Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. He owed the public timely warning during an ongoing attack and owed them accuracy he did not yet have. His wording served both: he relayed the report but labeled its source and its unverified status, letting viewers weigh it while committing his newsroom to verification.
2. Events outran verification: official sources were themselves confused, competitors created pressure to match reports, and the cost of withholding a true warning seemed catastrophic. In that environment even careful newsrooms repeated claims that later collapsed.

Multiple Choice

1. B
2. C
3. A

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) television, 2) days, 3) attribution

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Live continuous coverage means information airs before it can be checked, as the false State Department bomb report showed. Newsrooms manage the conflict with attribution, on-air uncertainty labels, and rapid correction — tools that became standard practice after that morning.
Q2: For: the photo documents the attack's true human horror, and concealing it sanitizes history. Against: it captures a person's dying moment without consent, and its publication compounds the suffering of families. Strong answers take a position while honoring both duties.

Q3: Answers will vary. Strong responses note that 9/11 produced one verified, professionally framed national narrative through shared screens, while modern crises arrive as fragmented, unverified, peer-to-peer streams — faster and more democratic, but without shared facts or editorial gates.