UNIT 1 Strange & Unusual

Reading 1 Ghost Detective

I. GENERATE IDEAS

1. Kuchisake-onna (Split-mouth woman)
2. She is the ghost of a young woman whose mouth has been cut from ear to ear.
3. She asks people if she is pretty. If they say “no,” she kills them. If they say “yes,” she cuts their faces like hers.

II. OUTLINE

Topic sentence (fill in the blank): Kuchisake-onna
Supporting reason/detail 1: Ghost of a woman with a cut face
Supporting reason/detail 2: Asks people if she’s pretty; attacks them

III. WRITE

A well-known strange being in my culture is Kuchisake-onna. She is the ghost of a young woman whose face has been cut from ear to ear by her husband, who killed her. She asks people, “Am I pretty?” If they say “no,” she kills them. If they say “yes,” she cuts their faces to look like hers.

Reading 2 The Laughter Epidemic

I. GENERATE IDEAS

II. OUTLINE

Topic sentence (fill in the blank): cry
Supporting reason/detail 1: Show others we’re upset, get help
Supporting reason/detail 2: Get rid of stress chemicals through tears

III. WRITE

Scientists aren’t sure why we cry, but there are some possible explanations. One is that we cry to show we’re upset. That way, others will be more likely to help us. Another is that it’s a way to get rid of the chemicals that form in our bodies when we’re stressed. Tears seem to “wash” these chemicals away, making us feel better.

UNIT 2 Computers & Technology

Reading 1 The Evolution of Music Media

I. GENERATE IDEAS

	ADVANTAGE	DISADVANTAGE
Audiocassette tapes	small, can be played in Walkmans	don't last that long
CDs	good sound, last a long time	take up space, get scratched
MP3s	good sound, convenient to download	have to be stored on your computer/device
Streaming	no storage needed	have to pay a fee every month

II. OUTLINE

Topic sentence (fill in the blank): through MP3s
Supporting reason/detail 1: Clear digital sound
Supporting reason/detail 2: Fit many songs on a small device
Supporting reason/detail 3: Easy to download and share

III. WRITE

My favorite way to listen to music is through MP3s. First of all, they have a clear digital sound–much better than LPs or cassettes. Also, you can fit thousands of songs on your MP3 player, phone, or computer. Finally, they are convenient. You can choose a song and download it in a few seconds, and friends can share their music easily.

Reading 2 Hackers and Crackers

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Sharing Information Online	
PROS	CONS
Friends and families can share photos and messages easily on social media.	Crackers can break into your account and post messages pretending to be you.
Online resumes help you get jobs.	Employers might see embarrassing things online.

II. OUTLINE

Topic sentence (circle one): share
Supporting reason/detail 1: Keep in touch with friends and family
Supporting reason/detail 2: Online resume to find a job

III. WRITE

I share a lot of photos and other personal information online. Social media lets me keep in touch with friends and family who are far away. I love seeing their photos and reading their updates, and I know they feel the same about mine. Second, my online resume helped me get a great job last summer at a radio station. I couldn’t have gotten it without posting information about myself, my interests, and my experience.

UNIT 3 Health & Medicine

Reading 1 Healthy Body Images

I. GENERATE IDEAS
Exercise every day; Stop caring so much about looks

II. OUTLINE
Supporting reason/detail 1: Exercise every day
Supporting reason/detail 2: Stop caring so much about looks

III. WRITE
If I had a friend with an unhealthy body image, I would give him/her two pieces of advice. First, I would tell my friend to exercise every day. No matter what shape you are in, exercise makes you healthier and more attractive. It also lifts your mood. Second, I would tell him/her not to care so much about looks. It's better to focus on your other good qualities.

Reading 2 Pollution in Our Bodies

I. GENERATE IDEAS
Read the labels on products; Eat only organic meat; Use all-natural shampoo and toothpaste

II. OUTLINE
Supporting reason/detail 1: Read the labels on products
Supporting reason/detail 2: Eat only organic meat

III. WRITE
There are two important things people can do to protect their bodies from pollution. One is to eat only organic meat. Animals that are raised organically will have fewer harmful chemicals in their meat. The second is to read the labels on products like shampoo, toothpaste, and cosmetics. That way, you can avoid the ones that contain phthalates and other harmful pollutants.

