

Transcripts & Answer Keys

Unit 1

Cell Phones: Do we use them too much?

Understanding the main ideas

- 1 = c 2 = b
2. a. T b. F c. F d. T e. F f. F

Tapescript

- Kate: A girl on the train this morning was talking really loudly on her cell phone. I think it's so annoying when people talk loudly on their cell phones. I don't want to listen to other people's phone conversations when I'm on the train.
- Jason: I know what you mean, but cell phones keep you from getting bored. I often call my friends when I'm travelling to work, just to pass the time.
- Kate: Why don't you use text messaging instead? Then you won't disturb people around you.
- Jason: Actually, I use text messaging a lot. It's such an easy way to flirt with girls! I can even send messages to girls I've never met before. It's a great way to meet people.
- Kate: I don't think that you should send messages to people you don't know. My friend Gina has been getting rude messages and she doesn't know who is sending them. It's quite scary.
- Jason: That's terrible! Maybe she should go to the police. I think the main advantage of cell phones is that they are useful in emergencies. Your cell phone could save your life one day!

Listening

1. People talking loudly on them.
2. Just to pass the time.
3. So he won't disturb anyone.
4. To flirt with girls and meet people.
5. She has been getting rude messages and she doesn't know who is sending them.

Pros and Cons

Pros of using cell phones

1. A cell phone could save your life.
2. Cell phones keep you from getting bored.
3. Text messages are a good way to flirt with people.
4. Cell phones are a good way to meet people.
5. Cell phones are useful in emergencies.

Cons of using cell phones

1. People waste money on cell phones they don't need.
2. People have become too dependent on cell phones.
3. Cell phones reduce the need for face-to-face communication.

4. Some people talk too loudly on their cell phones.
5. Some people send text messages to people they don't know.
6. Some people send rude text messages.

Discussion tactics

1. I know what you mean, but a cell phone could save your life one day.
2. I don't think so because some people send rude messages.
3. I disagree because you don't disturb other people when you send them.
4. That's a good point, but it helps pass the time.
5. That's true, but it's such an easy way to flirt with people.

Unit 2

The Olympic Games: Have they lost their meaning?

Understanding the main ideas

1. 1 = d 2 = c
2. a. F b. T c. F d. F e. T f. F

Tapescript

- Tom: I don't understand why everyone loves the Olympics so much. I think they're a joke. The Olympic Games aren't really about sport any more – they are just about money.
- Susanna: How can you say that, Tom? The Olympics bring people together. Did you see the reception Liu Xiang got when he won the 110 meter hurdles? It was a great moment in history. Besides, Olympic athletes like Liu Xiang are good role models for young people. They teach them that you can achieve anything if you work hard.
- Tom: You can't call all Olympic athletes good role models. Look at how many athletes had positive drug tests. What's more, a lot of athletes only compete in the Olympics because of the money they get from their sponsors. I don't think they are interested in bringing people together.
- Susanna: What about the hundreds of volunteers who help at the Olympics? They aren't paid any money. People who volunteer to help have a fantastic experience and they learn to work together in a team. Not only that, but after the Olympics many volunteer to help at other events like the Paralympics.
- Tom: I think we'll just have to agree to disagree.

Listening

Tom

Susanna

- | | |
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| 1. The Olympics aren't about sport any more. They are just about money. | 1. The Olympics bring people together. |
| 2. Not all athletes are good role models. Lots have had positive drug tests. | 2. That you can achieve anything if you work hard. |
| 3. A lot of athletes only compete in the Olympics because of the money they get from their sponsors. | 3. To work together in a team. |

Pros and Cons

Evidence that the Olympics have lost their meaning

1. Professional athletes are now allowed to compete.
2. Sports stars make millions of dollars from sponsorship.
3. It's all about money now, not sport.
4. More drug cheats than ever are being caught.
5. Olympic athletes are not good role models because some take drugs.
6. A lot of athletes only compete in the Olympics because of the money they get from their sponsors.

Evidence that the Olympics have not lost their meaning

1. Sponsorship makes the Olympic Games possible.
2. Many athletes need sponsorship if they want to be full-time athletes.
3. Olympic sponsors spend a lot of money helping people.
4. The Olympic spirit has been rekindled through the zero-tolerance approach to drugs.
5. A clear message about drugs was sent to athletes and the public.
6. The Olympic community is working together to stop drug cheats.
7. The Olympic Games bring people together.
8. Olympic athletes like Liu Xiang are good role models for young people.
9. People who volunteer at the Olympic Games learn to work together in a team.
10. People who volunteer at the Olympic Games often volunteer at other events.

