Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Screening is designed to flag anomalies it cannot yet explain, and dense masses hidden in hollowed objects are exactly the profile that must be resolved. Rosa followed protocol — flag, isolate, test, release — and the system distinguished a threat-shaped situation from a threat, which is its actual job.
2. X-ray imaging identifies density and shape, not chemistry — clay and plastic explosives look alike on screen. That inherent ambiguity is why the checkpoint layers trace detection, canine teams, and human judgment on top of imaging: each layer covers another's blind spots.

Multiple Choice

1. B
2. C
3. D

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) cutters, 2) 60,000, 3) liquids

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Pre-9/11 screening was an airline cost center: low-wage contractors with extreme turnover, permitted blades, unscreened checked bags, and no rigorous watchlist matching. The hijackers walked through the system legally, proving that security run on airline economics could not perform a national security mission.
Q2: Shoe removal follows Richard Reid's 2001 shoe bomb; the liquids rule follows the 2006 British liquid explosives plot; body scanners follow the 2009 underwear bomber. The pattern is reactive adaptation — each layer answers a demonstrated tactic, which critics call fighting the last war and defenders call closing proven holes.

Q3: Answers will vary. Strong responses engage both sides: red-team audits repeatedly beat checkpoints and some measures' deterrent value is unproven, yet the layered system has coincided with two decades without a successful attack, and cockpit doors and watchlist matching are unambiguously substantive. The best answers distinguish theatrical layers from structural ones.