

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Authentic Echoes

**Directions:** Read the letter below carefully, paying attention to tone, word choice, and emotion. Decide how believable the soldier's voice feels based on consistency and realism. **Highlight or underline** words or lines that make the voice sound genuine or forced. Then, explain how the writing style helps you trust (or question) the character's voice.

Dear Emma,

It's funny how quiet it gets out here after dark. You'd think silence would be peaceful, but it's heavy, like it's holding its breath. The guys keep joking to pass the time, but when the lights go out, everyone's jokes stop too. I miss your laugh. I replay it in my head before I fall asleep, just to remind myself what home sounds like. Don't worry about me, though. I'm tougher than I look, and besides, they've got me on night watch again. Guess I'm the guy who doesn't sleep anyway. Keep writing. Your letters make this place feel less like nowhere.

Love,

Jack

1. Does Jack's voice feel **authentic and believable**? Why or why not?

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2. Which lines sound most genuine, and what makes them feel real?

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3. Are there any parts that feel too formal or unnatural for a personal letter?

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4. What emotions or personality traits come through in Jack's tone?

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