Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. He was missing instrumental support, meaning concrete help like a ride, because that type depends on physical proximity. His emotional support was strong, so the network felt complete, and gaps by type stay invisible until a situation demands the type you do not have.

2. Weak ties are looser connections who move in different circles and are nearby. A teammate four blocks away could arrive in ten minutes, while his closest friends were three hours out, so a low-intimacy local contact outperformed a high-intimacy distant one.

Multiple Choice

1. B

2. B

3. A

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) instrumental (or: tangible), 2) 211, 3) reciprocity

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Support comes in four types, and most people are strong in one and assume the rest are covered. Someone with excellent emotional support may have nobody nearby for instrumental help, and that gap stays invisible until a situation requires the missing type.

Q2: Almost everyone appears during the first week of a crisis and almost nobody appears later, so week six is when the person is most alone. Consistency over time provides support at the point when the initial wave of attention has disappeared.

Q3: Networks run on reciprocity, meaning the exchange has to move in both directions. Refusing help protects pride but removes a person from the give-and-take that keeps relationships active, so the connection slowly stops functioning as support.