

ACT

非官方指南

文科卷

- 史上第一本全面解读ACT的教程
- 一书在手 36分不愁

丛书主编：潘 磊

主 编：邹燕萍 李 琼 刘逸成

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上海必赢

中国科学技术大学出版社

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内 容 简 介

对于准备参加美国大学入学考试——ACT 的考生而言,本套书是有效的辅助性教材。结合 ACT 从 2005 年至 2015 年的真题,本套书对 ACT 考试的五个科目,即英语、数学、阅读、科学和作文进行剖析,快速介绍每个科目的答题要求,并且通过对典型例题的解析来分类归纳知识点。同时,本套书中的习题部分精选自历年真题,让考生能够在阅读完知识点后进行自测。本套书分为上、下两卷:上卷是文科部分,包括阅读、英语和作文三个科目;下卷是理科卷,包括数学和科学两个科目。在本套书中,我们补充了必备的语法知识和阅读的翻译文本等,帮助考生从根本上提高英语阅读和语法实力。另外,对词汇的考核在 ACT 中的比重也相对较大,而我们在本套书中也对考生应掌握的词汇进行了汇总,真正让考生做到一本在手,考试无忧。本书是《ACT 非官方指南》的上卷:文科卷。

本书可以作为参加 ACT 考生的考前辅导教材。

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前言

2015年,我们见证了SAT(Scholastic Assessment Test)改革和ACT(American College Test)的大受欢迎,很多在沪考生都选择“SAT+ACT”的模式来体现自己的硬实力。我们在2010年首次教授ACT时就感觉到ACT教学资源的匮乏——除了官方指南(Official Guide,简称OG),就是一些知名机构的模考题目。这些官方样题和模考题目虽然有答案和一些解释,但是知识点分散,技巧讲解稀疏,没有一个强有力的归纳和总结。而事实上这是大部分中国考生在备考过程中最需要的。通过几年的教学积累和各方的筹措,2015年我们完成了国内第一套针对ACT真题进行分析和总结的教材——《ACT非官方指南》。之所以取这个名字,是因为我们研究透了官方的资料,不打官腔,全盘托出我们的教学心得。

对于准备参加美国大学入学考试——ACT的考生而言,本套书是有效的辅助性教材。结合ACT从2005年至2015年的真题,本套书对ACT的五个科目,即英语、数学、阅读、科学和作文进行剖析,快速介绍每个科目的答题要求,并且通过对典型例题的解析来分类归纳知识点。同时,本套书中的习题部分精选自历年真题,让考生能够在阅读完知识点后进行自测。本套书分为上、下两卷:上卷是文科部分,包括阅读、英语和作文三个科目;下卷是理科卷,包括数学和科学两个科目。

作为国内第一套针对ACT真题进行研发的教材,我们借助丰富的培训经验,提炼出有效的做题技巧和方法,帮助考生快速解码ACT。更重要的是,我们在补充技巧的同时,并没有忘记获得ACT高分的本质在于提高基本功。因此,在本套书中,我们补充了必备的语法知识和阅读的翻译文本等,帮助考生从根本上提高英语阅读和语法实力。另外,对词汇的考核在ACT中的比重也相对较大,而我们在本套书中也对考生应掌握的词汇进行了汇总,真正让考生做到一本在手,考试无忧。

本书是《ACT非官方指南》的上卷:文科卷,主要编写分工如下:第一篇是新ACT作文,由邹燕萍编写;第二篇是论英语之语法性,由李琼和何智孝编写;第三篇是论英语之简洁性,由石晓园和邹燕萍编写;第四篇是论英语之修辞性,由何智孝和邹燕萍编写;第五篇是ACT英语全真模拟题解析(10套),由石晓园和陶渊渊编写;第六篇是ACT阅读,由刘逸成和徐承达编写;第七篇是词汇,由石晓园和刘逸成编写。本书特邀专家诸芸、潘磊和Steven(美)对全书做了审核,感谢他们对本书的大力帮助。

邹燕萍

2016春节于上海

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第一篇 新 ACT 作文

第 1 章 新 ACT 作文概述

1.1 考试样题分析

Intelligent Machines

Many of the goods and services we depend on daily are now supplied by intelligent, automated machines rather than human beings. Robots build cars and other goods on assembly lines, where once there were human workers. Many of our phone conversations are now conducted not with people but with sophisticated technologies. We can now buy goods at a variety of stores without the help of a human cashier. Automation is generally seen as a sign of progress, but what is lost when we replace humans with machines? Given the accelerating variety and prevalence of intelligent machines, it is worth examining the implications and meaning of their presence in our lives.

