

Jayden: That was really nerve-wracking.

Narrator: This semester, instead of interviewing movie stars, the students are interviewing politicians and business people, so they need to work extra-hard on their research. Nico and Jayden are interviewing a successful businessman named Christian George, who started out with nothing.

Nico: So, people say there are no 'rags to riches' American dream stories anymore. What do you say to that?

Christian: There are no rags to riches? Oh, rags to riches. Well, first of all, I didn't even know English when I first decided to come to America.

Nico: It's something that really inspires me. I love when people come from something like nothing and they turn it into something; that just ... that just hits my heart.

Narrator: The students also interview important politicians like Congressman John Lewis and important business people like Yvon Chouinard, the founder of outdoor clothing brand, Patagonia. Having conversations with these important people boosts their confidence.

Ella: I'm taking away from Teen Press more confidence but also a power that you feel that you can speak to people that normally you feel like you don't have the authority to speak to.

Narrator: Being part of Teen Press has helped Jayden, and the seven other team members, to find their own voices.

Jayden: I think I learned that I actually have a story as well. I don't think I really realised that before now. I don't think I realised I had anything to say. But I feel like after seeing all these different people who have something to say I feel like I have something to say about my life and myself as well.

Unit 4

Narrator: These British teenagers go to different types of schools. Bemrose is a state school. State schools are run by the government. Warminster is a private school. Private schools are independent, and parents pay for their children to go there. Now, for one week, Warminster and Bemrose students are swapping schools to see how different they really are ... and what they can learn from each other. Brett is a Bemrose student. At Bemrose he finds it difficult to focus and he often messes around in class. But in class at Warminster, Brett has to behave better. Discipline in lessons is stricter – students who talk over the teacher are immediately sent out of the classroom. Class sizes are smaller at Warminster too, usually with only fifteen students. At Bemrose most classes have thirty students. But even though the classes are bigger, John, who is a Warminster student attending Bemrose for the week, thinks that teachers like Mr Thomas might be better than his Warminster teachers.

John: He's constantly helping you, he's walking around, he's being interactive. It's maths which is one of my less enjoyable lessons, but I really enjoy maths when I'm being taught by Mr Thomas, which is a really good thing.

Narrator: John also likes that at Bemrose classes finish at 3 o'clock so he can leave school and play Xbox. At Warminster classes don't finish until 5 p.m.! When he's at Warminster John is a boarder – which means he sleeps at the school. When Brett goes to Warminster for the week he has to share a room with John and two other boys. And every morning at 7 a.m. a teacher wakes them up!

Teacher: [*singing*] ... blackbird has spoken, like the first bird. Morning! Wakey wakey!

Narrator: At Warminster, unlike at Bemrose, students have to attend clubs and do activities in their spare time. Brett has joined the army cadets – which he enjoys. Brett thinks that the extra activities available at Warminster are a good thing.

Brett: You can concentrate on this kind of stuff because, like, it's more practical than sitting at a desk writing about stuff. I like more practical things.

Narrator: In fact, Brett likes Warminster so much, that he'd like to stay!

Brett: Everyone's so nice, man. It's, like, better than my school. I actually really do like it here. I really would like to stay.

Narrator: But Nazh, another Bemrose student who is attending Warminster for a week, isn't so keen.

Nazh: I don't think I would be happy here. I feel like if you're going to a private school you're almost, like, separated from the other half of the world. I'm not that kind of person that would want to come here.

Narrator: By doing the school swap, both groups of students have learnt almost as much about themselves as they have about the difference between private and state schools.

Unit 5

Narrator: British teenagers Joe, Faith, Sam, Alice and Ellie are visiting Cambodia in Southeast Asia. They are going to live and work with people who make some of the everyday things the children take for granted. Today, they are working in a clothes factory. They will be making onesies for high street shops in the UK. To get paid, they need to learn quickly and do a good job, just like the eight hundred people who work in the factory every day. Their first challenge is the most difficult job in the factory – sewing cuffs on the onesies. The girls are competing with the boys to see who can do the most in one hour. And they need to be perfect, or the factory will reject them! Joe is finding it difficult. And so is Alice.

Alice: Oh! I can't do it.

Narrator: But she works hard and starts to do much better.

Alice: I did it!

Narrator: Soon it's time to find out who has done better, the boys or the girls.

Presenter: So, the girls ... managed fifteen. Boys ... you didn't even manage one. Zero.

Alice: Aw, boys!

Narrator: The girls win. The boys' work is so bad that the factory rejects all of their onesies.

Joe: It's kind of embarrassing that we didn't even do one together as a team.

Narrator: So Pat, the factory boss, gives Joe and Sam an easy job next: ironing the onesies. But the boys find this difficult too.

Joe: Sam, how are you doing?

Sam: That's way too hot.

Joe: Ow, ow, ow, ow, ow. Too hot.

Narrator: Pat is not impressed by their work.

Pat: You see this one, not good.

Sam: So, I'm ironing in creases.

Pat: You have to do it again.

