Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Demetria's identity is difficult to categorize because Hellenization did not create purely Greek people or preserve purely Bactrian people — it created something genuinely new: individuals who spoke Greek and Bactrian, practiced religion blending Greek and local traditions, and moved between cultural contexts depending on setting. Her experience reveals that cultural contact produces hybrid identities that cannot be neatly assigned to either the dominant or the local culture.

2. Demetria disagrees because the philosopher sees Ai-Khanoum as peripheral to a Greek center, but for Demetria it is simply her entire world — the river, the market, her family, all of which predates and extends beyond any Greek framework. This reveals that dominant cultures routinely misread their margins as empty or marginal spaces rather than as centers of their own complex realities, a perspective that archaeological study of hybrid sites like Ai-Khanoum increasingly validates.

Multiple Choice

1. A
2. C
3. D

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) Babylon, 2) Koine, 3) Afghanistan

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Evidence for synthesis rather than imposition includes: Ptolemaic rulers presenting themselves as pharaohs in Egyptian contexts while ruling a Greek court; coins at Ai-Khanoum bearing Greek on one side and local scripts on the other; local pottery forms appearing alongside Greek shapes; and religious practices blending Greek and local elements. Resistance examples like the Maccabean revolt also confirm that adoption was selective and contested, not universal or forced.

Q2: Ai-Khanoum proves that Hellenization reached geographically extreme distances — 5,000 km from Athens — and created fully functioning Greek-style cities in regions written sources barely mention. The physical evidence of a gymnasium, theater, Greek inscriptions, and Delphic philosophical maxims in Afghanistan is more

compelling than textual claims about the empire's extent, making the reach of Alexander's cultural impact viscerally real in a way historical narrative cannot.

Q3: Alexander's influence was long-lasting because what he spread was not just his own personality or military power but Greek language and culture as an international system — Koine Greek, Greek urban planning, Greek philosophy. These systems persisted after him through the Hellenistic kingdoms, then through Rome which absorbed and transmitted them, then through early Christianity which used Koine Greek as its medium. The mechanisms he created outlasted him by centuries.