Read and carefully consider these perspectives. Each suggests a particular way of thinking about the increasing presence of intelligent machines.



Perspective One

What we lose with the replacement of people by machines is some part of our own humanity. Even our mundane daily encounters no longer require from us basic courtesy, respect, and tolerance for other people.



Perspective Two

Machines are good at low-skill, repetitive jobs, and at high-speed, extremely precise jobs. In both cases they work better than humans. This efficiency leads to a more prosperous and progressive world for everyone.



Perspective Three

Intelligent machines challenge our long-standing ideas about what humans are or can be. This is good because it pushes both humans and machines toward new, unimagined possibilities.

Essay Task

Write a unified, coherent essay in which you evaluate multiple perspectives on the increasing presence of intelligent machines. In your essay, be sure to:

- analyze and evaluate the perspectives given;
- state and develop your own perspective on the issue;
- explain the relationship between your perspective and those given.

Your perspective may be in full agreement with any of the others, in partial agreement, or wholly different. Whatever the case, support your ideas with logical reasoning and detailed, persuasive examples.



审题

分析:改革后的新 ACT 作文,题干较长,审题可以分三步走:

第一步:阅读 background

考生可以将快速阅读与慢速阅读相结合,在关键词上稍作停留,比如 human workers、conversations 和 human cashier,这样就知道本文中科技可以具体运用到工作、交流和购物方面。然后提出了一个重要的问题:如果机器取代人类会怎样?

第二步:阅读 perspectives

Perspective One:负面态度。机器让人缺乏对彼此的基本尊重。

Perspective Two:正面态度。机器提高工作效率,带来繁荣。

Perspective Three:正面态度。机器促使人类不断挑战极限,带来无限可能。

总结:两正一负。

第三步:阅读 requirements

这一段的表述在每篇文章中基本类似,考试的时候浏览一下就可以了。具体来说,写作要求是:

- (1) 要有自己的观点。
- (2) 要读懂每一个题目中的 perspective。
- (3) 论述每一个 perspective。
- (4) 论述顺序或者安排要结合你自己的观点。
- (5) 请用例子、道理等各种方式充分论证每一个 perspective。



确定写作框架

Pattern One

Introduction: be in favor of intelligent machine

Body One: Perspective Two(提升效率)+论证

Body Two: Perspective Three(促使人类挑战极限)+论证

Body Three: Perspective One(机器会毁坏人性)+论证+反驳

Conclusion: in favor of intelligent machine

(注:这个模式中的内容顺序是可以进行调整的,可以调整成先写 Perspective One,然后再写 Perspective Two 和 Perspective Three。通常两个态度接近的 perspective 应放在一起写。)

Pattern Two

Introduction: be against intelligent machine

Body One: Perspective Two+论证+反驳

Body Two: Perspective Three+论证+反驳

Body Three: Perspective One+论证

Conclusion: be against intelligent machine

(注:这个模式也可以调整成先写 Perspective One,然后再写 Perspective Two 和 Perspective Three。)



落笔

框架定好之后,考生可以挑选一个自己擅长的 pattern 来写作。写该部分作文的时间是 40 分钟。根据官方发布的作文范文,满分文章的字数平均在 550 字左右。写作过程中,考生要注意,对于每一个 perspective 的论证需要做到充分、有说服力。论证方式有很多种,在 ACT 作文中,考生较多使用 reasoning 和 examples,后面我们会陆续对此进行分析。

根据我们对新、旧 ACT 作文范文的研究(后面会陆续分析),特别提示如下:

(1) ACT 考试对于孩子的反驳能力一向看重,在新 ACT 作文中依然如此,不过有弱化的倾向。

(2) 相比旧 ACT,新 ACT 考试大大提升了对于论证,特别是举证的要求。

(3) 相比旧 ACT,新 ACT 考试话题的抽象性大大增加。

1.2 评分标准和官方范文

• 30 分范文

Ideas and Analysis: Score=10

Development and Support: Score=10

Organization: Score=10

Language Use and Conventions: Score=10

分数解释:这是 ACT 考试官网在作文改革后发布的第一套题目(Intelligent Machine)

的第二档文章,最好的一档是 36 分满分,后面我们会对此进行解析。接下来这篇文章在四个评分标准中都获得了 10 分(每一个标准满分 12 分)。根据 2015 年 9 月与 10 月学生的作文成绩,这个档换算下来在 30 分左右(总分 36 分)。

接下来考生们先尝试自己分析如下文章。

Begin WRITING TEST Here

It is no secret that today's workforce no longer consists entirely of people. Rather, machines are being developed to complete many of the tasks which humans have traditionally done. This can greatly increase productivity and efficiency of simple, repetitive tasks. Many people view this as a great positive and point out that it leads to a more uniform and less expensive product which is better for everyone. However, some people are more wary of this popular trend of automating the workforce and question whether this progress is truly positive. Their concerns, though, are outweighed by the benefits these machines offer.

