Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. If temples came before agriculture, it means that complex religious or social organization was not a product of settled farming life — it preceded and possibly caused it. This reverses the assumed causal chain: instead of surplus food enabling ritual sites, ritual sites may have created the demand for reliable food, driving domestication. The whole model of how human civilization developed must be reconsidered.

2. It reveals that scientific and historical knowledge is provisional and subject to revision when new evidence appears. Textbooks present knowledge as settled, but the people who produce that knowledge know it is always subject to correction. Marchetti's approach models intellectual honesty: acknowledging when evidence challenges established understanding and treating learning as an ongoing, collaborative process.

Multiple Choice

1. A

2. B

3. C

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) 9600, 2) hunter-gatherers, 3) 5

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: The implication is that ritual gathering sites may have preceded and driven the development of agriculture rather than resulting from it. Large numbers of people regularly gathering for ceremonies would have needed reliable local food, creating pressure to domesticate wild plants and animals nearby. Gobekli Tepe sits exactly where the world's first agriculture appeared, which makes this causal reversal plausible and significant.

Q2: The majority of the site remains unknown, meaning our current interpretations are based on partial evidence. As more enclosures are excavated, we may discover new types of structures, more varied imagery, or evidence of activities we have not

yet identified. Every major new excavation at the site has the potential to further revise what we think we understand about who built it and why.

Q3: The mistake shows that even trained professionals can misidentify evidence when their interpretive framework does not include the possibility of what they are actually seeing. The 1960s team's assumption that hunter-gatherers could not have built such structures led them to force the evidence into a familiar category. This is why open-mindedness and willingness to challenge assumptions are essential qualities for archaeologists — evidence must be allowed to speak, not forced to confirm preexisting theories