CHAPTER NINE

Teachers’ Guide

Recommended Grammar Link:
Hedging
Conditional tense
Modal verbs
Focus on Structure: Giving opinions, presenting a balanced view, adapting texts for different readership groups.

Warmer activity
The warmer is a vocabulary building activity that sets the topic of the chapter. Words may be vertical, horizontal or diagonal and may read forwards or backwards.

Attività 1

The aim of this activity is to increase awareness of writing for different readerships. It is a rewriting activity. The textual analysis helps students to think about written production in terms of readership and structure; the comparative table will help students at a lexical, syntactical and structural level to create targeted and appropriate texts. The analysis can be carried out individually at first with students discussing their ideas in groups afterwards.

Supplementary activity
Advertising: if you have access to Italian magazines, bring in a collection of adverts aimed at different age groups. If possible on some of the adverts, remove the product and ask students to guess the target age group and the product. Provide a selection for students to discuss and then initiate a rewriting activity in which students have to sell one of the products to a different age group, changing the focus of the advert, the appearance of the advert, and the wording.

Attività 2

This activity mirrors Attività 1 but in the opposite direction, changing an article aimed at adults into one aimed at children. Students should complete this activity individually and then compare results in a peer assessment.

Attività 3

This activity moves from thinking about readership, but is still based on textual analysis. Students should first read the text and note down for and against arguments. This article has been chosen to illustrate a well-balanced and opinion-free text. Assigning the paragraph descriptors to each (numbered) paragraph highlights the techniques that the author has used to create the effect of an unbiased report. The outline for the article is a useful model for Attività 4 and for other article writing activities in this section.

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The points that give away the author’s reservation towards nuclear energy are highlighted, students should note:

- Paragrafo 1: a chi sostiene… potrebbe
  «A chi sostiene» excludes the author from the group of supporters. The use of the conditional implies doubt.

- Paragrafo 6: tra… ma
  «Tra» implies that there are more advantages but that they are not listed, however the immediate use of «ma» undermines these advantages and suggests that the disadvantages are more compelling.

- Paragrafo 7: dunque
  «Dunque» at the beginning of a summary paragraph in which a number of negative points are made implies that the summing up consists of the negative points.

- Paragrafo 8: è pur vero che… ma
  The use of «è pur vero» sounds almost grudging and the use of «ma» undermines the point that safety has been improved.

Attività 4

This writing activity is structured around the outline given in activity 3 but on another form of energy. Students should follow the structure given and also be very aware of using hedging language including the use of modals, the conditional and the way in which they construct their sentences.