Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Research finds pretend play builds self-control because taking a role imposes rules the child chooses to follow, so a child playing a baby must hold still to stay in the role. That restraint is internally motivated rather than adult-imposed, which is why Aiden held still far longer than he does for an assigned task.

2. This is cooperative play, meaning organized joint activity with shared goals, assigned roles, and rules the children maintain themselves. The children divided roles as cook, customer, and baby, held a single shared idea of a restaurant in mind together, and negotiated a dispute about the menu without an adult resolving it.

Multiple Choice

1. C

2. A

3. B

Matching

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

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) parallel, 2) dramatic, 3) Parten

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Genuine play must be freely chosen, child-directed, and intrinsically motivated, meaning done for its own sake. A worksheet is assigned by an adult, follows instructions toward an outcome the adult selected, and is completed for the adult's purpose, so decorating it does not change what it actually is.

Q2: During play a child is absorbed in their own purpose rather than performing for an evaluator, so what an adult sees is the child's genuine interests, social skills, frustrations, and developmental level. An assessment measures how a child performs on someone else's task under observation, which is a narrower and more artificial sample.

Q3: Open-ended materials such as blocks, boxes, and fabric can become many different things, so the child supplies the idea and the material follows it. A single-purpose toy already contains the intended use, which means the child is executing a design someone else made rather than generating and testing one of their own.