Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Under NAGPRA, any federally funded institution must return culturally affiliated Native American human remains upon request from the affiliated tribe. The university was legally obligated to respond to the Lakota tribe's claim because it receives federal funding and the remains were excavated from ancestral Lakota land.

2. The reading suggests this conflict should be resolved through genuine dialogue, mutual respect, and community-based approaches where descendant communities actively participate in decisions. The reading acknowledges both scientific value and cultural rights have merit, but emphasizes that science does not automatically take priority over ancestral rights.

Multiple Choice

1. A

2. C

3. B

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) NAGPRA, 2) repatriation, 3) patrimony

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: During the colonial era, European powers removed enormous quantities of cultural material from colonized regions without consent. For example, the Elgin Marbles were taken from Greece during Ottoman occupation, and the Benin Bronzes were looted from Nigeria in 1897. These actions created the ethical conflicts over repatriation that continue today.

Q2: Greece argues the marbles were taken illegally during foreign occupation and are an integral part of the Parthenon. The British Museum claims legal acquisition and argues it serves as a universal museum where world cultures can be compared. Students should state which argument they find more persuasive and explain their reasoning.

Q3: Community-based archaeology involves descendant communities actively participating in research design, excavation, analysis, and interpretation. It

represents an improvement because it recognizes that the people connected to a site have knowledge, perspectives, and rights that are essential to responsible practice, rather than treating local communities as obstacles to be managed.