Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Cost per wear divides the price by the number of times an item is realistically worn, and Grace's honest estimate of four wears revealed that cheap tops she barely used were not actually cheap per use. The reading warns that people dramatically overestimate how often they will wear something in a fitting room, so being realistic about that second number is what made the calculation useful rather than flattering.

2. The reading states that the highest-impact action is buying less and keeping things longer, because the most sustainable garment is the one already in a closet. Grace reduced the number of garments entering and eventually leaving her wardrobe and chose a secondhand coat that stays in circulation, so the impact came from volume and lifespan rather than from the amount she spent.

Multiple Choice

1. C

2. C

3. D

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) doubled, 2) Rana Plaza, 3) greenwashing

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Global clothing production roughly doubled between 2000 and 2015 while the average number of wears per garment fell about thirty-six percent, so more items were made and each one was used less. Those two trends together mean the waste problem is growing from both directions at once, which is why producing more efficiently cannot solve it on its own.

Q2: Charities receive far more clothing than domestic resale markets can absorb, so a large share of donations cannot be sold locally. The surplus is baled and exported, which moves the disposal burden to countries with even less waste infrastructure rather than eliminating it.

Q3: A shopper can check that seam allowances are wide enough that the seam will not pull apart, that stitching is straight and dense rather than sparse, and that

patterns match across the seams. The reading also suggests checking for buttons sewn with a shank and squeezing the fabric to see whether it recovers or stays creased.