Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Fishing trawlers are important because their nets drag along the seabed and physically disturb sediment layers where Doggerland artifacts have been preserved for thousands of years. Since traditional land-based archaeological survey is impossible on a submerged landscape, trawlers have accidentally served as the primary recovery method for stone tools, bone artifacts, and animal remains that prove human habitation.

2. A single carved antler tool reveals that Doggerland's inhabitants were skilled toolmakers who deliberately shaped natural materials for specific purposes like hide processing or woodworking. The use of red deer antler also indicates that deer were present on the landscape, and the craftsmanship suggests established technological traditions passed between generations in a settled community, not random wanderers crossing a land bridge.

Multiple Choice

1. B
2. D
3. A

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) 120, 2) Colinda Point, 3) 6200

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Calling Doggerland a land bridge implies it was a narrow strip of land that people simply crossed to get between two places. In reality, Doggerland was a vast, resource-rich landscape of hills, rivers, marshlands, and forests where Mesolithic communities lived permanently for thousands of years. It was a homeland, not a corridor, and it may have supported larger populations than the higher ground on either side.

Q2: By around 6200 BCE, Doggerland had already been shrinking for thousands of years due to gradual sea level rise, leaving only low-lying islands and ridges above water. The Storegga Slide triggered a massive tsunami with waves potentially over 20 meters high that struck these final remnants. The flooding from the tsunami

inundated the last habitable areas and rendered them permanently uninhabitable, completing Doggerland's disappearance within a few generations.

Q3: North Sea fishermen have been the primary accidental source of Doggerland artifacts for over a century. Their trawling nets drag along the seabed and pull up flint tools, carved bone harpoons, antler points, and animal bones from the submerged landscape. These finds — like the Colinda Point discovered in 1931 — provided the earliest physical evidence that humans once lived on land now beneath the sea and motivated formal archaeological research into Doggerland.