Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Pressing first restores the fold the garment already had, so the stitching follows the original hemline instead of creating a new one. The reading notes this keeps the repaired hem matching the rest of the garment, which would not happen if a new fold were created at a slightly different depth.

2. The wrapped column of thread beneath the button is a thread shank, and it holds slack so the button stands away from the fabric. Without it the button sits flat with no room for the layer of cloth that must pass under it when buttoned, so every use puts tearing stress directly on the threads and the button pulls off again.

Multiple Choice

1. A

2. B

3. B

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) basting, 2) inside out, 3) doubled

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Studies of clothing disposal consistently find the fabric of discarded garments is intact, and the item was removed from circulation over a popped button, split seam, fallen hem, or small tear. Each of those is a ten-minute hand repair, so the garment was thrown away for a reason that repair would have solved rather than because it wore out.

Q2: A catch stitch is formed as crossed diagonal stitches in an X pattern, and that formation allows the hem to flex with the fabric instead of holding it rigid. On a stretchy or heavy fabric a straight hemming stitch would be pulled to its limit and snap, while the catch stitch stretches with the garment.

Q3: Fabric taken from a hidden part of the same garment matches the color and the amount of wear exactly, which new fabric never does because dye fades and surfaces abrade with use. Seam allowances, pocket bags, and hems are the usual sources because removing a small piece there does not affect how the garment fits or looks.