

Emma

Jane Austen

Why does Knightley connect difficulty speaking with the strength of his feeling?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	If I loved you less
------------	---------------------

FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Chapter XLIX
START	I cannot make speeches, Emma
END	If I loved you less, I might be able to talk about it more.
PASSAGE ID	sec-emma-04

THE MOVE

Read plain speech as character continuity rather than lack of feeling

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Knightley's difficulty speaking is consistent with a character who has usually valued plain truth over performance. The line 'If I loved you less...' makes verbal awkwardness evidence of feeling rather than evidence that feeling is absent.

MARK

Underline Knightley's admissions that he cannot make speeches. Circle the plainest statements of feeling. Star the sentence that directly connects less fluent language with stronger emotion.

NOTICE

- What kind of speaker has Knightley been throughout the novel?

- Why might polished eloquence be less convincing for this character?
- How does the line turn difficulty speaking into evidence rather than deficiency?

THINK

Answer provisionally: Why does Knightley connect difficulty speaking with the strength of his feeling? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: Why does Knightley connect difficulty speaking with the strength of his feeling? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	For Knightley, difficulty speaking is evidence of sincerity because polished performance would be inconsistent with his usual plainness. Strong feeling overwhelms the verbal control he normally values.
EVIDENCE	Use his admission that he cannot make speeches and the line connecting less love with greater eloquence.
WATCH FOR	Do not assume awkwardness always proves sincerity. Explain why it fits Knightley's established character specifically.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

STUDENT PAGE · SAME PASSAGE, SAME THINKING

Emma

Jane Austen

Why does Knightley connect difficulty speaking with the strength of his feeling?

START ANCHOR	I cannot make speeches, Emma
END ANCHOR	If I loved you less, I might be able to talk about it more.

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Underline Knightley's admissions that he cannot make speeches. Circle the plainest statements of feeling. Star the sentence that directly connects less fluent language with stronger emotion.
2. NOTICE - What kind of speaker has Knightley been throughout the novel? Why might polished eloquence be less convincing for this character? How does the line turn difficulty speaking into evidence rather than deficiency?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: Why does Knightley connect difficulty speaking with the strength of his feeling?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.