



Name _____

Proof On The Page

Directions: Read the passage carefully. Answer each question by **underlining the exact line(s) in the passage** that best support your answer. Write your explanation beneath each answer, showing why the underlined line proves your point. Remember: the goal is not just to find any line, but the **most direct textual evidence** for your response.

Passage (Adapted, Literary)

The library was nearly silent, except for the steady tick of the old clock. Maya sat at the wooden table, her notebook open but untouched. She stared at the shelves, crowded with books that seemed to whisper of adventures she had not yet taken. Her teacher's words from earlier echoed in her mind: *"Every answer you seek is waiting for you in these pages."* Maya's hand hesitated above the notebook. She wanted to believe that one book could hold the key to her question. But doubt pressed against her, as heavy as the silence, urging her to close the notebook and leave. Still, she stayed, eyes fixed on the shelves, determined to find the story that would guide her.

1. What shows that Maya feels uncertain at first?

2. What words or details suggest that Maya sees the books as more than just objects?

3. Which line reveals Maya's determination at the end of the passage?

4. What role does the teacher's earlier advice play in Maya's decision to stay?
