

Name _____

Echoing Plot

Directions: Read the short adventure story below. Think about how the events fit into a story's **plot structure**: exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution. Then, create a chart by placing each key event in the correct category.



Cave of Echoes

Four friends—Maya, Jordan, Alex, and Priya—stood at the mouth of the Cave of Echoes, a place whispered about in their town. Locals said strange sounds rattled through the tunnels at night, but the friends wanted to uncover the truth.

Armed with flashlights and backpacks, they stepped inside. The walls glittered faintly with mineral crystals, and their footsteps echoed back in strange, distorted tones. As they moved deeper, the tunnel narrowed, and the air grew damp. Suddenly, they heard a low rumble that made Alex grip his light tighter.

The rumble turned into a crash as rocks tumbled from the ceiling, blocking the way back. Panic rose, but Maya urged, “We have to keep moving forward.” The group followed a twisting passage until they found a wide chamber. In the middle stood a pool of water glowing faintly blue. The echoes were loudest here, swirling like voices.

Jordan leaned closer to the pool when the ground beneath him shifted. He slipped, and his flashlight clattered into the glowing water. The cave shook violently, and a hidden door of stone slid open, revealing daylight beyond.

Breathless but relieved, the friends hurried through the opening. They stumbled out onto the hillside, laughing nervously. “Next time,” Priya said, “maybe we should stick to the hiking trail.”