

Name _____

The Forgotten Love Letters

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Possible Answer: Initially, Emma was motivated by curiosity and the desire for adventure. She saw the attic as a mysterious and forbidden place. Over time, as she uncovered the love letters and learned about her family's history, her perception of the attic shifted from a place of mystery to a treasure trove of stories and connections to her past.
2. Possible Answer: The photograph was significant because it depicted a young soldier, J.R., standing beside a woman who might be Eleanor. It fueled Emma's determination to uncover the love story as it provided a visual connection to the characters in the letters and added a personal dimension to the mystery.
3. Possible Answer: Emma's decision to retrace her ancestors' steps allowed her to visit the places they had been, meet distant relatives, and learn about her family's history and heritage. This journey helped her connect with her roots and understand the struggles and triumphs of her forebears, ultimately shaping her own identity and sense of belonging.
4. Possible Answer: The story highlights that family stories, like the love letters in the attic, have a lasting impact on individuals and can shape their understanding of the past and their own identities. Emma's exploration of the attic exemplified this theme by showing how uncovering family history can lead to connections, wisdom, and a deeper appreciation of the bonds that tie generations together.

