

Unit 1: Strange & Unusual

Reading 1: UFOs

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Think about UFO knowledge and why governments may wish to keep what they know secret. What legitimate reasons might they have? What limitations do these secrets place upon society?

1. Why would a person want to keep their knowledge about UFOs secret? Do you think this is right?

I think a person might want to keep their knowledge about UFOs a secret because he or she
wouldn't want to get in trouble. I do think this is right.

2. Knowledge about UFOs could change the world. How could it change the world for the better? How could it change the world for the worse?

It could change the world for the better by bringing a lot of helpful technology to people. It
might change the world for the worse if that technology were used in a bad way.

3. Give two or three reasons why information should be shared or why it should be kept secret.

Information should be shared to help people, to make life better for everyone, and to interact
with new life forms.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Topic sentence (circle one): If I learned about UFOs, I [would / wouldn't] share what I know.

Supporting reason/detail 1: If I shared the information, it might scare people.

Supporting reason/detail 2: I might get into trouble if I shared the information.

Supporting reason/detail 3: It might cause trouble for the people trying to work with the aliens.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

If I learned about UFOs, I wouldn't share what I know. First, if I shared the information it could scare
people and cause panic. Second, if I shared information, I might get in serious trouble with the
government. Finally, I wouldn't share the information because it might cause trouble for people trying
to work with other countries or the aliens. I think it's better to keep very important information secret
until the right time.

READING FOR THE REAL WORLD 2

Unit 1: Strange & Unusual

Reading 2: An Insight into the Future

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Consider how technology has taken the ability to predict the future into the 21st century. What can technology accurately predict? What predictions remain in the realm of traditional divination?

1. Do you think it's good or bad to know about the future?

I think it's good to know about the future.

2. What are some advantages to future knowledge? What could be some disadvantages of knowing the future?

It could change the world for the better by bringing a lot of helpful technology to people. I might change the world for the worse if that technology were used in a bad way.

3. Do you think knowledge of your own future would influence your life today? How?

Information should be shared to help people, to make life better for everyone, and to interact with new life forms.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Topic sentence (check one): ☒ Knowledge of the future can help us make better decisions today.
☐ Knowledge of the future would make it difficult to live our lives today.

Supporting reason/detail 1: If I shared the information, it might scare people.

Supporting reason/detail 2: I might get into trouble if I shared the information.

Supporting reason/detail 3: It might cause trouble for the people trying to work with the aliens.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

If I learned about UFOs, I wouldn't share what I know. First, if I shared the information it could scare people and cause panic. Second, if I shared information, I might get in serious trouble with the government. Finally, I wouldn't share the information because it might cause trouble for people trying to work with other countries or the aliens. I think it's better to keep very important information secret until the right time.

Unit 2: Computers & Technology

Reading 1: Fighting Spam

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Think about the types of bulk emails that people commonly receive. Then answer the questions below to organize your ideas.

1. What is the difference between spamming and phishing?

Spamming is a way for companies to advertise, while phishing is a way for scammers to make money.

2. Which of the following statements describe spamming, and which describe phishing? Write "S" for spamming, "P" for phishing, or "SP" if it describes both.

P Designed to help thieves steal personal information

SP A mass email sent to thousands of email addresses

S The purpose of this is to advertise

P Encourages the sharing of banking information

P Includes links to unfamiliar websites that can access your computer

S An announcement of a great sale coming up next weekend

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Topic sentence (circle one): Spam is annoying, [and it should / but it shouldn't] be illegal.

Supporting reason/detail 1: Spam is how businesses get a lot of advertising out to people.

Supporting reason/detail 2: Spam is a simple piece of email and doesn't take up space.

Supporting reason/detail 3: Spam is not as dangerous for people as phishing.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

Spam is annoying, but it shouldn't be illegal. Spam shouldn't be illegal because it's how businesses get a lot of their advertising out to the people. Without this type of spam, we might not know about deals or sales. Also, while it is annoying, it's just a piece of email. It's not even taking up space in our homes. Finally, spam shouldn't be illegal because there are more dangerous forms of email, like phishing, that should be addressed. We shouldn't waste time on harmless spam, when there is a more harmful type of email that should be illegal.

Unit 2: Computers & Technology

Reading 2: Using the Body for Identification

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Consider the pros and cons of facial recognition software. Weigh the two to decide whether employing facial recognition software widely would help or hurt society.

