**HeLa Week 7**

**Chapter 24**

1. Explain how the sale of HeLa evolved into a business. Describe the extent to which the profits from that business are likely a direct result of the sale of HeLa cells. In what other ways do scientists, corporations, and individuals profit as a result of HeLa?
2. Why did Deborah begin researching her mother’s cells? What effect did her research have on her?

1. What information about the Lackses was published by McKusick and Hsu? Why is thepublication of this information troubling from an ethical and legal standpoint?

**Chapter 25**

1. Describe the lawsuit that set a legal precedent for patenting biological “products” suchas cell lines.

2. Why did Ted Slavin start Essential Biologicals?

3. Summarize the pros and cons of giving patients legal ownership of their cells.

4. What was the Supreme Court of California’s decision regarding the Moore lawsuit? Summarize the reasoning behind the decision.

5. Do you agree with the court’s ruling? Explain your answer.

**Chapter 26**

1. Explain why Gold’s journalism could be considered irresponsible and/or unethical.

2. What do Gold’s comments about his decision to publish private information without consulting the Lacks family reveal about his attitude toward them?

3. How have laws regarding medical privacy changed since the early 1980s?

**Chapter 27**

1. Explain how the human papillomavirus (HPV) causes cervical cancer.

2. Are scientists able to definitively explain why HeLa grew so powerfully?

3. Describe the contribution that HeLa has made to research on the HIV virus and the AIDS epidemic.

4. Explain Van Valen’s theory that HeLa cells are “no longer human.” Was his theory accepted by the scientific community?

5. Explain the Hayflick limit.

6. Why are HeLa cells able to live beyond the Hayflick limit?

**HeLa WEEK 8**

**Chapter 28**

1. What did Deborah hope would happen as a result of the BBC documentary?

**Chapter 29**

No questions

**Chapter 30**

1. Zakariyya uses the term “disrespect” to describe Gey’s treatment of Henrietta and the family. Explain the specific reasons why Zakariyya feels disrespected. Do you believe Gey was disrespectful? Explain your answer.
2. What does Zakariyya blame on Henrietta’s cancer cells? Does Deborah agree with him?

**Chapter 31**

1. What does Deborah say about people who frame her mother’s story as a story about racism?
2. Who is Franklin Salisbury Jr., and why did he contact Deborah?
3. How did Skloot finance the research for her book? What did she promise to do for the Lacks family if and when the book was published?