UNIT 4 Social Issues

Reading 1 Crossing Borders, Breaking the Law

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Open Borders	
PROS	**CONS**
People can go where jobs are available	Many immigrants -> not enough housing, schools, etc.
Freedom of movement = a human right	Many immigrants -> may be harder to maintain culture

II. OUTLINE

Topic sentence (circle one): don't think
Supporting reason/detail 1: Can't keep criminals out
Supporting reason/detail 2: Not enough housing, schools, etc.
Supporting reason/detail 3: Different languages

III. WRITE

I don't think that having open borders is a good idea. For one thing, countries would not be able to keep criminals out of their country. It's better when countries can refuse entry to someone they know might harm their citizens. Second, if one country had too many immigrants, there might not be enough room. There is limited space in schools and in housing. Finally, if too many immigrants spoke different languages, communication would be hard, and there might be conflict.

Reading 2 The Glass Ceiling

I. GENERATE IDEAS

1. Strongly agree - Men are more interested in things; women are more interested in people.
2. Strongly agree - Women are just as capable of leading as men are.
3. Somewhat disagree - There is less sex discrimination than in the past, but it still exists.

II. OUTLINE

Topic sentence (circle one): don't think
Supporting reason/detail 1: Men and women–different interests
Supporting reason/detail 2: Women are less aggressive

III. WRITE

I don't think there will be as many women as men in powerful positions in the future. One reason is that men and women have naturally different interests. For example, women are much more interested than men in the caring professions, such as teaching and nursing. These interests don't usually lead to the top. Second, I think, generally, women are naturally less aggressive than men, and aggressive people are more likely to reach powerful positions.

UNIT 5 Environmental Issues

Reading 1 Living Near Volcanoes

I. GENERATE IDEAS
2. The most famous is Jeju Island, a dormant volcanic island with beautiful beaches.
3. Yes, it is a popular tourist attraction because of the scenery and warm climate.

II. OUTLINE
Topic sentence (fill in the blank): Jeju Island
Supporting reason/detail 1: Volcanic Island, beautiful beaches
Supporting reason/detail 2: National park, many tourists

III. WRITE
The most famous natural feature in my country is Jeju Island. It is a volcanic island with Mt. Halla, a dormant volcano, in the center. The beaches on the island are beautiful, and so is the view from Mt. Halla. There is a large national park on the island, and it attracts many tourists both from Korea and from abroad.

Reading 2 Water Rights, Water Fights

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Bottled Water	
PROS	**CONS**
Some kinds are cleaner than tap water.	Some kinds are just tap water.
Some kinds taste better than tap water.	Plastic bottles hurt the environment.

II. OUTLINE
Topic sentence (circle one): don’t drink
Supporting reason/detail 1: Waste of money
Supporting reason/detail 2: Hurts the environment

III. WRITE
I don’t drink bottled water. The main reason is that it is a waste of money. There is nothing wrong with the tap water in my city, and it’s very cheap. Bottled water costs many times as much. Also, it is bad for the environment. It comes in plastic bottles, and many of them don’t get recycled.

UNIT 6 Law & Crime

Reading 1 Bans on Smoking

I. GENERATE IDEAS

E-Cigarettes	
PROS	**CONS**
No secondhand smoke	Still contain nicotine–are addictive
Help people quit tobacco successfully	Safety of breathing e-liquid vapor not certain

II. OUTLINE

Topic sentence (circle one): think
Supporting reason/detail 1: Safer for smokers
Supporting reason/detail 2: Safer for others
Supporting reason/detail 3: Research shows it's effective

III. WRITE

I think that smokers who want to quit should try using e-cigarettes instead. First of all, they are almost certainly safer to smoke than tobacco. They use e-liquid that only contains nicotine and sweet flavoring. Second, they are safer for others because they don't produce harmful secondhand smoke. Most importantly, research has suggested that they are effective in helping people give up smoking tobacco.

Reading 2 Victimless Crimes

I. GENERATE IDEAS

1. Gambling (I); Smoking marijuana (I); Being drunk in public (I); Driving without a seatbelt on (I); Riding a motorcycle without a helmet (I)
2. Gambling

II. OUTLINE

Topic sentence (fill in the blank and circle one): gambling; illegal
Supporting reason/detail 1: Addictive
Supporting reason/detail 2: Linked to other crime

III. WRITE

I think that gambling should be illegal. For one thing, it seems to be very addictive. Many people have become gambling addicts and lost all their money. This hurts their families, so it is not really a victimless crime. Second, gambling is often linked to other crimes. In many places, gambling operations are run by gangs who are also involved in other criminal activity, like drugs and robbery. Making gambling illegal could help stop these gangs.

