CHAPTER NINETEEN

Teachers’ Guide

Recommended Grammar Link:
Making hypothesis using a variety of tenses
Focus on structure: introductions and conclusions.

Warmer activity
This is a very brief activity that aims to encourage students to think about what they put into an introduction and a conclusion. It prepares students for structuring their own introduction and conclusion in the activities.

Attività 1

The topic is graduate employment, something that students may well have an opinion about in terms of their own future plans or those of people they know. Students first read the introduction and the relevant statistics there presented; there can be a class discussion on the statistics and whether or not the students find them surprising. Only after discussing the statistics should the students look at the essay question. The discussion should then shift to analysing the statistics in terms of gender equality. The next part of the activity is twofold: firstly students should brainstorm their ideas on equality in Italy based on the statistics and make notes according to the bullet point list in the course book. Secondly, students should redraft and revise their notes choosing carefully the ideas they wish to include in their introduction. The model provided should be followed for their introduction. When they have written a first draft they should read the introductions through in groups and go back to their notes in order to decide whether the most important points have been included in the introduction.

Attività 2

In order to gain an idea of what the body of their essay would look like, but without taking the focus off introduction and conclusion writing, this and the following activity provide an overview of possible essay content. Attività 2 provides the students with interview data that they have to analyse in relation to the statistics provided in Attività 1. Students should read the two interviews, compare the findings to the statistics, and make their own notes. They should then complete the sentences for each interviewee, altering sentence 3 appropriately. This activity is structured yet gives the students the opportunity to practise the use of statistics to make assumptions and to create hypothetical sentences in an adequate academic register.

Attività 3

This activity is based on a cloze text in which students have to add the correct conjunction and change the tenses to respect the grammar rules. The ideas presented in the activity also help to consolidate the content of the body of the essay. The
writing outcome of this activity is to redraft the introduction written in Attività 1 taking into account the ideas they have decided to include in the body of their essay. In this redraft of the introduction particular attention should be paid to signposting.

Attività 4

This activity allows the students to write a coherent conclusion to the essay and encourages them to think about the function of a conclusion in an essay. The do/don’t list should be discussed in groups and there should be class feedback before the students write their own conclusion.

The extended writing activity in this chapter is split between activity 2 and activity 4. On completion of Attività 4, students should be given time to revise their introduction for before submitting the final piece of assessed writing.

Supplementary activity
Use the prompts below to encourage class discussion about graduate employment in their own countries. Ask students to make some notes and present their opinion. As an individual activity students can find out some statistics about graduate employment to include in their written work. This essay is a comparative piece of writing and therefore reflects the writing skills practised in the previous chapters of this section.

Per ricapitolare...
Come è la situazione per i laureati nel tuo paese? Conosci le statistiche sui livelli occupazionali dei laureati? Hai degli esempi concreti che potresti addurre al tuo argomento? Paragona la situazione nel tuo paese alla situazione italiana. Prova infine a formulare delle ipotesi e dei suggerimenti che permettano analisi ulteriori e consentano di migliorare la situazione esistente.