Discussion tactics

1. What's more, they spend a lot of money helping people.
2. Not only that, but many only compete in the Olympic Games because of the money they get from their sponsors.
3. Plus the fact that they increased the number of drug tests in Athens by 25%.
4. What's more, he has a 1.5 million dollar per year sponsorship deal.
5. Not only that, but they also organize health and fitness education programs.

Unit 3

Marriage: Should people get married earlier?

Understanding the main ideas

1. 1 = c 2 = a
2. a. T b. F c. T d. T e. T f. F

Tapescript

- Nick: My parents keep asking my sister when she's going to get married. She's only twenty-eight but they think she should have a husband and children by now.
- Tessa: They sound quite traditional. Twenty-eight isn't very old at all. I don't want to get married until I'm in my thirties. I want to have a successful career first.
- Nick: But isn't that leaving it rather late? What if you want to have children?
- Tessa: Women have children in their thirties and even forties these days. Many people think that the birthrate is falling. But in fact, that's only true in some countries. In the USA it's increasing.

- Nick: I suppose that it can be better to get married when you're older. You are more mature and can make a better choice of husband or wife.
- Tessa: Exactly! Our parents talk about marrying and having children while we are young. But the truth of the matter is that young couples are much more likely to divorce.
- Nick: I'm scared of the responsibility of getting married. I like spending my money on what I like and having a good time.
- Tessa: Well, you're actually helping the economy by spending all of your money. So you shouldn't feel guilty about it!

Listening

1. To get married and have children.
2. To have a successful career.
3. Because women are having children in their thirties and even forties these days.
4. He spends his money on what he likes and has a good time.
5. She thinks he is helping the economy and shouldn't feel guilty about it.

Pros and Cons

Pros of getting married earlier

1. You may wait too long and not find the perfect partner.
2. Marrying earlier and having children will help increase the population.
3. It's better to have children when you are younger.
4. Married couples are less likely to separate than couples who live together.
5. Many couples who live together are having children and then separating.
6. Older women have more fertility problems than younger women.
7. Older women have a higher chance of miscarriage than younger women.
8. Older women leave themselves less time to have children than younger women.

Cons of getting married earlier

1. Many women do not want to juggle career and family yet.
2. Women do not want to give up their career and independence to marry and have children.
3. It's better to have a successful career before you get married as you will then have more flexibility when you have children.
4. Most married women do most of the housework and childcare so marrying and having children creates even more work for the woman.
5. You can make a better choice of partner if you marry later as you are more mature.
6. Young couples are more likely to separate than older couples.
7. You can enjoy a good lifestyle while you are single and help the economy.

Discussion tactics

1. But actually, they are delaying marriage.
2. The truth of the matter is that they are helping the economy.
3. But in fact, you can make a better choice of husband or wife when you are older.
4. But in fact, women are having children in their thirties and forties.
5. The truth of the matter is that you may discover the perfect husband or wife doesn't exist.

Unit 4

Smoking and Drinking: Should we do more to stop people smoking and drinking?

Understanding the main ideas

1. 1 = c 2 = b
 2. a. F b. F c. T d. F e. T f. T

Tapescript

- Jessica: I went out to a bar with some friends last night. I just cannot believe how much some people smoke and drink. My friend Sally drank eight or nine drinks and she must have smoked at least thirty cigarettes!
- Jeff: Wow! That's pretty unhealthy. I think that we should do more to discourage people from smoking and drinking. They cause so many problems in society.
- Jessica: I personally believe that people should make their own choices. Cigarette packets have huge health warnings printed on them now.
- Jeff: Well, in my opinion we should try to look after people's health. In Russia almost half of the men have a drinking problem. And in France, a quarter of all people in hospital are there because of alcohol-related illnesses.
- Jessica: To my mind, we should ban tobacco and alcohol advertising, not smoking and drinking.
- Jeff: Many countries have already banned TV advertising. I don't think it makes any difference to the number of people who smoke and drink. The answer lies in education. If we teach children about the dangers of smoking and drinking, they will make sensible choices.
- Jessica: That's true. Better education could make a real difference.