It is the popular view among companies which are moving toward automation that robots can do many tasks better than humans. (Perspective Two) For example, in the automotive industry, most of a car's individual components are manufactured by pre-programmed robots which have much greater and more precise output than would be possible for a human. In addition, robots cut down the cost of production by a considerable amount. If a company hires an employee to complete a simple task for \$50,000 per year but could instead buy a machine for a one time purchase of \$30,000, it is far more cost effective to buy the machine. Lower cost of production means that the goods produced can now be sold at a lower price point which passes the savings on to the consumer. Companies producing goods rightly contend that the use of machines to complete low-skill jobs has only positive impact for everyone.

Beyond these benefits for industry, some believe that machines will shape the future for the human race. (Perspective Three) Innovation and invention of new more intelligent machines can push us as humans toward new, unimagined possibilities. For example, before the first airplane was invented, people could only dream of human flight, but at the moment of takeoff, a whole new world of unimaginable possibilities was suddenly within our grasp. Through even just that one invention, an entire multibillion dollar a year industry was born, and our lives improved and advanced in a multitude of ways. Who can know what great advancements may be brought about by a more intelligent machine than what we possess today? The possibilities are endless.

There are those who are less enthusiastic about all this progress and advancement. They argue that by not having to interact with fellow humans, we no longer are required to be courteous and have tolerance for others. (Perspective One) While this

may be true, this is a minor cost for a major increase in efficiency. Take the example of self-checkout systems in grocery stores. Self-checkout permits consumers to procure their goods and get out of the store quickly. This might seem like a small time-saver, but considering how often this experience is repeated reveals a cumulative effect. Across time, consumers end up saving hours, which improves the efficiency of their daily lives, allowing them to spend time on things that are of greater interest and meaning to them.

Whether humans like it or not, machines are becoming more and more popular in the workplace and are decreasing the need for humans to work those jobs. This can lead to advancement of society, a greater end product or service, and even a lower consumer cost of goods. Many people are frightened of change, but unfortunately for them, the past is gone and now we must look to the future.

问题一: 此文的写作模式(Pattern)是什么?

问题二: 此文的论证手法是什么?

问题三: 此文就反方观点进行反驳了吗?

回答一: 此文采用了 Pattern One (in favor)。

Introduction: Their concerns, though, are outweighed by the benefits these machines offer.

Body One: It is the popular view among companies which are moving toward automation that robots can do many tasks better than humans. (Perspective Two)

Body Two: Beyond these benefits for industry, some believe that machines will shape the future for the human race. (Perspective Three)

Body Three: There are those who are less enthusiastic about all this progress and advancement. They argue that by not having to interact with fellow humans, we no longer are required to be courteous and have tolerance for others. (Perspective One)

Conclusion: Whether humans like it or not, machines are becoming more and more popular in the workplace and are decreasing the need for humans to take those jobs.

回答二: 这篇文章的中间段每一段都有例子。中间第一段、第二段都是 For example。第三段是 Take the example。同时, 中间第一段也使用了数据法, 比如数字 50 000 和 30 000。

回答三: 文章的中间第三段就反方观点进行了反驳。While this may be true, this is a minor cost for a major increase in efficiency。这个句子后面都是具体的论证。



Scoring Explanation of the Examiner

Ideas and Analysis: Score=5

This argument engages productively with multiple perspectives. By viewing each perspective through the lens of a particular ideology, the writer establishes and employs a thoughtful context for analysis. Within this context, the writer articulates and addresses implications that range from benefits for industry to efficiencies for consumers. Competing views are also evaluated within this framework of capitalist ideals. The writer grants that

intelligent machines reduce human interactions in places like the grocery store but argues that this is a good thing, as it allows for a more efficient experience for the consumer. In this way, the writer has addressed two values in tension, and an evaluation of the conflict serves to advance the argument.

