Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Each person was running a private rulebook and assuming it was obvious, so all three felt wronged by the same kitchen. Clean meant three different things, which meant nobody could satisfy the others. Naming the definition converted an argument about character into a solvable problem.

2. The reading says a plan without a check-in is a wish, because vague or untested agreements quietly fail within days. The check-in gave the family a scheduled moment to rewrite the part that did not work rather than treating the failure as proof that someone did not care.

Multiple Choice

1. A

2. C

3. B

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) contempt, 2) check-in, 3) identical

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Silence often means disagreement has been ruled out rather than resolved, so resentment builds where nobody can see it. Families who argue openly and repair afterward generally do better than families who never argue at all.

Q2: Arguments frequently attach to a convenient surface topic while the real driver is something else, such as unspoken expectations, an unfair share of work, or stress from outside the home. Getting to the actual driver is most of the work.

Q3: Avoiding is reasonable when the issue is trivial or when everyone is too heated to be productive, since a break protects the conversation. It is unreasonable as a permanent strategy, because the problem waits and usually returns larger.