Narrator: The boys are much too slow – Joe has only ironed one onesie. A local worker irons 150 in the same time. It's another failure for the boys. For the final task, packaging leggings, the girls and boys are working together. But they argue with each other and do this task badly too. Five regular workers at the factory can package five thousand pairs of leggings in an hour. But our team can't even package one pair correctly. At the end of the day Pat decides which team members deserve to be paid for their work. Only one of the teenagers gets paid, Ellie, because she did really well in the first challenge. Everyone else gets nothing. The group has learned that working in a clothes factory isn't easy ... and perhaps they will think about their time at the factory when they go shopping for new clothes back home.

Unit 6

Narrator: These ring-tailed lemurs live in a zoo in Ireland. But, unlike most zoo animals, they don't live in a cage. Instead they live in a large forest area, which they sometimes have to share with visitors. And the lemurs enjoy their freedom. They love to climb trees, play with their friends and family, and eat the delicious bananas that the zoo-keepers give them. This year the lemurs at the zoo have had a record five babies! Kitty has twins, Olly and Orla. Olly and Orla are very lively. Like all lemurs, they love to play, jump around and climb trees. By exploring, the twins learn the skills they will need as adults. But play can be dangerous. In the wild, half of all baby lemurs die before they are one year old. So, Kitty needs help to make sure the twins are safe. Catherine and Louise work at the zoo on lemur patrol – they help Kitty look after Olly and Orla. If the twins go too far from their mum, Catherine and Louise bring them back to the group with tasty food! And it's not just the zoo-keepers who look after the twins – the other mother-lemurs help Kitty too, by babysitting for her. Which means every so often she can take a break to do a bit of sunbathing! And the dads help out too.

Catherine: When there's a lot of people in the park babies and mothers tend to get separated but I've actually seen a male go back, pick up the baby and take it back to its mother. So, the males do have an important role to play as well.

Narrator: These lemurs might not live in the wild, but life at the zoo can still be dangerous for babies. By working together – and with a little help from lemur patrol – the adult lemurs have happy, healthy, curious little kids like Olly and Orla.

Unit 7

Narrator: For hundreds of years, people have celebrated special occasions with cakes. But nowadays, it's not enough for a cake to look and taste good – it also needs to have the 'wow-factor'. And one way to get that is by hiring one of the UK's 'extreme bakers'. From chameleons to cows, carousels to sculptures, and dinosaurs to helicopters – they can bake a cake into any shape, for any occasion! Nastassja is creating a sculpture cake to celebrate the opening of an art gallery. It's very difficult to make – because the design has a big hole in the middle!

Nastassja: I think the artistic design on this one has definitely got ahead of my cake-making skills.

Narrator: But in the end she gets it right, and the cake is a huge success – though it does confuse some people.

Client: People that are here are asking about the cake, saying 'Is it a cake? Is it not a cake? Can we eat it? Can we not eat it?'. They're just asking questions, so, we're quite happy with the result.

Narrator: Karisha is making a very big wedding cake.

Karisha: With a 42-inch base and standing over two metres tall it is definitely for me the biggest cake that I have ever done.

Narrator: Karisha's cake has a horse carousel at the centre! The bride and groom love how it looks, and the wedding guests like the taste of it too!

Bride: It's really good.

Narrator: Extreme baker Molly is making a cake for a local show. It's the main attraction so it needs to be very special. As the show is in the countryside, Molly wants to make a giant cow cake. First, Molly builds a wooden structure to support the weight of the cake. Then she makes the cow's body out of chocolate fudge cake. It's hard work.

Molly: This bit is just a lot of work. You get quite tired after this bit. It's just building up and building up. It's just the weight we have to worry about, really.

Narrator: Next Molly makes the skin out of icing. And then she paints the cow's markings with food colouring, before adding the final touch – the eyelashes. The attention to detail makes Molly's cow the star attraction of the show.

Man: The icing is delicious. The cake is very nice. Absolutely fantastic.

Narrator: Extreme cake makers like Molly are like artists and bakers. And whatever the occasion, their special cakes always give the guests something to look at, talk about – and eat, of course!

Unit 8

Narrator: These eleven girls from the United States are preparing for an amazing trip. They are going to hike up a mountain in Peru! The girls are excited, but also nervous. Most of them have never been abroad before. Alexis is interested to see how people live in Peru.

Alexis: How they live is just amazing to me. It's not even that I'm so into travelling or anything. It's just, there's girls around the world who do the same things as I do and just ... it's just cool to get a different perspective of it.

Narrator: When they arrive in Peru, the girls enjoy the new sights and sounds. They spend time at a local school, playing with the young children. The children are very excited, and the girls have a great time too.

Kendal: It was really empowering to me to feel so important to them. I couldn't even believe how happy they were over it. It's, like, really motivating and inspiring.

Narrator: The next day the girls start on their trek up the mountain. They're joined by some Peruvian girls their own age from the local school. The Peruvian girls are used to the altitude, so the hike is easy for them but some of the American girls find it difficult. The altitude makes Alexis feel sick.

Alexis: I feel so bad.

Group leader: Don't feel bad – we're all in this together.

Alexis: I was getting, like, dizzy and headaches and stomach-aches, but like, it was more mentally, so it was mind over matter.

Narrator: So, she carries on with the help of a horse! And soon, the group reach the snow-line. It's the first time many of them have ever seen snow.

Eloise: Being able to travel to a new country for the first time and seeing snow there ...

Eloise's sister: Like, we've never seen snow before.