

Name _____

Empty Nest Syndrome

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers may vary, but a possible response could be that parents often prioritize their children's needs and may put their own relationship on hold. This can be common in real-life families as parents dedicate a lot of time and energy to raising their children.
2. Answers may vary, but a possible response could be that the central message is about the importance of maintaining and nurturing a couple's relationship, even after the children leave home. This lesson can apply to real-life families by emphasizing the need for couples to continue prioritizing their relationship and rediscovering their own interests and dreams as their children become more independent.
3. Answers may vary, but a possible response could be that Mia's parents' efforts to rediscover their own dreams and strengthen their relationship likely had a positive impact on her college experience. She felt supported and encouraged by her parents, and their example of maintaining a strong relationship influenced her own views on relationships and family.