Listening

Jessica

Jeff

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. People should make their own choices. | 1. We should do more to discourage people from smoking and drinking. |
| 2. We should ban tobacco and alcohol advertising. | 2. Banning TV advertising doesn't make any difference. |
| 3. Better education could make a real difference. | 3. We should teach children about the dangers of smoking and drinking so they can make sensible choices. |

Pros and Cons

Reasons why we should do more to stop people smoking and drinking

1. Many drinkers are underage.
2. Too much alcohol can kill you.
3. Smoking and drinking are unhealthy.
4. Smoking and drinking cause problems in society.
5. We should try to look after people's health.
6. Nearly half of all the men in Russia have a drinking problem.
7. In France, 25 percent of people in hospitals are there because of alcohol-related illnesses.

- If we educate children about the dangers of smoking and drinking, they will be able to make sensible choices.

Reasons why we should not do more to stop people smoking and drinking

- Smokers are discriminated against.
- The entertainment industry will suffer due to bans on smoking in public places.
- Smokers' civil rights are being eroded.
- Research recently found that there was no link between passive smoking and increased lung cancer and heart disease.
- The UK government makes millions of dollars in taxes from tobacco sales a year.
- People should make their own choices.
- We should ban tobacco and alcohol advertising, not smoking and drinking.

Discussion tactics

- I personally believe that parents should stop their children drinking. It is the parents' responsibility to find out what their children are doing.
- I personally feel that passive smoking is particularly dangerous for children. It can affect their development.
- To my mind, banning smoking in mahjong parlors and bars is a terrible idea. A lot of people will stop going to them if they can't smoke there.
- In my personal opinion, smoking and drinking are OK as long as you don't do it too much. Some people say that a little alcohol is good for you.
- In my opinion, banning tobacco and alcohol advertising is a waste of time. People will still continue to buy tobacco and alcohol.

Unit 5

English: Should everyone learn it?

Understanding the main ideas

- 1 = c 2 = d
- a. F b. F c. T d. F e. T f. F

Tapescript

- Amy: You're so lucky that English is your first language, Richard. I've studied English for eight years and I still find it difficult.
- Richard: Well, I don't think it's fair that everyone has to learn English. Look at the way that Aboriginal people were forced to speak English by the white people in Australia. Some Aboriginal languages have almost disappeared.
- Amy: Of course it's wrong to make people speak English, but if everyone can speak one language they can understand each other. For instance, in Nigeria there are more than seven thousand different languages! English holds the country together because it allows everyone to communicate.
- Richard: But there's no need for everyone to speak the same language. These days we can use translation devices that translate your words into any language you choose.
- Amy: I don't think that's the answer. People want to communicate with each other, not with machines. Besides, not everyone will be able to afford these devices.
- Richard: I disagree. It's much easier to use a machine than learn a new language.

Listening

1. Because English is his first language.
2. Because it isn't fair.
3. She thinks it is wrong.
4. Using translation devices.
5. Because people want to communicate with each other and not everyone will be able to afford them.

Pros and Cons

Pros of learning English

1. English is the official language in more than sixty countries.
2. Learning English leads to more career and education choices.
3. It's important for people to learn and use English for countries to be competitive.
4. English is used in countries that have hundreds of different languages.
5. People want to communicate with each other, not with machines.
6. Not everyone will be able to afford translation devices.

Cons of learning English

1. Twice as many people speak Chinese as speak English.
2. By 2050, there will be more Hindi and Urdu speakers than English speakers.
3. By 2050, there will be an equal number of Spanish, Arabic and English speakers.
4. English is a difficult language to learn.
5. Some languages disappear because people speak English instead.
6. It's easier to use translation devices than learn English.

Discussion tactics

1. For example, Nigeria has more than seven thousand languages.
2. For instance, more people will speak Hindi and Urdu by 2050.
3. Look at the way that you can travel and work in different countries.
4. For example, there are thirteen different ways to spell the 'sh' sound.
5. We can use tools such as the UT-103 to translate from one language to another.

Unit 6

Exercise: Is it good for everyone?

Understanding the main ideas

1. 1 = c 2 = a
2. a. T b. F c. T d. F e. T f. F

Tapescript

- Kelly: My cousin in Scotland has joined a boxing club! Apparently it's the first female boxing club in the UK.
- Adam: Boxing? If you ask me, it should be banned. It's such a violent sport.
- Kelly: Well, I heard that boxing is one of Naomi Campbell's hobbies. It's meant to be a great form of exercise.
- Adam: I bet she does it to stay thin, not keep fit. People should exercise for fun and relaxation.

