Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Red flags: the video spread rapidly and was shared by accounts Jordan didn't recognize; the timing was two days before an election (high-risk window); the dramatic emotional charge of the content should trigger elevated skepticism; the posting account's age (created same day) would have been a major warning sign.

2. Jordan used lateral reading — opening multiple news sources simultaneously to check whether the event was covered. She also checked the posting account's creation date and found a fact-check, both elements of verifying the source of political content rather than its surface appearance.

Multiple Choice

1. C

2. D

3. B

Matching

1-C, 2-A, 3-E, 4-B, 5-D

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) primary, 2) fact, 3) official

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Traditional propaganda targeted broad audiences with general messaging. AI-targeted voter suppression delivers specific false information — wrong polling locations, fake ID requirements — to specific voters in specific precincts where a small suppression effect could change an outcome. It's surgical rather than broadcast, which makes it harder to detect and correct at scale.

Q2: The volume of AI-generated political content now exceeds what institutional fact-checkers can review. This means the first — and sometimes only — line of defense is individual citizens evaluating content before sharing it. Sharing unverified election misinformation, even accidentally, contributes to the suppression of civic participation, making critical evaluation a democratic responsibility.

Q3: Sample — In favor of required removal: deepfakes designed to deceive voters about candidates or voting procedures threaten the integrity of elections, which are foundational to democracy. Against required removal: determining what counts as 'deceptive' AI content requires judgment calls that could be abused to suppress

legitimate political speech. A middle position — requiring disclosure labels rather than removal — preserves speech while informing viewers.