

Name _____

The Silent Confession Answer Key

1. Sample inner thought: *He knows. He totally knows. Just act calm, Jamie—calm and clueless.*
2. Jamie's nervous tone, hesitations, and quick responses show fear and guilt.
3. The inner thought reveals internal tension. He's scared but trying to hide it.
4. A confident or defiant thought would shift his voice to one of rebellion instead of anxiety, changing the reader's perception of him.

Teacher's Guide:

- **Skill Focus:** Encourages students to infer **internal voice** and emotional subtext from dialogue and behavior.
- **Before Reading:** Explain what an inner monologue is: thoughts not spoken aloud that show a character's private truth.
- **During Reading:** Have students pause after each line of dialogue to brainstorm what the character might be thinking.
- **After Reading:** Discuss how internal thoughts can create empathy and deepen character realism.
- **Extension Idea:** Students rewrite the same scene from Mr. Rivera's perspective, inserting *his* inner monologue to contrast authority vs. guilt-driven tone.