UNIT 7 Language & Literature

Reading 1 Steve Jobs' Commencement Address at Stanford University

I. GENERATE IDEAS
1. F
2. A
3. A
4. F
5. F – College graduates almost always earn higher salaries.

II. OUTLINE
Topic sentence (check one): Young people shouldn't be pressured to go to college if they're not interested.
Supporting reason/detail 1: Learn a variety of subjects
Supporting reason/detail 2: Better jobs, higher salaries
Supporting reason/detail 3: Great social experience

III. WRITE
All young people should be strongly encouraged to go to college, where they can learn about a variety of subjects, including languages, math, science, and the arts. This way, they might discover an interest or talent that they didn't know they had. Second, college graduates are more likely to be hired and to be well-paid. Finally, going to college is a wonderful social experience where people make life-long friends and great memories.

Reading 2 "The Premature Burial" by Edgar Allan Poe

I. GENERATE IDEAS
1. *Scream*
2. It's a movie about a killer who terrorizes a group of high school kids.
3. It scared me very much. It was extremely suspenseful, and the killer wore a creepy mask.
4. Yes, I'd recommend it. It's scary, but it's also funny and has kind of a happy ending.

II. OUTLINE
Topic sentence (check one): I recommend *Scream.*
Supporting reason/detail 1: Horror movie about a killer
Supporting reason/detail 2: Suspenseful; creepy mask
Supporting reason/detail 3: Funny; happy ending

III. WRITE
I recommend the movie *Scream*. It is a horror movie about a killer who terrorizes a group of high school kids. It's quite scary because the suspense builds slowly throughout the movie. The killer also wears a very creepy mask. At the same time, it's funny and has a happy ending.

UNIT 8 Space & Exploration

Reading 1 Spin-Offs from Space

II. OUTLINE
Topic sentence (fill in the blank): self-driving car
Supporting reason/detail 1: I hate driving
Supporting reason/detail 2: Safer than human drivers

III. WRITE
The high-tech invention that I find the most exciting is the self-driving car. One reason is that I simply hate driving–it makes me very nervous. So I'm looking forward to giving it up forever. Second, self-driving cars will make the roads much safer. Robotic drivers do not make nearly as many errors as human drivers do.

Reading 2 A New Space Race

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Manned Mission to Mars	
PROS	**CONS**
Might need it for human colonies in the future	Very expensive
Would amaze and inspire people	Future robots will be more effective

II. OUTLINE
Topic sentence (circle one): think
Supporting reason/detail 1: Better way to search for life
Supporting reason/detail 2: Might be needed for future human colonies
Supporting reason/detail 3: Would amaze and inspire people

III. WRITE
I think that we should attempt to send a manned mission to Mars. Humans can do a better job than robots of searching for life. Also, we may need to move to another planet someday, and Mars would be the best candidate. We should start exploring that option now. Finally, the mission would amaze and inspire people all over the world. It would give people hope and encourage millions to become interested in space and exploration.

UNIT 9 Sports & Fitness

Reading 1 Yoga and Pilates

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Yoga and Pilates	
PROS	**CONS**
Improve concentration	Require classes to become truly good
Relieve stress	May not exercise heart and lungs

II. OUTLINE

Topic sentence (circle one): appeal
Supporting reason/detail 1: Build strength and flexibility
Supporting reason/detail 2: Relieve stress

III. WRITE

Yoga and Pilates appeal to me as a way to stay healthy. First of all, they both involve a lot of stretching and shifting the weight of the body into different a position. This builds strength and flexibility. Moreover, they are great for relieving stress. The movements are slow and controlled and involve deep breathing. That is very soothing for the mind.

Reading 2 The Future of Sports

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Playing Sports in Digital Formats	
PROS	**CONS**
You can play them at any time of the day.	You don't socialize with people face-to-face, so it's harder to build friendships.
You can play many different esports without having to buy new equipment (balls, bats, jerseys, etc.)	You spend a lot of time indoors, so your mental health can suffer.

II. OUTLINE

Topic sentence (fill in the blank and circle one): soccer; in real life
Supporting reason/detail 1: Get fit while playing
Supporting reason/detail 2: Improve mental health through exercise and being outdoors
Supporting reason/detail 3: Build strong friendships with people who live nearby

III. WRITE

I prefer to play soccer in real life because I can get fit while I play. If I just played soccer as an esport, I would sit around at home and not get enough exercise. Going outside and playing is also good for my mental health. Playing on a team with friends who live nearby also allows me to build strong friendships, which I don't think is possible to do online.

