Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Ipy was paid by the family, making him financially dependent on their goodwill. His role was ceremonial and craft-based, not investigative. Reporting to authorities might endanger him if the killer had power. But as a priest-figure whose work was bound up with Ma'at and divine order, knowing about a murder and staying silent violated the cosmic principles his entire profession was meant to uphold.

2. The nobleman's heart would be judged against the feather of Ma'at — if he died by violence, his soul's accounting would include whatever moral weight caused someone to want him dead. For Ipy, the weighing of his own heart would include this moment of silence. Doing nothing might protect him in life but could compromise his own afterlife, creating a theological pressure that his practical silence struggled against.

Multiple Choice

1. C
2. B
3. D

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) ka, 2) nasal, 3) Ma'at

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: The spread of mummification from royalty to the middle class suggests Egypt's economy was growing and producing surplus wealth that reached beyond the elite. It also shows the funerary industry was commercially sophisticated, developing tiered service offerings at different price points — essentially the ancient equivalent of a funeral industry serving multiple income levels.

Q2: Medical evidence from mummies provides baseline data about ancient disease prevalence, diet-related conditions, and health patterns that we cannot get any other way. Evidence of atherosclerosis in ancient elites suggests the relationship between diet and cardiovascular disease existed long before modern medicine identified it. These findings help scientists understand the long history of diseases that still affect us today.

Q3: The fraud reveals that ancient Egyptians, like people everywhere, found ways to cut corners when religious demand created commercial opportunity. The mummy-making industry responded to demand by producing fraudulent products — showing that the gap between religious ideals and economic reality was as real in ancient Egypt as it is today. It also suggests buyers either couldn't verify what they were getting or chose not to look too closely.