

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Hidden Meanings

**Directions:** Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions that follow. Pay close attention to **tone, facial expressions, and body language** to understand what the characters really mean.

During study hall, Ava looked at her group's messy poster and sighed. "Wow," she said, "this looks *amazing*." She raised one eyebrow and crossed her arms. Jonah laughed nervously and asked, "You don't really mean that, do you?" Ava shrugged and said, "Of course I do," but her tone was flat, and she didn't make eye contact. Maya tried to fix part of the poster while glancing at Ava's face, trying to guess if she was serious. When Ava finally cracked a small smile, Maya realized she was being sarcastic and joined in the laughter.

1. What nonverbal clues show that Ava wasn't actually impressed with the poster?  
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2. How did Jonah know that Ava's words didn't match her real feelings?  
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3. Why might Ava have used sarcasm instead of saying exactly how she felt?  
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4. What nonverbal signal helped Maya realize Ava was joking?  
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5. What could Ava have done differently to express her feelings more clearly?  
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