Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. The treatment of injured workers suggests the Egyptian state viewed its labor force as valuable human resources, not disposable tools. The medical facility, continued food provision, and reassignment to lighter work indicate a system designed to retain skilled workers rather than exploit and discard them, which would have been economically rational as well as humane.

2. Treating workers well maintained social loyalty and political legitimacy — a workforce that felt respected would return the following season and speak positively of the pharaoh's project. Healthy, fed workers were also more productive. Creating a system where farmers voluntarily contributed labor during the off-season avoided the economic and political costs of maintaining a large enslaved workforce.

Multiple Choice

1. D

2. D

3. B

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) stellar/star, 2) tax, 3) Merer

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: It means that archaeological evidence is more impressive and interesting than alien theories. Discoveries like the Merer papyrus, the workers' village with its bakeries and medical facilities, and the analysis of workers' diets and skeletal remains give us a detailed, factual picture of an extraordinary human achievement.

Q2: The Great Pyramid's base is level to within 2.1 centimeters across a 230-meter span, showing mastery of measurement. Its alignment to true north used stellar observations. The hidden relieving chambers above the burial room solved a structural engineering problem, and modern explorers did not begin to uncover these chambers until 1765.

Q3: Beyond burial, the pyramid symbolized the pharaoh's divine nature, his connection to the sun and creation myths, and his power to command the resources

of an entire civilization. Building something massive and permanent demonstrated that the pharaoh was maintaining Ma'at and ensuring Egypt's cosmic stability for eternity.