1. What are some advantages of facial recognition software? How can these advantages help improve daily life?

Advantages of facial recognition software include preventing terrorist attacks and fraud prevention. They can help improve daily life by giving people an increased sense of security.

2. What are some disadvantages of facial recognition software?

A disadvantage of facial recognition software would be if there were a security breach and information was stolen. If this is the only way to provide security, it might be limiting.

3. How would you feel knowing you were being watched as you went about your daily life? Would you feel safer or uncomfortable?

After a while, I don't think it would bother me. It's nice to know that if something happened, there would be a way to find out who did it.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Topic sentence (circle one): Facial recognition software has the potential to [help / harm] society.

Supporting reason/detail 1: It could be hacked like any computer.

Supporting reason/detail 2: It could decrease our sense of security.

Supporting reason/detail 3: There is too much potential for abuse by law enforcement.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

Facial recognition software has the potential to harm society. I think this for three reasons. First, it can be hacked just like any other type of computer software. This can be dangerous if hackers steal our information and make changes. Second, this type of technology has the potential to really decrease our sense of privacy. At any given moment, someone could find out where we are. That's frightening. Lastly, I think there is too much potential for abuse by law enforcement. The technology isn't 100 percent reliable, but police might use it to pursue people who are innocent.

Unit 3: Health & Medicine

Reading 1: Xenotransplantation

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Consider the different opinions regarding stem cell research. Be sure to understand the concerns from both sides of the argument before choosing which you agree with.

1. What are the potential benefits of embryonic stem cell research? Check (✓) the things that are potential benefits. Try to add two more ideas to the list.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (✓) A better understanding of cancer | () An ability to "play God" |
| (✓) Avoiding transplant rejection | (✓) Faster healing after injury |
| () Uncontrollable division | (✓) Curing disease |
| (✓) Growing organs for transplant | (✓) A possible cure for cancer |
| (✓) Overcoming genetic mutation | (✓) Studying human development |

(✓) Alleviation of human suffering

(✓) Only possible cure for some injury

2. Think about two moral dilemmas surrounding the use of embryonic stem cells for research. Write how, if possible, these dilemmas can be addressed.

Two moral dilemmas would include harvesting fetuses, which some people consider to be the same as murder, and playing God by changing DNA. Stem cells can also be taken from other sources, which would allow scientists to avoid using fetuses.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Check the topic sentence that you most agree with.

_____ Embryonic stem cell research has potential benefits for humanity that must be pursued.

_____ Nothing can justify the taking of a human life, not even potential cures for various diseases.

✓ Embryonic stem cell research has great potential to help humanity, but it must be treated very carefully.

Supporting reason/detail 1: Stem cells can help people with bad diseases.

Supporting reason/detail 2: Stem cells can help regrow limbs and organs.

Supporting reason/detail 3: People who oppose stem cell research need to be heard.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

Embryonic stem cell research has great potential to help humanity, but it must be treated very carefully.

The use of stem cells can help people who have bad diseases. Also, stem cells can help provide new

limbs for people who have lost theirs, or new organs for sick people. But there are many people who

feel that using stem cells from embryos is wrong. Their opinions must be considered.

Unit 3: Health & Medicine

Reading 2: A Surge in Cosmetic Surgery

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Everyone is unique in some way. It's this uniqueness that shapes your life and influences the growth of your personality. In light of this, consider the following questions.

1. What are some unique facial features that would be considered common or "normal"? What are some unique facial features would be considered extreme or "abnormal"?

A unique facial feature that is considered "normal" might be a mole or freckles. An "abnormal" feature might be a big birthmark or having bad teeth.

2. How could an individual's appearance affect his or her life for the better? How could it affect an individual's life for the worse?

If a person is good-looking, he or she might have an easier time making friends. If someone has a deformity, it might make the person depressed or unable to do certain things.

3. To what extent should people be able to modify their appearance, thus modifying the effect it has upon their lives?

I think that an individual should be able to do whatever makes him or her feel good.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Check the topic sentence that you most agree with.

☐ I know a person who was born different in some way, and this difference has affected his/her life for the better.

☒ I know a person who was born different in some way, and this difference has affected his/her life for the worse.

☐ I don't know anyone born different. However, if I were born differently, I think _____.

Supporting reason/detail 1: She needs to use a wheelchair.

Supporting reason/detail 2: She is dependent on her family and friends for help.

Supporting reason/detail 3: She is angry that she will never walk.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

I know a person who was born different in some way, and it has affected her life for the worse. She has a disease that affects her use of her muscles. This person needs to use a wheelchair and will never be able to walk. She is unable to do many things that she would like to do. Even though she has good medical care and a family who loves her, she is a very angry person. She is angry and sad because she cannot walk, making it hard for her to make friends.

