Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Carter was the expedition leader and financial stakeholder whose name was attached to every official record. Ahmed was a low-status laborer whose name was never officially recorded. Archaeology in this era documented objects and their finders in an official sense, not the laborers who enabled the discovery. This shows that archaeology has historically preserved the stories of educated, wealthy, Western excavators rather than local workers.

2. The press focused on Carter, Carnarvon, gold, and curses — dramatic figures and supernatural stories that sell newspapers. Ahmed's moment of stumbling over a step is quiet, ordinary, and belongs to a child worker. History tends to preserve dramatic and powerful narratives while erasing ordinary people, especially those of lower status or from colonized countries.

Multiple Choice

1. B

2. B

3. A

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) wonderful, 2) gold, 3) Carnarvon

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Documenting the position and context of every object reveals information that cannot be recovered once objects are moved — such as which items were grouped together, which were nearest the body, and what that arrangement tells us about Egyptian funerary beliefs. Without this documentation, the artifacts become beautiful but decontextualized objects stripped of historical meaning.

Q2: Tutankhamun was considered so minor that tomb robbers didn't bother with him, allowing his tomb to survive intact. The more powerful pharaohs — Ramesses II, Seti I — had their tombs stripped. Tutankhamun is now the most famous Egyptian pharaoh in popular culture precisely because of his obscurity in life, which is a remarkable reversal of historical logic.

Q3: Arguments for exclusivity include that selling coverage rights funded the expensive excavation and generated resources for conservation. Arguments against include that a major archaeological discovery is part of world heritage and should be freely reported, and that restricting access distorts the historical record by allowing one outlet's framing to dominate.