- Kelly: Physical education was compulsory when I was at school and I hated it. I really think that it stopped me enjoying exercise. That's probably why I'm so unfit!
- Adam: Exercise is also used as a punishment. I think that's really wrong. I read something about children in the US being sent to special camps as punishment. They are like army camps. The children have to do lots of exercise. One girl died because she was forced to run five kilometers on a hot summer day.
- Kelly: That's terrible! In my opinion, you shouldn't force children to exercise. Everyone has different skills and those skills should be encouraged.
- Adam: Still, we could both benefit from some exercise. Do you want to come for a walk?

Listening

Adam

1. Boxing should be banned. It is very violent.
2. For fun and relaxation.
3. It's really wrong.

Kelly

1. It's a great form of exercise.
2. It stopped her enjoying exercise.
3. We shouldn't force children to exercise.

Pros and Cons

Pros of exercise

1. Exercise can reduce the risk of various types of cancer.
2. Exercise can reduce the risk of type 2 diabetes.
3. Exercise can reduce the risk of heart disease.
4. Exercise can reduce the risk of high blood pressure.
5. Exercise can be fun.

Cons of exercise

1. Some people over-exercise.
2. Some people become so obsessed with having the perfect body they seriously damage their health.
3. Some people exercise for the wrong reasons.
4. Compulsory exercise stops people enjoying exercise.
5. Exercise is sometimes used as a punishment.

Discussion tactics

1. I really think that boxing is too violent and should be banned. Boxers are often seriously injured.
OR
From my point of view, boxing is a good form of exercise and should be taught in schools. It makes you very fit.
2. I really think that compulsory exercise for school students is a good idea because many students are unfit.
3. From my point of view, exercising every day is too much because you can get addicted to exercising.
4. It's clear to me that exercising to lose weight is a good idea because diets don't work.
5. If you ask me, going to the gym is a waste of time because most people find it boring after a few weeks.

Unit 7

Divorce: Is it better than an unhappy marriage?

Understanding the main ideas

1. 1 = d 2 = b
 2. a. T b. F c. T d. F e. F f. T

Tapescript

- Beth: I feel so sorry for my cousin Rosa. Her parents are getting divorced and she's really upset about it.
- Jordan: It must be awful for her, but her parents must be very unhappy. Don't you think it's better for couples to separate than stay together in an unhappy marriage?
- Beth: But what about the children? Kids from broken families can have problems at school and problems making friends.
- Jordan: Believe it or not, as divorce is becoming more common, children are coping with it better. I suppose they can talk to their friends about it more easily these days.
- Beth: I wonder why divorce is so common. Did you know that half of all marriages in the United States end in divorce? I think that people need to work harder at their relationships.
- Jordan: But people make mistakes. Everyone should have a second chance.
- Beth: I'm not so sure. More than half of all second marriages in the US end in divorce as well!

Listening

1. Her parents are getting divorced and she is really upset about it.
2. It's better for couples to separate than stay together in an unhappy marriage.
3. They have problems at school and problems making friends.
4. Divorce is becoming more common so they can talk to their friends about it more easily these days.
5. People need to work harder at their relationships.

Pros and Cons

Pros of divorce

1. People were not meant to be monogamous.
2. Everyone should have the opportunity to find happiness.
3. People learn about marriage from divorce.
4. Young people have successful second marriages.
5. It's better for couples to separate than stay together in an unhappy marriage.
6. Children are coping better with divorce now that it is more common.
7. Everyone should have a second chance.

Cons of divorce

1. Children with divorced parents are more aggressive.
2. Children with divorced parents have more learning difficulties.
3. Children with divorced parents can suffer from depression, low self-esteem and poor social relationships.
4. Increased divorce rates have led to more family poverty and a breakdown of family values.

- Children from broken homes have problems at school and problems making friends.
- More than half of all second marriages in the US end in divorce.

Discussion tactics

- Believe it or not, more than half of all second marriages in the US end in divorce.
- Did you know that children from broken families can have problems at school and problems making friends?
- It may sound strange, but it is possible to apply for a divorce on the Internet.
- Believe it or not, Elizabeth Taylor has been married eight times.
- Surprisingly, older couples are divorcing much more frequently than before.