Unit 4: Social Issues

Reading 1: Soft Drugs in the Netherlands

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Think about the two approaches to drug policy you read about in this unit.

1. Which country is more tolerant of drug use, Turkey or the Netherlands?

The Netherlands.

2. What happens to an individual addicted to drugs in the Netherlands? What would happen to that same person in Turkey?

The government helps addicts in the Netherlands. In Turkey, addicts might be put into prison.

3. Is there a point where you would consider a government to be going beyond its proper role in determining the behavior of citizens? Where would you consider that point to be?

A government would be going beyond its proper role if it offered socialized healthcare, but required everyone to be a certain weight.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Check the topic sentence that you most agree with.

- ☒ Tough drug policies, like those in Turkey, are the only way to make sure people don't use drugs.
- ☐ Lenient drug policies, like those in the Netherlands, allow people the freedom to make their own decisions regarding drug use, while providing help for addicts.
- ☐ I would handle drug policy differently than either Turkey or the Netherlands. In my opinion, the best way to address drug policy is _____.

Supporting reason/detail 1: Turkey has had success keeping drug use low.

Supporting reason/detail 2: Strict penalties for drug users make Turkish citizens safer.

Supporting reason/detail 3: Turkey saves money by not needing as many police to look for drug dealers.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

Tough drug policies, like those in Turkey, are the only way to make sure people don't use drugs. I think this because Turkey has had great success in keeping drug use in the country very low. By making strict penalties for violating these laws, Turkey is also making its citizens safer. They are also saving money because they don't need as many police officers to look for drug dealers and users.

Unit 4: Social Issues

Reading 2: Morphine

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Consider that some recreational drugs, such as tobacco and alcohol, are currently legal in many places. Think about the questions below.

1. List three arguments for making all drugs illegal. Then list one positive and/or one negative response to each argument.

<u>a. High Crime</u>	<u>b. People using drugs at work</u>	<u>c. Health problems</u>
<u>Pro: Decreases crime</u>	<u>Pro: Better performance</u>	<u>Pro: Increased health</u>
<u>Con: More people in prison</u>	<u>Con: Need for drug tests</u>	<u>Con: Addicts afraid to get help</u>

2. What possible effects would the legalization of drugs have on a society? Check (✓) the things that are important to consider. Add two more ideas to the list.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (✓) Saving money on enforcement | (✓) Greater freedom of choice |
| (✓) Lower crime rates | (✓) Decrease in the public's health |
| () Increase in crime | () Reduced incarceration expenses |
| () Increasing burdens on employers | () Gateway to harder drugs |
| () A cultural shift | () The creation of new jobs |
| (✓) <u>Increased tax revenue</u> | |
| (✓) <u>Reducing power of cartels</u> | |

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Check the topic sentence that you most agree with.

- _____ I think all drugs should be made illegal.
- ☒ I think certain drugs should be made or be kept legal.
- _____ I think all drugs should be made legal.

Supporting reason/detail 1: Natural drugs don't harm the body any more than alcohol.

Supporting reason/detail 2: Chemical drugs are highly addictive.

Supporting reason/detail 3: Fewer people would use chemical drugs if they were able to use softer drugs.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

I think certain drugs should be made or be kept legal. Natural drugs should be made legal because they don't harm the body any more than substances like alcohol. Harder, chemical drugs should be kept illegal because they are highly addictive and can seriously harm the body. If some drugs are made legal, more people would do those than the chemical drugs.

Unit 5: Environmental Issues

Reading 1: The Spark of a New Era

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Think about your personal role in the environment. Your environmental footprint is a measure of the amount of natural resources you use. It is a respectable goal to make this footprint as small as possible.

1. How do you most often travel to the places you need to go?

I most often travel by car to get where I need to go.

2. Are there more environmentally friendly ways for you to travel?

I could take the bus or train to get some places. I could also ride with other people in the same car.

3. What are the advantages and disadvantages of environmentally friendly methods of travel? What changes would need to be made to make these methods appeal more to you?

The advantages is not polluting the air as much and saving some money. A disadvantage would be needing to depend on others for my transportation. If I were going to rely on public transportation I would need to begin my day earlier. I might even sell my car.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Topic sentence (circle one): There (are) are not] ways available to me to reduce my environmental footprint.