UNIT 10 People & Opinions

Reading 1 The Architecture of Wright

I. GENERATE IDEAS
1. Outdoor kitchen; Swimming pool

II. OUTLINE
Supporting reason/detail 1: Built on a mountain
Supporting reason/detail 2: Outdoor kitchen
Supporting reason/detail 3: Swimming pool

III. WRITE
If I could design my dream house, there are three features I'd definitely include. First of all, it would be built on a mountain because I love nature and quiet, beautiful views. Second, I'd love to have a swimming pool. Swimming is my favorite way to relax as well as exercise.

Reading 2 Streaming Services: Helpful or Harmful

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Streaming Services	
PROS	**CONS**
Can watch anytime, anywhere	Can lead to the sharing of pseudoscience
Can watch what we are most interested in	Can lead to families spending too much time apart

II. OUTLINE
Topic sentence (circle one): harmful
Supporting reason/detail 1: Make us watch the same type of content
Supporting reason/detail 2: Can lead to the sharing of false information
Supporting reason/detail 3: Don't tend to watch them in a social way

III. WRITE
Mostly, I think streaming services provide a harmful product. Although they are very convenient, they make us watch the same type of content over and over again. Because of this, they can lead to the sharing and reinforcement of false information. Finally, we don't tend to watch them in a very social way. I would like to spend more time watching TV with my family.

UNIT 11 Cross-Cultural Viewpoints

Reading 1 Approaches to Education

I. GENERATE IDEAS
1. Lecture-Style Lessons—Students should give correct answers rather than opinions.
2. Student-Focused Lessons—Students should give their own opinions when asked questions.

II. OUTLINE
Topic sentence (fill in the blank): lecture-style
Supporting reason/detail 1: Encourages students to be well-behaved
Supporting reason/detail 2: Students learn how to correctly understand different topics
Supporting reason/detail 2: Students can learn how to pass exams and get into good universities

III. WRITE
I think lecture-style lessons are the most effective way to teach students. When there's too much group work in a class, students often misbehave. Confident students also have an advantage over students who are not comfortable sharing their opinions. In a lecture-style class, all students learn from someone who knows the facts. Learning correct answers is more important than sharing opinions because students need to know how to pass exams in order to get into good universities.

Reading 2 Responding to Declining Populations

I. GENERATE IDEAS
1. F
2. A
3. A
4. F - The responsibility of having children can make adults better citizens.
5. A - Individual wealth may increase, and the cost of housing may decrease.

II. OUTLINE
Topic sentence (circle one): should
Supporting reason/detail 1: Help to look after older people
Supporting reason/detail 2: Make adults more responsible citizens
Supporting reason/detail 3: Make the country wealthier and more productive

III. WRITE
I think governments should implement policies to increase birth rates. Having children can make adults more responsible citizens because they have to create a good environment for the future generation. We also need new generations to grow up and take up jobs in the country. These working people will pay taxes. These taxes can be used to look after older people who are retired. Finally, I think more working people will mean that the country makes more products and can become richer.

UNIT 12 Business & Economics

Reading 1 The Gig Economy

I. GENERATE IDEAS
1. +
2. -
3. +
4. + - Gig workers can take on extra projects to make more money.
5. - - Workforces in the gig economy are less productive.

II. OUTLINE
Topic sentence (check one): I think the positive of the gig economy outweigh its negatives.
Supporting reason/detail 1: Workers have more flexibility
Supporting reason/detail 2: Workers can take more jobs and get more money
Supporting reason/detail 3: Companies can reduce tax bills and other overhead

III. WRITE
I think the positives of the gig economy outweigh its negatives. Workers in the gig economy have much more flexibility than full-time employees. They can choose the projects they take on and can make more money by working on multiple projects at the same time. Companies also benefit. They can take on workers only when they need them and reduce the payroll tax they have to pay.

Reading 2 Evolving Wallets

I. GENERATE IDEAS
1. People don’t like credit cards because they are easy to lose.
2. People like e-commerce because it is efficient.

II. OUTLINE
Topic sentence (check): Overall, I think the overall economy is worrying.
Supporting reason/detail 1: Leaves older and less wealthy people behind
Supporting reason/detail 2: Don’t know how data might be used
Supporting reason/detail 3: E-commerce companies are not spread around the world

III. WRITE
Overall, I think the digital economy is worrying. First, the pace of change leaves older and less wealthy people behind. Second, it uses biometric authentication, and we don't know how our data might be used. Finally, e-commerce companies are not spread around the world equally, so it creates an unfair global economy.