

Name _____

The Empty Chair Answer Key

Possible Implied Answers:

1. The student who normally sits there was absent.
2. The student could be sick, late, or skipping class.
3. The absent student might feel worried about missing the quiz or relieved to avoid it.
4. Ms. Lopez may have been frustrated, concerned, or disappointed that the student missed the quiz.
5. A classmate might assume the student was ill, had an appointment, or chose not to come.

Teacher Notes:

- Stress that **any implied detail must connect back to explicit clues** in the passage (e.g., the empty chair + the quiz = someone is missing an assessment).
- Encourage students to provide evidence ("She sighed" = disappointment).
- Extension: Ask students to **write a short continuation** of the story showing what happens when the absent student returns.