Unit 8

Cars: Should we try to limit traffic in city centers?

Understanding the main ideas

- 1 = d 2 = c
- a. T b. F c. T d. T e. T f. F

Tapescript

Stacey: It took me almost an hour to drive to college this morning. The traffic was terrible! I wish they would build more roads.

Tom: Do you really think that's a good idea? Building more roads actually leads to more traffic.

Stacey: What I'm trying to say is that there's too much traffic on the roads. And, I've noticed that the levels of pollution are much higher than before.

Tom: That's because everyone wants to drive everywhere. Why don't you take a bus or train instead?

Stacey: Because that would take even longer. The public transport system where I live is a waste of time. Sorry, I'm doing a lot of complaining, aren't I?

Tom: Maybe you should stop complaining and do something about it. Have you thought about starting a car pool? You find other people in your area who drive to work and take turns to drive. It leads to fewer cars on the road and you share the cost of the petrol.

Stacey: That's a good idea but it doesn't really solve the problem of air pollution.

Tom: Well, the only way to do that is to ban cars in city centers.

Stacey: I don't think that people would like that idea. You can't force people to leave their cars at home. I think the best solution is to encourage people to use public transport by improving it.

Listening

Stacey

Tom

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. It was terrible. | 1. Building more roads leads to more traffic. |
| 2. It's a waste of time. | 2. Maybe she should stop complaining and do something about it. |
| 3. A good idea but it doesn't solve the problem of air pollution. | 3. The only way is to ban cars in city centers. |

Pros and Cons

Reasons why we should try to limit traffic in city centers

1. Traffic congestion is getting worse and worse.
2. Air pollution is a killer.
3. Toxic substances from cars cause cancer and other diseases.
4. Too much carbon dioxide adds to global warming.
5. It will improve the quality of life for people who live in, work in or travel to the city center.

Reasons why we should not try to limit traffic in city centers

1. Public transport is unreliable, dirty and expensive.
2. Rush-hour commuting by public transport can take a long time.
3. Public transport should be more efficient, comfortable and cheap.
4. Public transport should be more convenient.
5. You can't force people to leave their cars at home.

Discussion tactics

1. What I mean is that cars emit toxic substances that cause diseases like cancer.
2. What I'm trying to say is that there are too many cars on the roads.
3. What I mean is that public transport should be clean and comfortable.
4. What I'm saying is that people should be encouraged to use public transport.
5. Let me put it another way. Public transport is too expensive.

Unit 9

Working Parents: Should both parents work?

Understanding the main ideas

1. 1 = d 2 = a
2. a. T b. F c. F d. F e. T f. T

Tapescript

Michael: I feel sorry for kids today. So many of them are looked after by a domestic helper or go to childcare centers every day. They hardly see their parents!

Emily: A lot of people believe that children hardly see their parents these days. However, studies show that parents today spend more time with their children than parents in the past did. And that includes working parents. These days parents spend a lot of time doing things with their children in the evenings and at weekends. Besides, according to some psychologists, the quality of the time parents spend with their children is more important than the quantity.

Michael: Perhaps, but I still don't think that moms should work.

Emily: It's often said that moms should stay at home with their children. But the truth is that many can't afford to. Not only that, not all women enjoy being a full-time mom.

Michael: Well, maybe they shouldn't have children then.

Emily: Michael! How can you say that? Why should it always be the woman who stays at home? It's time that more men looked after their children.

Michael: Hmm, I don't know about that. I think that's the mother's job. I suppose I'm quite traditional.

Listening

1. So many of them are looked after by a domestic helper or go to childcare centers every day. They hardly see their parents.
2. More time.
3. He doesn't think moms should work.
4. Many can't afford to stay at home. Not all women enjoy being a full-time mom.
5. He thinks that's the mother's job.

Pros and Cons

Reasons why both parents should not work

1. Juggling full-time jobs and childcare is difficult.
2. Childcare is expensive and skilled part-time jobs are scarce.
3. Growing work pressures and parents working long hours are a threat to parent-child relationships.
4. Parents are the best people to raise their children.
5. Childcare-center staff are often badly trained and don't look after the children properly.
6. When the mother works, the whole family becomes stressed.

