Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Aaliyah's strongest argument: AI has caused documented, measurable harm in the form of wrongful arrests and discriminatory hiring — evidence that self-regulation has not worked. Deshawn's strongest counter: the competence objection and GDPR analogy — regulations written without technical expertise can impose large costs on small businesses while failing to address actual harms, and could drive AI development to countries with worse safety cultures.

2. Both agree that AI poses real risks that should be addressed, and both are motivated by wanting to protect people rather than protect industry or government. The disagreement is about mechanism and effectiveness, not about whether AI harms matter.

Multiple Choice

1. C

2. D

3. B

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) dozen, 2) liability, 3) liable

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Market failure exists when companies can profit from deploying a technology while the costs of its failures fall on others. Drug companies are regulated because individual patients cannot conduct safety trials — the cost of a bad drug falls on the patient, not the company that rushed it to market. Similarly, AI companies can deploy discriminatory or fraudulent AI and externalize the cost onto victims, which removes their incentive to self-regulate effectively.

Q2: Policy debates are often portrayed as having one obviously correct side. But AI regulation involves genuine tradeoffs between real values — safety, innovation, equity, global competitiveness. If you only understand the weakest version of the opposing argument, you can't identify the legitimate concerns it raises, and you may advocate for policies that create unintended harms you failed to anticipate.

Q3: Accept any well-reasoned response that engages with at least one specific argument from the reading and acknowledges the strongest counter-argument.