Supporting reason/detail 1: If I shared the information, it might scare people.

Supporting reason/detail 2: I might get into trouble if I shared the information.

Supporting reason/detail 3: It might cause trouble for the people trying to work with the aliens.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

If I learned about UFOs, I wouldn't share what I know. First, if I shared the information it could scare people and cause panic. Second, if I shared information, I might get in serious trouble with the government. Finally, I wouldn't share the information because it might cause trouble for people trying to work with other countries or the aliens. I think it's better to keep very important information secret until the right time.

READING FOR THE REAL WORLD 2

Unit 5: Environmental Issues

Reading 2: Glacier Retreat

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Think about the possible effects of climate change.

1. Does Earth's changing climate affect you personally? Is this a positive or negative effect?

Earth's changing climate affects me personally because it is a lot warmer in the summertime and a lot colder in the wintertime. I think this is a negative effect of climate change.

2. Think about how the predicted effects of climate change will change the planet. List the four effects that you are most concerned about.

I am concerned with the ice caps melting, the water levels a rising, crops failing because of less rain, and more people going hungry.

3. Choose the effect you are most concerned about. You will use it in the next activity.

I am most concerned about the arctic ice melting.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Fill in the blank to create your topic sentence.

Of the many predicted effects of climate change, I am most concerned about the arctic ice melting.

Supporting reason/detail 1: Polar bears rely on arctic ice and would be in trouble without it.

Supporting reason/detail 2: Polar bears hunt and walk on the ice, so they wouldn't be able to reach their food.

Supporting reason/detail 3: Polar bears might have a hard time adjusting to warmer weather.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

Of the many predicted effects of climate change, I am most concerned about the arctic ice melting. I am especially concerned about certain endangered animals. Because animals like the polar bear rely on the ice, they would be in trouble if it melted. They hunt and need the ice to walk to their food. Also, if the ice caps melted, they wouldn't be able to get to their food, like seals. Finally, warmer temperatures might make it hard for the polar bears to live, since they have adapted over a long time to the cold climate.

Unit 6: Law & Crime

Reading 1: Are Eyewitnesses Reliable?

I. GENERATE IDEAS

With some important issues, it is important to consider what you would do in the role of a victim. Imagine being accused of a crime you didn't commit. How can your thoughts help shape policy for people in this position?

1. Have you or someone you know ever been accused of doing something you or he/she didn't do? What was it? What happened?

My brother was accused of hitting another student when he was younger. He didn't do it, but he got in trouble with the school.

2. Imagine that you were standing among other individuals in a police lineup. How would you feel standing there?

I would feel nervous that someone might accuse me of something.

3. How would you react if you were identified as a criminal accused of a serious crime you didn't commit?

I would argue and then get a lawyer.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Fill in the blank to create your topic sentence.

If I were wrongly identified as the person who committed a crime, I would

be very upset.

Supporting reason/detail 1: I would call my parents and tell them what happened.

Supporting reason/detail 2: I would need to find a lawyer to help me.

Supporting reason/detail 3: I would tell my side of the story and show that I was not guilty.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

If I were wrongly identified as the person who committed a crime, I would be very upset. First, I would have to contact my parents and tell them the truth. Then we would find a lawyer to help us fight the accusation. Finally, I would tell the jury and judge my side of the story and provide evidence to prove I was innocent.

Unit 6: Law & Crime

Reading 2: The Presumption of Innocence

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Consider the following questions.

1. What crimes, if any, are severe enough to deserve the death penalty?

I think maybe the only crime severe enough for the death penalty is mass murder, or killing a lot of people.

2. What do you think would be proper compensation for a wrongful conviction? What factors would influence this compensation?

Proper compensation might be a lot of money. A person who's been wrongly convicted might have been in jail a long time. The person wouldn't have money or maybe even an education when he or she got out. They should be compensated for what they could have been able to do.

3. Considering that a significant number of convictions are later overturned thanks to new evidence, do you think that punishments as severe as the death penalty are warranted?

I think that the death penalty should ONLY be used for people we know, without a doubt, are guilty. Otherwise, it shouldn't be used at all.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Topic sentence (circle one): I think the death penalty [is / is not] an appropriate form of punishment.

Supporting reason/detail 1: It is never OK to take the life of another human being. That's like committing another murder.

Supporting reason/detail 2: The person might not even be guilty. Then an innocent person has been killed for no reason.

