

NAME:

DATE:

"The Gift of the Magi" LITERARY ANALYSIS: IRONY

PART I. DIRECTIONS: *Identify irony in the story. In the first box note the outcome that Jim and Della expect when they present their gifts to each other. In the second box describe what actually happens.*

What Della expects	What Actually Happens (cited textual evidence)
What Jim expects	What Actually Happens (cited textual evidence)

PART II. DIRECTIONS: *On the lines following each item, briefly explain why the excerpt is ironic.*

1. *"Where she stopped the sign read: 'Mme. Sofronie. Hair Goods of All Kinds.' One flight up Della ran, and collected herself, panting. Madame, large, too white, chilly, hardly looked the 'Sofronie.'"*

2. *"Tomorrow would be Christmas Day, and she had only \$1.87 with which to buy Jim a present. She had been saving every penny she could for months, with this result."*

3. *"They were expensive combs, she knew, and her heart had simply craved and yearned over them without the least hope of possession. And now they were hers, but the tresses that should have adorned the coveted adornments were gone."*