关键词:engage with multiple perspectives;address two value

Development and Support:Score=5

The essay is focused on its purpose throughout; the entire response works in service of the larger argument. The reasoning and illustration in each body paragraph function to deepen the understanding of why the writer believes that the benefits of intelligent machines outweigh potential drawbacks. In using hypothetical to explain her thinking, the writer responds to anticipated questions. For example, when she claims that robots cut down the cost of production by a considerable amount, she answers the question of how with an example that illustrates the difference between the ongoing salary of a regular employee and the one-time cost of a machine. She extends the idea further by noting that decreased cost of production means that the goods produced can now be sold at a lower price point which passes the savings on the consumer, making clear the larger significance of this point. This careful thought process makes for a compelling, well-developed argument.

关键词:reasoning;illustration;well-developed argument

Organization:Score=5

The writer employs a productive organizational strategy. The introduction presents a roadmap for discussion, and this outline serves as a unifying force for the argument. The argument progresses logically: the writer first establishes benefits of the increasing presence of intelligent machines and then attempts to strengthen her case by acknowledging and rebutting a counterargument. Transitions are used when necessary and appropriate, making the connections among ideas readily apparent and contributing to a smooth, pleasurable read.

关键词:roadmap (introduction);outline;counterargument;transitions

Language Use:Score=5

This response exhibits several markers of advanced language use. Word choice and sentence structures are precise and diverse, and are used to communicate complex ideas with relative concision. A formal, academic tone demonstrates strong comprehension of the rhetorical situation and works in service of the writer's measured argument.

关键词:word choices;sentence structure;academic tone



评分标准的通俗版

Ideas and Analysis:立意与分析。考生做到看懂题目的几个 perspective,明确正、负态度,并且在文章中都有所讨论。

Development and Support:展开和论证。考生做到用 reasoning 和 examples 等手法充

分论证中间段每一个分论点。

Organization: 框架结构。考生在开头段提出一个 roadmap, 比如本文开头段的 “Their concerns, though, are outweighed by the benefits these machines offer.” 就明确给出了文章的 outline, 即写好处大过坏处, 很有可能中间就是写两个坏处、一个好处。同时注意使用 transitions 构成句间关系。

Language Use: 语言功底。考生做到词汇选择合理, 句式结构丰富, 口吻正式、学术。

(特别提示: 这篇文章值得推荐, 因为结构分明, 利于模仿。考生们可以借此提炼一个自己早期写作的思路和框架。)

• 满分(36 分)范文

请考生们看如下文章的成绩单, 每个单项都是 12 分。如果换算成 36 分制, 那么最后分数是 36 分。

Ideas and Analysis: Score=12

Development and Support: Score=12

Organization: Score=12

Language Use and Conventions: Score=12

Begin WRITING TEST Here

As technology improves, and more and more tasks are completed by machines instead of humans, the question is no longer about what we can do with machines, but rather what we should. Although the usage of machines increases efficiency and our standard of living, it detracts from the value of human life.

As machines increasingly perform all our basic tasks, society is able to produce more. The additional production adds material value to our society and frees people up from these low-skill tasks. This is in agreement with Perspective Two which claims that this industrialization leads to more prosperity. For example, in the 18th century, short-staple cotton that was grown in the Southern United States required an immense amount of labor in order to separate the seeds from the fiber to process the cotton to make it marketable. However, in the mid-19th century, Eli Whitney, an American entrepreneur, invented the cotton gin, which allowed for automation of cotton processing. This machine replaced the need of a large work force for the process and greatly improved production. As a result of the cotton gin, short-staple cotton production skyrocketed, increasing by more than 10 times in the South while bringing prosperity to the region and setting in motion a new industrial era in America. This is in agreement with Perspective Three, which says that mechanization allows for “unimagined possibilities”. Although there are clearly many advantages to industrialization, there are also some heavy drawbacks.

The replacement of humans by machines leads to the loss of value to human life,

an effect that outweighs the material gains of automation. The search to find human tasks that can be performed by machines inevitably leads to comparisons between the human and the machine. If a company executive wants to see if an inventive management team can be replaced by a robotic system, he will compare the two and determine which can do a better job. When this occurs, the people on the team are evaluated not for their worth as human beings, but for their effectiveness at performing a specific function—in essence, as we would evaluate a machine. In a larger sense, when we begin to think about humans in this way, the worth of a person's life becomes dependent on only what they can do and no longer has any intrinsic value. As Perspective One states, we begin to lose our humanity. This new mindset and way of evaluating people, though seemingly harmless in the workplace, is devastating when it begins to pervade a society. If a person is judged only on his or her capability, there is no reason for a person to remain after they have served their function. This would warrant genocide against the elderly and the disabled because their burden on society would not be made up for by any production. Although the machines may seem to only fulfill the low skill jobs at the moment, there is no barrier to prevent the machines from replacing more. As the machines increase in intelligence, they will replace any tasks done by humans and render us unnecessary and worthless.

