Name _____



Secrets in Speech

Directions: Read the passage carefully. Pay close attention to what the characters say ***and*** what they leave unsaid. Think about what their words, tone, or behavior suggest about hidden intentions or secrets. Answer the questions in complete sentences, using details from the passage to support your answers.

"Did you finish the history project?" asked Maya, slipping her notebook quickly into her backpack. "Of course," replied Jordan, avoiding her gaze as he tapped nervously on the desk. Maya raised an eyebrow. "That's strange. I didn't see you in the library yesterday when everyone was working on it." Jordan forced a laugh. "I like working at home. It's quieter there." He shifted in his chair and looked toward the window. "Right," Maya said slowly. "Well, I guess we'll see when the teacher collects it today." Jordan's smile faded, and he didn't respond.

1. What might Jordan be hiding based on his dialogue and actions?

   _____

   _____

2. What clues in the conversation suggest Maya is suspicious?

   _____

   _____

3. How does Jordan's behavior (avoiding eye contact, laughing, shifting in his chair) reveal his intentions?

   _____

   _____

4. If you were Maya, what would you predict might happen when the teacher asks for the projects?

   _____

   _____

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