Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Pumpkins rotting in landfills release methane, a greenhouse gas stronger than carbon dioxide, which speeds up climate change.

2. Communities run pumpkin recycling programs where residents can drop off leftover pumpkins at composting sites or donate them to farms for animal feed.

Multiple Choice

1. C

2. D

3. A

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) Squash (Cucurbitaceae), 2) Methane, 3) Soup, pie, or roasted seeds

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: They are grown as food crops but also used as decorations and holiday symbols.

Q2: It allows them to earn extra income by attracting visitors for pumpkin picking and events.

Q3: Composting returns nutrients to the soil without producing harmful greenhouse gases.