Supporting reason/detail 3: If one person is discovered to have been innocent, more cases would need to be reopened. This would take a lot more time and resources from the courts.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

I think the death penalty is not an appropriate form of punishment. My first reason is that it's never OK to take the life of another person. Doing so makes us no better than a murderer. Second, I always wonder whether the person is truly guilty. What if it is discovered later that the person was innocent? Finally, if one prisoner is found to have been innocent, it calls every other death penalty into question. This would greatly affect people's faith in the judicial system.

Unit 7: Language & Literature

Reading 1: Cupid and Psyche

I. GENERATE IDEAS

The way people interpret art and stories is often influenced by their personal experiences. As a result, interpretations may differ widely from person to person. Consider your interpretation of "Beauty and the Beast" and that of Bruno Bettelheim.

1. What did you first think Beauty and the Beast was about?

I first thought it was about a girl who falls in love with a scary monster and makes him less scary.

2. Consider the ways your interpretations of "Beauty and the Beast" were similar and different to your partner. Write four of these points in your notebook.

Answers will vary.

3. Choose one shared interpretation and one different interpretation from your list. You will use these in the next activity.

I thought it was about a monster who changes because of a girl. My partner thought it was about true love.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Fill in the blank in the topic sentence. Then circle the option that best reflects your opinion in the following sentence.

When I first heard the story of "Beauty and the Beast," I thought it was about a young girl who helps change the mindset of a monster. This is different from similar to] Bettelheim's interpretation.

Supporting reason/detail 1: I don't believe it's about children's developing sexual awareness.

Supporting reason/detail 2: The story is clearly about a girl falling in love with a monster.

Supporting reason/detail 3: The monster becomes a beautiful person because of the love the girl shows him.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

When I first heard the story of "Beauty and the Beast," I thought it was about a young girl who helps change the mindset of a monster. This is different from Bettelheim's interpretation. For starters, I don't think it's about children's developing sexual awareness. The story is clearly about a girl falling in love with a monster. The monster is changed by that love. He is able to become a beautiful person again.

Unit 7: Language & Literature

Reading 2: The Truth About Memoirs

I. GENERATE IDEAS

A hoax may be as simple as dressing like Bigfoot or claiming to have a photo of a UFO, or as complicated as creating a whole new person or culture. Consider following questions as you think about your opinion of hoaxes.

1. Some hoaxes turn out to be fun, but often hoaxes are damaging. Can you imagine a hoax that would be fun to commit? How could this hoax turn out to cause damage?

A hoax that might start out fun might be one where a person claims a famous person will be visiting the school. If people find out it's a lie, they might not react well to the person who planned the hoax.

The hoaxer might lose friends or even get in trouble.

2. Think of a famous hoax you're familiar with. What do you think was the motivation of the hoaxer? What do people think about the hoax today?

I think the motivation behind most hoaxes is getting attention. Some people may still believe the story, while others don't.

3. Think about a hoax that happened in your community or in your country. What was it, and how did it get resolved?

Some people in America think that the UFO crash in the 1940s was a hoax. The government says that nothing happened, while people continue to claim UFOs and aliens are real.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Fill in the blank. Then choose the topic sentence you most agree with.

The biggest hoax I know about is I think hoaxes are just people having fun.

Topic sentence (check one): ☒ I think hoaxes are generally harmless and fun.

☐ I think hoaxes are dangerous, and the people behind them should be punished.

Supporting reason/detail 1: Hoaxers are trying to play tricks or be funny.

Supporting reason/detail 2: Most hoaxers don't mean to harm people.

Supporting reason/detail 3: The only harm caused by hoaxes is embarrassment, which is not that significant.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

The biggest hoax I know about is the jackalope. Hoaxers say the jackalope is a cross between a jackrabbit and an antelope. For the most part, I think hoaxes are just people having fun. They are either trying to play a trick or be funny. These people don't mean to cause harm. Some people may suffer embarrassment because they fell for a hoax, but that is not serious harm.

READING FOR THE REAL WORLD 2

Unit 8: Space & Exploration

Reading 1: The Origin of the Universe

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Many people believe that modern science has unlocked many mysteries previously explored by philosophy, while others believe philosophy remains a unique area of study. Consider the questions below to develop your opinion of science and philosophy.

1. How do you define the word "morality"?

I define morality as know the difference between right and wrong and acting like a good person.

2. Why do you think people behave the way they do? What advantages do certain behaviors have over other behaviors?

I think people behave in different ways because of their personalities. They might be looking for attention for some reason.