Reasons why both parents should work

1. Families will suffer financially if they lose one income.
2. Working and stay-at-home parents have been found to have satisfactory relationships with their children.
3. Children learn to communicate with each other at childcare centers.
4. Even working parents spend more time with their children than in the past.
5. According to some psychologists, the quality of time parents spend with their children is more important than the quantity.
6. Not all women enjoy being a full-time mom.

Discussion tactics

1. However, there is little difference between children with working parents and children with one parent at home.
2. But the truth is that they learn to communicate with other children.
3. But in actual fact, it is becoming easier for working women in Singapore to have children.
4. But the truth is that it saves money in the long run.
5. However, many women don't enjoy being full-time moms.

Unit 10

Computers: Should we continue to develop computer technology?

Understanding the main ideas

1. 1 = d 2 = c
2. a. T b. F c. T d. F e. F f. T

Tapescript

Martin: I'm reading an amazing science-fiction book at the moment. It's about computers taking over the world!

Tina: That's not so far from the truth, you know. Computers are already intelligent enough to design other computers. It won't be long before they are more intelligent than humans.

Martin: I don't think so. Humans will always control computers. We can just switch them off!

Tina: But we've become too dependent on computers. People have forgotten how to do things for themselves.

Martin: Well, we need to keep developing computer technology so that one day we can use computers to do all the jobs that humans don't want to do.

Tina: I think that computers are also harmful to the development of young children. For example, sometimes children don't learn how to play or communicate properly if they spend a lot of time using computers.

Martin: Children need to learn how to use computers because we'll use computers more and more in the future.

Listening

Tina

1. It won't be long before computers are more intelligent than humans.
2. We have become too dependent on computers. People have forgotten how to do things for themselves.
3. Computers are harmful to the development of young children.

Martin

1. Humans will always control computers.
2. We need to continue so that one day computers can do all the jobs humans don't want to do.
3. Children need to learn how to use computers because we'll use computers more and more in the future.

Pros and Cons

Reasons why we should continue to develop computer technology

1. There are many medical uses for computers.
2. Computer technology is being used to develop robotic prosthetic limbs for amputees.
3. Computers can be used to perform surgery.
4. Computers can be used to educate people.
5. One day computers will be used to rescue people from dangerous situations.
6. Humans will always control computers.
7. Computers can do jobs that humans don't want to do.
8. We'll need computers even more in the future.

Reasons why we should not continue to develop computer technology

1. One day computers may be able to reproduce themselves.
2. One day computers could take over the world.
3. Computers could become more intelligent than humans.
4. We are too dependent on computers.
5. Computers are harmful to the development of young children.

Discussion tactics

1. For example, walking rescue machines could rescue people from destroyed buildings.
2. For example, scientists have developed a robot surgeon that is more accurate than a human surgeon.
3. For one thing, they may take over the world.
4. Take, for example, the fact that children don't learn to play or communicate properly if they use computers too much.
5. Scientists like Bill Joy, the founder of Sun Microsystems, and Stephen Hawking, the famous scientist and writer, are concerned about the development of computer technology.

Unit 11

Television: Who should take responsibility for what children watch on television?

Understanding the main ideas

1. 1 = c 2 = a
2. a. F b. F c. T d. T e. T f. F

Tapescript

Mark: I went to visit my brother at the weekend. I couldn't believe what his kids watch on TV. I was shocked. A lot of the programs they watch really aren't suitable for children.

Fiona: But surely your brother and sister-in-law should check to see what they are watching? My sister won't let her kids watch TV by themselves. She either watches with them or switches it off.

Mark: They are both so busy that I don't think they pay enough attention to what the kids are watching. It's hard though. Even the programs after school can be a problem. Some children's cartoons are quite violent. I think it's time that TV companies paid attention to this issue.

Fiona: But children need guidance. It's the parents' job to find out what they are watching and only let them watch suitable programs.

Mark: And it's the TV companies' job to provide entertainment for children and adults. Parents rely on TV to entertain their children. The TV companies should help parents by making it more difficult for children to watch unsuitable programs.

Fiona: I see your point, but only parents can do that.

Listening

1. He couldn't believe what they watch on TV.
2. She either watches TV with them or switches it off.
3. They are both so busy that he doesn't think they pay enough attention to what they are watching.
4. The parents.
5. They should make it more difficult for children to watch unsuitable programs.

