

Name _____

Letters That Linger Answer Key

1. Repeated words/phrases include “brave,” “I do,” “expecting,” and “goodbye.”
2. The repetitions show longing, sadness, and determination.
3. “Brave” reflects her effort to stay strong, while “I do” reveals emotional honesty and attachment.
4. Mara’s repetition shows that she’s torn between grief and courage—trying to convince herself she can move on.

Teacher’s Guide:

- **Skill Focus:** Helps students identify how **repetition** functions as an emotional amplifier in character voice.
- **Before Reading:** Discuss how repetition in speech or writing often signals deep emotion or internal conflict.
- **During Reading:** Have students whisper the repeated words aloud to feel their rhythm and emotional impact.
- **After Reading:** Lead a discussion on how repetition can make writing more heartfelt and human.
- **Extension Idea:** Students write their own short letter using one emotionally charged word repeated throughout to mirror feeling and tone.