3. Do you think science can explain why people behave in certain ways, or do you think a higher power must be at play?

I think science plays a role. For example, someone might have a chemical imbalance or a brain injury, causing them to behave in a certain way. I think a lot has to do with how a person is raised, though.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Topic sentence (check one): ☐ Science can explain human morality.

☒ There is no way that science can explain human morality.

Supporting reason/detail 1: Humans are too complex to only be explained by science.

Supporting reason/detail 2: Every experience we have makes us who we are and influences how we interact with others.

Supporting reason/detail 3: _____

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

There is no way that science can explain human morality. Humans are just too complex to be broken down by science. People who have a traumatic brain injury might act as though they have no morality. But science can't explain where morality comes from. Every experience molds us into the good or bad person we become.

Unit 8: Space & Exploration

Reading 2: Space Tourism

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Today, space travel is being addressed with both manned and robotic missions. Each has pros and cons. Think about the questions below to develop your opinion as to which approach is better.

1. What are the advantages and disadvantages of robotic space exploration?

An advantage is that robots don't need oxygen, so they would be able to work in low- or no-oxygen environments. A disadvantage is that they don't have the ability to evaluate a situation the way a human might.

2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of human space exploration?

Humans can evaluate their surroundings and make considerations based on emotion. Humans are fragile and need to be mindful to take care of their protective equipment and supplies.

3. Compare the advantages and disadvantages you outlined above. How do the advantages compare to the disadvantages?

The advantages of using robots outweigh the disadvantages. I think they are the better way to explore space.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Which of the topic sentences below do you most agree with?

___ Manned space exploration allows advantages that robotic space travel will never offer.

☒ Robotic space exploration allows advantages that manned space travel will never offer.

___ Both manned and robotic space exploration have advantages and disadvantages and should be used together for different purposes.

Supporting reason/detail 1: Robots won't get sick, and they cannot die like humans can.

Supporting reason/detail 2: Robots can gather and analyze information and data faster than humans can.

Supporting reason/detail 3: Robots don't hold the same value in society as people, so if they get lost or stop working, we don't feel sad about it.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

Robotic space exploration allows advantages that manned space travel will never offer. First, robots don't get sick or die, so they will last a lot longer in space. They are able to operate in space without food, water, or even air to breathe. Second, robots are able to gather and analyze data much quicker than people. After collecting rocks from the surface of a planet, robots can check for new minerals or organisms. Finally, robots are machines. If they get lost, it's not nearly as sad as when a person is lost or dies.

READING FOR THE REAL WORLD 2

Unit 9: Sports & Fitness

Reading 1: Extreme Sports

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Consider the following questions to develop your opinion of extreme sports.

1. What's the most "extreme" physical activity you've ever done? What happened? What's the worst thing that could have happened? How did you feel?

I tried to ride a skateboard once. I fell off and hit my head. It could have been worse—I could have broken a bone. I felt silly for trying.

2. Do you or anyone you know participate in extreme sports? What sport is it? What's the worst thing that could happen if something went wrong?

My brother likes to snowboard. If something went wrong, he might be seriously injured or even die.

3. What are the advantages of participating in extreme sports? Why do you think people do them?

An advantage of participating in an extreme sport would be the ability to really see where your physical limits are. I think people participate so they can see how well they can do.

II. OUTLINE

What are the advantages of participating in extreme sports? Why do you think people do them? Fill in the blank to create your topic sentence.

Topic sentence: I think extreme sports are fun and exciting.

Supporting reason/detail 1: Watching them makes me want to learn the sport too.

Supporting reason/detail 2: Athletes have a lot of skill.

Supporting reason/detail 3: The risk of injury makes the sports more exciting.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

I think extreme sports are fun and exciting. When I see athletes doing high jumps and tricks, it makes me want to learn the sport too. The athletes who take part in extreme sports have to be in excellent shape and have a lot of skill. Sometimes the things the athletes do look scary, and the danger of injury is real—but that just adds to the excitement.

READING FOR THE REAL WORLD 2

Unit 9: Sports & Fitness

Reading 2: Wearable Fitness Trackers

I. GENERATE IDEAS

With the rise of technology, we see opportunities to exercise through digital media. Exercise-focused video games are one of them. Consider the following questions to develop your opinion of exergaming.

1. Do you play video games? If so, what kind of video games do you play?

I don't play video games. I play computer games, which are a little different.

2. How do you exercise? Do you enjoy exercising in this manner?

I like to run outside. I do enjoy exercising this way.