Pros and Cons

Reasons why parents should take more responsibility for what children watch on TV

1. Parents are the only people who can control what children watch.
2. Parents can turn the TV off or remove it.
3. Many children are not getting enough sleep because they are staying up late watching TV.
4. Television companies and parents may have different ideas about what is suitable for children to watch.
5. Television companies show what people want to watch.
6. TV programs have changed a lot.
7. Parents should find out what their children are watching and only let them watch suitable programs.

Reasons why television companies should take more responsibility for what children watch on TV

1. Prime-time TV between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. is becoming more violent.
2. Parents don't always have time to watch TV with their children.
3. Parents cannot always control what their children watch on TV.
4. Reducing the amount of violence on TV would be good for everyone.
5. Sometimes graphic clips from movies are shown when kids are watching cartoons.
6. Some children's cartoons are quite violent.
7. Television companies should provide enough programs that are suitable for children.
8. Parents rely on TV to entertain their children.
9. TV companies should help parents by making it more difficult for children to watch unsuitable programs.

Discussion tactics

1. That may be true, but parents rely on TV as a good form of entertainment for their children.
2. I see your point, but it's very difficult for parents to control what children watch on TV.
3. I understand what you're saying, but many TV programs aren't suitable for children.
4. I don't agree because it is the parents' responsibility.
5. I really don't think so because even children's cartoons are becoming violent.

Unit 12

Gambling: Should we do more to stop people gambling?

Understanding the main ideas

1. 1 = b 2 = a
2. a. F b. T c. F d. T e. F f. T

Tapescript

- Rob: I went to the casino last night. It was great fun. I even won \$150!
- Elena: Gambling is just as bad as taking drugs. It should be banned.
- Rob: Don't forget that governments and charities make a lot of money from gambling.

- Elena: I think that governments are taking advantage of people with gambling problems. They should understand that gambling is very addictive and not do so much to encourage it.
- Rob: That's why you can't just ban it. Gambling addicts need help to stop. Anyway, not everyone who gambles becomes an addict.
- Elena: But many people do—often without realizing that they have a problem until it's too late. Did you know that Australia has more gambling machines than any other country? I read in a magazine that over 80 percent of adult Australians gamble!
- Rob: But gambling addiction is not a big problem in Australia. Besides, the Australian government relies on the taxes it gets from gambling. People would have to pay much higher taxes if you banned gambling. You know the real money is spent in Macau and Las Vegas—that's where the serious gamblers go.
- Elena: I know. I don't think it's right that the economies of Macau and Las Vegas are so dependent on gambling. I think it's immoral.
- Rob: Well, I think gambling is going to become more and more popular because it has become such a huge industry. And I don't think that's a bad thing because a lot of people profit from it.

Listening

Elena

1. Governments are taking advantage of people with gambling problems.
2. Many people who gamble become addicted to gambling.
3. It's immoral for their economies to be so dependent on gambling.

Rob

1. Gambling addicts need help to stop.
2. The government relies on the tax it gets from gambling.
3. Gambling is going to become more and more popular because it has become such a huge industry.

Pros and Cons

Reasons why we should do more to stop people gambling

1. People can become addicted to gambling.
2. Gambling can ruin people's lives.
3. Gambling is just as bad as taking drugs.
4. Governments are taking advantage of people with gambling problems.
5. Many people become addicted to gambling and don't realize they have a problem until it's too late.
6. It's immoral that the economies of Macau and Las Vegas are so dependent on gambling.

Reasons why we should not do more to stop people gambling

1. Charities receive a lot of money from gambling.
2. People can win a lot of money.
3. Gambling is fun.
4. Governments make a lot of money from gambling.
5. People would have to pay much higher taxes if you banned gambling.
6. Not all gamblers become addicts.
7. A lot of people profit from gambling.

Discussion tactics

1. Plus they can have a lot of gambling debts.
2. Not to mention the fact that gambling is very addictive.
3. Besides, governments are paid a lot of tax from gambling.
4. Not to mention the fact that over 80 percent of adult Australians gamble.
5. Plus a lot of people profit from gambling.

Unit 13

Men and Women: Should men and women have equal opportunities?

Understanding the main ideas

1. 1 = a 2 = b
2. a. T b. T c. T d. T e. F f. F

Tapescript

Liz: My father is so old-fashioned. He doesn't care if I do well at college. He just expects me to get married and have children. I don't understand why he treats me so differently from my brother.

