

Name _____



Mic Check Moments

Directions: Read the passage carefully, paying attention to how each character speaks and reacts. Picture how each one would *sound* if you heard them live: think tone, speed, volume, and emotion. Describe what their voices would be like using details from the text.

“The Spotlight Moment”

“Next up—Tara Jenkins!” the announcer called. Tara stepped onto the stage, gripping the microphone like it might float away. “Um... hi,” she said softly. Her voice quivered but steadied on the next breath. “This one’s for my grandpa.” As the first note left her lips, her nervous whisper turned into a smooth, clear tone that filled the gym like sunlight breaking through clouds.

Backstage, Malik grinned. “Man, she’s crushing it,” he whispered to Jenna. Jenna folded her arms. “We’ll see. I mean, she’s *okay*, but I bet my dance gets louder applause.” Malik laughed quietly. “You sound jealous already.”

1. How would Tara’s voice sound at the start vs. during her performance?

2. How might Malik’s voice sound compared to Jenna’s?

3. What clues in the text reveal each character’s emotional state or confidence level?

4. Which voice do you think “owns” the moment, and why?