3. Would you enjoy combining video gaming and exercising? What types of exercise based games would you play? Do you think that will give you the same amount of exercise as traditional exercise?

It might be fun to join gaming and exercising. I don't think that you'd get the same level of exercise this way, though.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Topic sentence (circle one): I (think) / do not think] that exergaming is a good way to exercise.

Supporting reason/detail 1: I really enjoy playing video games on my own and with friends.

Supporting reason/detail 2: I'm not good at sports, so I would like to try something like exergaming since I can stay inside to do it.

Supporting reason/detail 3: My mother worries that I don't exercise enough.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

I think exergaming is a good way to exercise. I think this for a few reasons. First, I really enjoy playing video games. I can even play with my friends over the Internet with some games. Second, I am not very good at sports, so being able to stay inside and have fun sounds great. Finally, I know my mother would like me to be more active. Exergaming would allow me to be active and play video games at the same time.

READING FOR THE REAL WORLD 2

Unit 10: People & Opinions

Reading 1: The Electronic Revolution

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Think about your favorite music. Consider the questions below to better understand why you enjoy that music.

1. What is your favorite kind of music? Do you have a favorite band or musician?

My favorite kind of music is classical. My favorite composer is Mozart.

2. What aspects of your favorite music appeal to you? Do you like the melodies or rhythms? Do the lyrics appeal to you? If so, why?

I like how much variation there is within classical music. There is a lot of emotion in it.

3. Have you ever listened to EDM? How does EDM compare to other music that you've heard? If EDM is not your favorite, how does it compare to your favorite type of music?

I have never listened to EDM. It seems like it's a lot of drum and computer sounds. This is vastly different from classical music.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Fill in the blank to create your topic sentence.

My favorite type of music is classical.

Supporting reason/detail 1: I imagine what life was like when the music was first written and performed.

Supporting reason/detail 2: All the different instruments come together to make one complete sound.

Supporting reason/detail 3: I play the violin, so I like to listen to the same type of music I enjoy playing.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

My favorite type of music is classical. I like it because it helps me to relax. I also enjoy imagining what life was like when the music was first performed. I like to think about all the different instruments playing together to create one solid sound. Finally, I play the violin, so I often play classical music.

READING FOR THE REAL WORLD 2

Unit 10: People & Opinions

Reading 2: Mandela's Fight Against Apartheid

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Consider the following questions to determine if being politically active would be appropriate for you.

1. Are there any problems in your society or in the world that are important to you?

One problem in my community is homelessness.

2. Consider the problems you discussed. Write possible solutions for each.

Answers will vary.

3. Choose the problem you care most about. You will use it in the next activity.

The problem I care most about is world hunger.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Fill in the blanks to form your topic sentence.

One problem facing the world today is world hunger, and I can change this by volunteering some of my time to help feed the hungry.

Supporting reason/detail 1: Places like churches and homeless shelters provide food for hungry people.

Supporting reason/detail 2: I can organize a food drive in my school.

Supporting reason/detail 3: I can take the food to donate at a shelter.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

On problem facing the world today is world hunger. I can change this by volunteering some of my time to help feed the hungry. Places like shelters and churches often help the hungry. I could volunteer at a shelter or church. I could also change this by organizing a food drive at my school. I could ask all my classmates to help by donating food. Then I could take all the food to a shelter or even send it to a country in need.

Unit 11: Cross-Cultural Viewpoints

Reading 1: Differing Conceptions of Time

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Consider the following questions to clarify your thoughts on high-context and low-context cultures.

1. Is it important for people who do business together to socialize and get along with each other?

No, I do not think it is important. What matters is reaching an official agreement, not the personalities of the people involved.

2. Do people often try to find errors or details in an agreement through which they can achieve an advantage for themselves?

I think sometimes this might happen, but if people want to work together in the future, they try to treat each other fairly.

3. How do you think intercultural agreements can be tailored to best fit the needs of both high-context and low-context cultures?

I think having people on both sides work to reach a mutual understanding would help. Assigning people from both teams to interpret for the others what meanings there are would help, too.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Topic sentence (circle one): My culture is a [high-context / low-context] culture.

Supporting reason/detail 1: In America, people don't like it when things are left unfinished or "up in the air."

Supporting reason/detail 2: Americans like to be sure that things are clear and understood before finalizing something.

Supporting reason/detail 3: Americans don't like it when things are left open or to too much interpretation.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

My culture is a low-context culture. In America, it is important for people to be very specific. We don't like things to be left "up in the air" as far as plans go. Also, we like to make sure we are clear when we say or understand things. We don't like it when there is too much left to interpretation.

