

Name _____

The Prodigy's Dilemma

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Emily's prodigious talents made her childhood highly structured and filled with high expectations. She decided to talk to her parents about her feelings when the pressure became overwhelming. She wanted to share her struggle and find a way to alleviate it.
2. Initially, Emily's parents were surprised and hadn't realized the toll their ambitions had taken on her. They listened to her and agreed to give her space and freedom. They recognized the need to prioritize her happiness over rigid expectations.
3. Emily rediscovered the joy of being a child by spending time with friends, exploring her interests, and enjoying activities outside her rigorous schedule. She found happiness in the simple joys of life.
4. Emily's emotional struggles continued because years of pressure had left deep scars. She had to deal with self-doubt and anxiety that lingered from her prodigious childhood. Overcoming these challenges was an ongoing process.

