Unstated Ideas Answer Key

1. Possible Hidden Assumptions (examples students may identify):

1. Working from home is better for everyone.

2. Virtual meetings are just as effective as in-person collaboration.

3. Nobody values the office environment.

4. Employees naturally manage time more wisely at home.

5. Technology makes remote work seamless.

2. Why the Author Might Believe These & How They Could Be Challenged:

1. The author may believe this because remote work eliminates commutes and offers flexibility, but it can be challenged since some people need office structure or teamwork.

2. The author likely sees efficiency in online tools, but this can be challenged in industries requiring hands-on cooperation.

3. The author may assume that cost savings and convenience matter most, but many people enjoy social interaction and mentorship in offices.

4. The author believes flexibility leads to productivity, but distractions and blurred boundaries at home make this questionable.

5. The author trusts digital tools, but technology can fail or be inaccessible in some areas.

3. Sample Counterpoint: Technology issues (unstable internet, lack of equipment) disrupt remote work.

4. Absolute words like "everyone," "no one," and "truly no reason" make the author's argument sound overly rigid and biased. These words weaken the claim because they ignore exceptions and oversimplify complex issues.

5. Workers in fields that depend on in-person collaboration, such as doctors, teachers, lab scientists, or customer service staff, would disagree most strongly. Their roles cannot be done effectively through remote work, so they see the author's argument as unrealistic.

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