C. Analyzing Modal Particle Usage

Answer Key 2: Analyzing Modal Particles in Context: ja

I. 1. The subject is expressed:
   a) in line 19 by a noun (Kinder) and in line 24 by a noun phrase (die anderen Mädels)
   b) in all other lines the subject is expressed by pronouns:
      - personal pronouns Du, wir, Ihr, ich (lines 15-17, 20-22),
      - demonstrative pronoun das (line 18),
      - indefinite pronoun man (line 23),
      - impersonal pronoun es (line 25)

2. The MP ja occurs in declarative sentences: statements (e.g. line 17) and exclamations (e.g. line 18).

3. The MP ja immediately follows:
   a) the subject in lines 17, 21, 25
   b) the finite verb in lines 16, 18-20, 24

4. The word order in these clauses is:
   a) inverted (object – verb – subject)
   b) direct (subject – verb – object)

5. A general rule for the syntactic position of the modal particle ja based on 3 and 4 can be formulated as follows:
   In clauses with a direct word order, the MP ja immediately follows the finite verb. In clauses with an inverted word order, the MP ja immediately follows the subject.

6. Based on lines 15, 22, 23, the rule in 5 can be supplemented as follows:
   The modal particle ja cannot precede a pronoun.

II. 1. The pattern can be completed as follows:
   Das + ist + ja + Attribute

2. This pattern expresses an appraisal of a fact discussed in the preceding conversation and an assumption that the conversation partner agrees with the speaker.