Unit 11: Cross-Cultural Viewpoints

Reading 2: Investigating Gender Stereotypes

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Consider the following questions to focus your thoughts on whether differences between men and women are mainly biological, mainly cultural, or a mix of the two.

1. How did you form the definition of what it means to be your gender? Has your definition of your gender ever changed?

I learned what it means to be a girl from my mom. She was the first girl I knew. My definition of my own gender has never changed.

2. In what ways are men and women different? In what ways are they the same?

Men are usually bigger than women. Men have deeper voices and more hair. Both have hopes and dreams to make their lives better.

3. Do you think gender roles are pretty much the same across cultures, or are they very different? Give an example.

I think gender roles are pretty much the same across cultures. In every culture, women do more child care and men do more fighting.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Which of the topic sentences below do you most agree with?

☒ Differences between female and male gender roles are mostly due to biology.

☐ Differences between female and male gender roles are mostly due to culture.

☐ Differences between female and male gender roles are mostly due to a combination of biology and culture.

Supporting reason/detail 1: In many cultures, men are seen as providers and women are nurturers.

Supporting reason/detail 2: Men are stronger and more athletic than women.

Supporting reason/detail 3: Men are naturally more aggressive.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

The differences between female and male gender roles are mostly due to biology. In practically all cultures, men are seen as the providers, while women are nurturers. This is surely related to the fact that men naturally are physically bigger and stronger than women. Finally, men are naturally more aggressive than women. This is obvious from the fact that across cultures, men commit more violent crimes and are the ones who fight in wars.

Unit 12: Business & Economics

Reading 1: An Office Away from the Office

I. GENERATE IDEAS

With the increasing role of technology in our modern society, the job market is changing. Many companies are hiring staff to work remotely. Consider the following questions to develop your opinion of the best working conditions.

1. Do you like working with other people, or do you find having other people around you a distraction?

I enjoy working with other people.

2. Are you disciplined enough to begin work and remain working without a supervisor keeping an eye on you?

I think I can do my work without needing a supervisor to keep an eye on me all the time.

3. Would you feel lonely if you didn't have anyone to talk with during the working day?

Yes, I would probably feel a little lonely without anyone around me.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Topic sentence (circle one): I would rather work [at home alone / in an office with colleagues].

Supporting reason/detail 1: I enjoy being around other people most of the time.

Supporting reason/detail 2: I think I do more when I am not around the distractions of home.

Supporting reason/detail 3: I like being able to ask questions and get answers right away.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

I would rather work in an office with colleagues. I think this way for a few reasons. First, I enjoy being around other people. Second, I feel that I do more when I am away from my home and the distractions I have there. Finally, I like being able to ask my boss or co-workers questions directly if I have them.

Unit 12: Business & Economics

Reading 1: A Need for Censorship?

I. GENERATE IDEAS

Advertisers want to grab people's attention. They use many different tactics to achieve this goal. Sometimes ads cross the line into being offensive to some people. Consider the following questions while thinking of advertisements you've seen.

1. What are some advertising tactics you commonly see in your society?

In my country, advertisers might often use inappropriate material to attract younger people to their product. A lot of this is presented as barely dressed people doing different things.

2. Have you ever seen an advertisement that made you uncomfortable or anxious? Describe them and explain why they made you uncomfortable.

There was a commercial for chips in which an attractive woman did a bunch of gymnastics and then got a chip as a reward. It was almost like making the woman look like some performing animal.

3. Choose the most interesting advertisement and your reaction. You will use them in the next activity.

Answers will vary.

II. OUTLINE

Fill in the outline using ideas from above or other ideas. Make sure to write at least two reasons or details that support your topic sentence.

Fill in the blanks to form your topic sentence.

I once saw an advertisement for socks. It made me feel frustrated because it showed a dad dipping his kid in paint.

Supporting reason/detail 1: It made the dad look like a bad parent.

Supporting reason/detail 2: My dad did a good job working with my mom to raise me and my siblings.

Supporting reason/detail 3: Moms and dads both make mistakes, but hopefully they learn from those mistakes.

III. WRITE

Use the outline above to write your paragraph.

I once saw an advertisement for socks. It made me feel frustrated because it showed a dad dipping his kid in paint. I felt frustrated because many ads like this make dads look silly or even unable to care for their children. I know my dad did a great job raising my siblings and me. All parents make mistakes, not just dads.