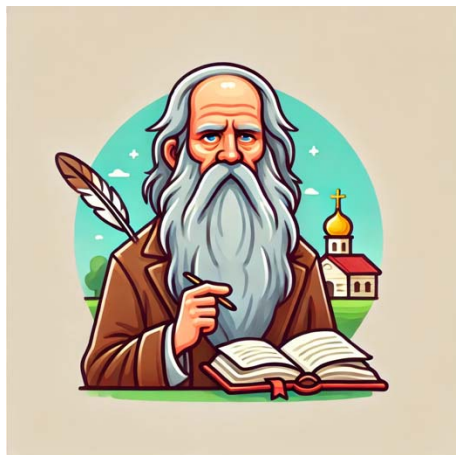


Name _____



Leo Tolstoy: A Great Russian Writer

Leo Tolstoy was one of the most famous writers in history. He is best known for writing long and detailed books about life, love, war, and human nature. His most famous works, *War and Peace* and *Anna Karenina*, are considered some of the greatest novels ever written.

Early Life and Education

Leo Tolstoy was born on September 9, 1828, in Russia. He grew up in a wealthy family and lived on a large estate called Yasnaya Polyana.

Unfortunately, his parents died when he was young, so he and his siblings were raised by other family members.

As a boy, Tolstoy loved to read and explore the countryside. He later attended university, but he was not very interested in his studies. Instead of finishing school, he decided to travel and learn from real-life experiences.

Becoming a Writer

Tolstoy first became known as a writer after serving in the Russian army. He wrote books about his experiences as a soldier and the lives of ordinary people. These stories became very popular.

His greatest book, *War and Peace*, was published in 1869. It tells the story of families and soldiers during the Napoleonic Wars, a time when Russia was at war with France. The book is famous for its many characters, historical details, and exciting battles.

Another well-known book, *Anna Karenina*, was published in 1877. It tells the story of a woman named Anna and her struggles with love and society. Many people consider it one of the best books ever written.

Challenges and Beliefs

Even though Tolstoy was famous and wealthy, he felt unhappy with his life. He gave up his riches and chose to live simply. He believed in helping others, treating people with kindness, and living a peaceful life.

Tolstoy also had strong ideas about education and fairness. He started schools for poor children in Russia and wrote books about nonviolence and moral values. His ideas later inspired leaders like Mahatma Gandhi.

Tolstoy's Legacy

Leo Tolstoy passed away on November 20, 1910, but his books are still read around the world. His stories teach important lessons about life, war, love, and human struggles. Even today, his ideas about peace, kindness, and understanding others inspire people. Tolstoy proved that a great book can change the way people think and feel.