Tony: Traditionally men and women have always been treated differently. For one thing, it's women who have the children, so it's natural that women should look after them.

Liz: But women want different things now. I agree that men and women are different, but that doesn't mean we aren't equal. Women can do anything that men can. We just need the same opportunities as men.

Tony: But most women aren't interested in becoming career women. They either want to have children or they just want an easier life.

Liz: That's not true. Many women do want a successful career, but they can't because it's too difficult to have both a career and a family. We shouldn't have to make a choice between them.

Listening

1. To get married and have children.
2. Women have the children.
3. Anything that men can.
4. They either want to have children or they just want an easier life.
5. It is too difficult to have both a career and a family.

Pros and Cons

Reasons why men and women should have equal opportunities

1. Gender stereotyping can make life more difficult for men and women.
2. Not all men and women want to behave as society expects.
3. Men and women should be supported in achieving what they want to achieve.
4. Women want different things now.
5. Men and women may be different but they are equal.
6. Women need the same opportunities as men.

Reasons why men and women should not have equal opportunities

1. It's the man's job to look after the family so he should be the main breadwinner.
2. It's better for the whole family if the woman stays at home and looks after the family.
3. Men and women have different characteristics and so are suited to different types of jobs.
4. Traditionally men and women have always been treated differently.
5. Women have the children so it's natural that they should look after them.
6. Most women aren't interested in becoming career women.

Discussion tactics

1. For example, men are expected to work hard, earn a lot of money and support their family.
2. Take the way that it's difficult for women to get top-level jobs.
3. For example, men are tougher than women.
4. For one thing, they want to have children.
5. Take, for example, the way that men are more successful if their wives look after them and the children.

Unit 14**Cloning: Should we continue to develop human cloning technology?****Understanding the main ideas**

1. 1 = a 2 = b
2. a. F b. T c. T d. T e. F f. F

Tapescript

Emma: I watched a documentary about cloning last night. Apparently some researchers are getting close to cloning humans. It's not right. People shouldn't play God like that.

Jamie: I think it's exciting. Imagine it—they'll be able to clone amazing people like Isaac Newton, Beethoven and even Marilyn Monroe!

Emma: Human cloning is dangerous. Someone could clone Adolf Hitler!

Jamie: People are under the impression that someone could clone a dangerous person. In reality, it will be strictly controlled. Human cloning will mostly be used for couples who can't have children. Cloning technology has lots of benefits. Scientists will be able to clone organs that can be used to treat certain medical conditions. For instance, if you need a new kidney, they can clone one for you.

Emma: I don't think we know enough about cloning technology yet. Some studies suggest that cloning animals isn't safe. So why are we using this technology to produce human organs and embryos? It's not safe.

Jamie: The only way for scientists to find out more about cloning is to continue with their research, and that means they have to keep cloning.

Listening

Emma

1. It's not right. People shouldn't play God.
2. Someone could clone Adolf Hitler.
3. It's not safe.

Jamie

1. It's exciting.
2. It will mostly be used for couples who can't have children.
3. Scientists have to keep cloning to find out more about cloning.

Pros and Cons

Reasons why we should continue to develop human cloning technology

1. Therapeutic cloning can be used to cure diseases and disabilities.
2. Scientists believe they can clone new cells to help people in wheelchairs walk again.
3. Reproductive cloning can be used to help couples who cannot have children or families who have lost a beloved relative.
4. The same technology could be used to clone endangered species such as the giant panda.
5. Scientists could also clone livestock to allow farmers to produce more meat and milk.
6. Human cloning will be controlled.
7. The only way to find out more about human cloning is to continue with the research.

Reasons why we should not continue to develop human cloning technology

1. Human cloning is "playing God."
2. Only five percent of cloned human embryos survive.
3. Human clones could have health problems.
4. Clones may age very quickly.
5. Cloning confuses family relationships.
6. We could clone dangerous people such as Adolf Hitler.
7. Cloning animals isn't even safe.

Discussion tactics

1. In actual fact, only five percent of cloned embryos survive.
2. In reality, most scientists argue that we aren't ready to clone humans yet.
3. In actual fact, cloning confuses family relationships.
4. As a matter of fact, human clones could have health problems that become evident as they get older.
5. In reality, the only way we can find out more about cloning is to continue with the research.