Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Lucius chose gladiatorial life voluntarily to escape debt, attracted by food, medical care, and the possibility of fame — showing that some gladiators were free men making desperate but calculated choices, not simply slaves forced into the arena.

2. Lucius hears the crowd through the floor, feels the lift machinery, and waits in a dark cage — his experience brings to life the reading's description of the hypogeum as industrial infrastructure providing spectacle above while remaining invisible to the audience.

Multiple Choice

1. B

2. D

3. D

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) entrances, 2) Africa, 3) lake

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: The Colosseum's eighty numbered entrances allowed 50,000 people to exit within minutes — a crowd flow system that modern stadium designers still study and try to replicate. This shows Roman engineers were solving urban management problems at scale nearly two thousand years ago.

Q2: While many gladiators were enslaved or condemned criminals, a significant number were free volunteers who signed contracts for housing, food, medical care, and prize money. Successful gladiators became celebrities whose names were carved as graffiti with the same admiration modern fans show athletes.

Q3: Animal bones in the hypogeum confirm the global reach of Rome's animal trade, including hippopotami from deep in Africa. Small artifacts suggest pre-fight rituals took place below the arena — details that written sources, which focus on the spectacle above, do not record.