Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Nikos struggles to stay frustrated because he recognizes the remarkable age of the stones and their connection to living history — possibly laid during the lifetime of Socrates. His reaction illustrates the genuine tension between essential modern infrastructure projects and the preservation of irreplaceable ancient remains, showing that even ordinary people feel the weight of that conflict.

2. Greek archaeology is uniquely challenging because modern cities like Athens were built directly on top of ancient ones, meaning that every construction or utility project risks destroying archaeological evidence. Unlike a desert site where ruins lie undisturbed, Greek ruins are buried beneath streets, buildings, and infrastructure, requiring constant negotiation between modern urban needs and historical preservation.

Multiple Choice

1. B
2. C
3. D

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) polis, 2) Classical, 3) Bronze Age

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Greece's mountainous terrain divided communities and made political unity rare, but the sea provided highways for trade and colonization, allowing Greeks to spread culture from Spain to the Black Sea. Rocky soil limited farming but pushed Greeks toward seafaring and commerce, which ultimately expanded their influence across the ancient world.

Q2: Athenian democracy was radical because every citizen could speak, vote, and hold office in a direct participatory system unlike anything else in the ancient world. It was deeply limited because women, enslaved people, and foreigners were entirely excluded, and Athens's economy depended on enslaved labor — creating a sharp contradiction between democratic ideals and lived reality.

Q3: Archaeologists recover pottery with ostracism votes scratched into them, bronze weights, legal inscriptions, and the foundations of public buildings — evidence that written sources often ignore. These finds reveal how ordinary Greeks actually conducted commerce, organized government, and practiced religion, going beyond elite political history to capture daily life.