Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Cancers develop over decades as mutations accumulate — a latency the 9/11 carcinogens made predictable. Policy must therefore last as long as the biology: short-term programs would have expired before most cancers appeared, which is why the program runs for seventy-five years.
2. She means the care is owed, not given: her illness traces to documented service exposure, so treatment is society honoring a debt incurred when she protected the recovery. Framing it as an obligation also explains why she recruits others entitled to it.

Multiple Choice

1. A
2. C
3. D

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) 400,000, 2) cough, 3) seventy-five

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Respiratory damage appeared in weeks because caustic dust burned airways directly; cancers took a decade or more because mutations accumulate slowly; some mental health effects surfaced years later. Each wave reflects a different biological timescale of injury.
Q2: PTSD, depression, and survivor's guilt affected exposed groups at several times the national rate, disabling people who had no physical injury. Recovery programs that treated only bodies would have left much of the disaster's damage unaddressed.

Q3: Answers will vary. Strong responses note that documenting who was present, where, and when converts future illness claims into verifiable obligations — so exposure registries and service records should be created during a disaster, not reconstructed afterward.