Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Helpful items include the bloodied knit cap and crowbar (for DNA and fingerprints), the burned doorknob (touch DNA and pattern of use), shoeprints in the icy driveway (linking to specific shoes), and broken ornaments near the entry point (glass fragments and possible blood). These connect specific individuals to the attempted break-in.

2. Investigators photographed each room before moving anything, labeled entry/exit points, placed markers by important items, collected and bagged objects like the hat and crowbar, and cast the best shoeprint. These steps preserve chain of custody and protect evidence from contamination or loss.

Multiple Choice

1. B

2. D

3. A

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) exchange, 2) trace, 3) reconstruction

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Students should name two clear evidence types (such as fingerprints, trace fibers, DNA, ballistics, digital video) and explain how each could link a suspect, clarify actions, or support a timeline in a chosen movie.

Q2: Reasons might include the need for careful lab testing (DNA, ballistics, toxicology), backlogs in forensic laboratories, the complexity of reconstructing events from many clues, and the time required to write reports and prepare for court.

Q3: Strong answers will mention skills like noticing details, questioning assumptions, checking multiple explanations, and distinguishing evidence from opinion—for example, pausing a movie to ask, "What evidence actually proves this character is guilty?" rather than just trusting the script.