Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. The reading documents that for most of the 19th and 20th centuries, the narrative of Egyptian archaeology was written by outsiders who held excavation permits and took artifacts abroad. Farouk is arguing that this system continues in funding structures even after Egypt gained political independence. Her position is historically grounded because the pattern she describes — foreign institutions consistently prioritized over equally qualified local scholars — has a documented 200-year history, not just a personal grievance.

2. Both situations involve foreign institutions retaining control over Egyptian heritage — one physical (artifacts in European museums), the other intellectual (research authority and funding going to foreign institutions). The common principle is the question of who has the right to steward, interpret, and benefit from Egypt's past. Repatriation argues physical objects should return; Farouk argues the authority to study and narrate those objects should also be repatriated.

Multiple Choice

1. B

2. D

3. A

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) 65, 2) 480,000, 3) Nefertiti

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Climate change may be the most difficult because it is global, ongoing, and beyond Egypt's direct control. Rising Mediterranean sea levels threaten Delta sites that cannot be moved as Abu Simbel was. Temperature extremes accelerate stone deterioration across hundreds of sites simultaneously. Tourism damage can be managed through visitor limits; groundwater can be addressed with engineering — but climate change requires global cooperation that is not guaranteed.

Q2: For over a century, major Egyptian artifacts were displayed primarily in European and American museums, implying that Western institutions were the proper custodians of world heritage. Building the world's largest archaeological

museum in Egypt asserts that Egypt itself is a world-class custodian of its own civilization. In the context of ongoing repatriation debates, the GEM makes a practical argument: Egypt now has the facilities to properly house and display what is being requested back.

Q3: Archaeological interpretation is never purely objective — the questions asked, the stories emphasized, and the framing of findings reflect the perspective of the researchers. Foreign researchers historically interpreted Egyptian civilization through external cultural frameworks and colonial assumptions. Egyptian archaeologists bring indigenous cultural knowledge, language expertise, and a direct stake in how their ancestors' civilization is understood. This can produce different emphases, different questions, and ultimately a richer and more accurate historical picture.