

HANDOUT A**POST-VIDEO QUESTION AND CASE SUMMARY****Section I**

Reflect on the characters' conversation in this first scene. Although Jane is understandably flattered and eager to participate, can you identify any additional questions it might have been important for her to ask before agreeing to take part in the project? Alternatively, can you identify anything Dr. Talladega and/or Susan should have said or done differently as they brought Jane on board? Briefly explain.

Dr. Talladega, the head of a lab, and Susan Martensville, a post-doc, sit in his office as Jane Bristol, a graduate student enters and is informed that she will be working on a research project with them. Jane expresses that she is flattered, but concerned about her qualifications for the task. Upon the reassurance of Dr. Talladega and Susan and an opportunity for co-authorship Jane agrees to take part. Dr. Talladega then informs Jane that she will be working primarily with Susan.

Section II

Think about Susan's role in this scene. Do you think she was too demanding (expected too much) of Jane, or do you think she was too hands off (you may also select both of these options)? Briefly explain.

Jane is briefed by Susan on the details of the project and then informed that she must complete training for the instruments that are involved in the experiments. On top of that she is told that there is a two-week turnaround and that her results will be expected at that time.

Section III

Jane is at an impasse at the end of this scene. Briefly describe what options she has. You might also want to think about how more networking ahead of time might have expanded her options here.

One week later Jane is in the lab and working with the confocal microscopes. She reaches a point of confusion and asks a member of the lab's staff for assistance. The staff member dismisses her concerns and refers her to her training while expressing that not only is he very busy, but that she shouldn't be using the equipment without a proper understanding of it. Jane tries to continue with her work with her questions unanswered.

Section IV

Group meetings provide a number of essential functions in a laboratory. In addition to sharing new knowledge, they are a place where problems can be addressed and possible solutions put on the table for discussion. But this doesn't quite seem to be what happened in this scene. Briefly describe some of the reasons why this didn't happen. You may also want to describe things Jane or Susan could have done to make the group meeting more effective.

The time comes and Jane makes her presentation.. Susan congratulates Jane on her presentation then asks for her confocal data to prepare it for publication. Jane expresses concern over the accuracy of the data and is again dismissed by Susan.

Section V

Did Susan likely commit any of the following types of misconduct?

Adding a filter, changing the contrast, manipulating the background pattern, submitting a paper without allowing all authors to review it for accuracy, or other.

Later on in her office, Susan takes a look at Jane's data. Susan then begins to edit/enhance/alter/manipulate/falsify, Jane's data with PhotoShop, going so far as to alter the color, and use the clone stamp tool to "clean up" the preparation. Once she completes this she utters, "perfect." She then saves the edited image and discards the original.

Section VI

Jane is understandably upset by the knowledge that her data may well be inaccurate. Is she obligated to do something, especially since the results have already been submitted for publication? Briefly explain your answer.

A few days later Jane is back in the lab. She meets Erik, who is a post doc working in the lab. She expresses some frustration about her ability to use the equipment. He states that he's familiar with her data and expresses some interest. He says that her images seem too good to be true. He asks her if she did a simultaneous or sequential scan of the cells. He then explains a little about bleed through artifacts. Jane becomes distraught.

Section VII

Briefly describe the actions Jane should take in this situation. Also explain why it is important for Jane to report her concerns

Jane explains the situation to Susan regarding the bleed through and the misinterpretations of the data that could result. Susan tells her to just be calm and that she has done all the controls that the journal requires, so there should be nothing for her to worry about. Jane wants to do more controls. Susan tells her that because we don't know for certain that she made a mistake that there is no need to go back and try and reproduce the results. Jane asks to speak with Dr. Talladega. Susan tells her that he is out of town and then takes a phone call, dismissing Jane without properly addressing her concerns. Jane leaves the office confused and unsure of what to do.