Due to the risks of dehumanization the material benefits of machines are not enough to justify its increasing presence.

问题一:此文的写作模式(Pattern)是什么?

问题二:此文的论证手法是什么?

问题三:此文就反方观点进行反驳了吗?

回答一:此文采用了 Pattern Two (be against intelligent machine), 但是把两个相似的 perspective 直接在一段里面表述了。

Introduction: Although the usage of machines increases efficiency and our standard of living, it detracts from the value of human life.

开门见山表明观点,让步转折句型表达出作者倾向于 detract 这个方面,也就是反对。

Body One:

As machines increasingly perform all our basic tasks, society is able to produce more. (Perspective Two)

+

This is in agreement with Perspective Three, which says that mechanization allows for “unimagined possibilities”. (Perspective Three)

这一段非常连贯,论证了两个正态度的 perspective。

Body Two:

The replacement of humans by machines leads to the loss of value to human life, an

effect that outweighs the material gains of automation. (Perspective One)

这一段花了大笔墨拓展了作者赞成的负态度的 Perspective One。

Conclusion:

Due to the risks of dehumanization, the material benefits of machines are not enough to justify its increasing presence.

重述观点,承认有优点,但是因为缺点太大,所以不选择。

回答二:文章的中间第一段主要依靠举例论证。第二段大量采用了事实论证(reasoning)来说服读者。特别是 appeal both to logos and pathos,既有道理,又有道德制高点(genocide)。

回答三:这篇文章没有把重点放在反驳上面,而是专心地在论述每一个 perspective。值得注意的是,在中间第一段写完之后,要进入负态度的描述之前,加了一个承上启下的句子“Although there are clearly many advantages to industrialization, there are also some heavy drawbacks.”,这一点特别能反映出新 ACT 作文对于反驳的弱化,以及对于论证要求的强化。



Scoring Explanation

Ideas and Analysis: Score=6

The writer generates an argument that engages critically with multiple perspectives. A nuanced, precise thesis—efficiency afforded by intelligent machines is ultimately detrimental to a society and to the human race more generally—propels the argument. In analyzing the issue and its perspectives, the argument employs a number of insightful contexts, juxtaposing the historical against the contemporary and framing a number of ethical and abstract tensions (prosperity and efficiency devalue human life; material benefits carry intangible costs). Against these conceptual backdrops, the writer examines the positive and negative effects of the increasing presence of intelligent machines, along with the implications and complexities of the given perspectives.

关键词:critically;insightful;historical and contemporary;ethical and abstract tension

Development and Support: Score=6

The example of the cotton gin is simple yet effective at illustrating the writer's concession that machines have indeed contributed to the greater financial good. Elsewhere, development is oriented toward reasoning rather than driven by example. The second body paragraph uses the concept of genocide, rather than a specific example of it, to refine and support the idea that comparisons between human and machine, even in the name of prosperity, reduce and devalue human qualities and pose a great danger to society. As the argument pushes forward, critical contexts broaden—the tension is heightened when we must weigh the established benefits of mechanization, as seen through history, against the risks of a future dominated by machines—and allow for deeper insight. All told, this integrated line of reasoning and illustration effectively conveys the meaning and import of the argument.

关键词:effective example;reasoning;genocide

Organization; Score=6

This response is unified by a clear purpose. The logic of the argument is immediately apparent—this writer's strategy is based on a framework of juxtaposition, one that sets out and explores two competing values in tension. This straightforward strategy allows for a logical progression of ideas, which is realized due in part to effective transitions that lead the reader to the writer's conclusions. Examples, explanations, and references to the given perspectives are skillfully interwoven, allowing for the argument to advance even as its scope expands.

关键词:logical; transitions; skillfully interwoven

Language Use; Score=6

Conveying nuanced ideas, marshalling evidence for those ideas, establishing logical relationships—all these skills rely on the use of language. In this response, use of language is superior. Effective diction works in concert with varied syntax to relay complex notions with clarity. The writer establishes a formal, academic voice tone that is occasionally manipulated to persuasive effect—as the writer discusses the perceived dehumanizing effects of machines, her language conveys an increasing sense of alarm (devastating, render us unnecessary and worthless). In all, the command over language on display in this response enhances the argument and earns the highest possible score in this domain.

关键词:effective diction; varied syntax; academic tone



评分标准的通俗版

到了满分层面,评分标准也变得更为玄乎些。考生应特别注意考官评分中指出的几点:

Ideas and Analysis:立意与分析。除了就正、负态度都做了讨论,最重要的是考官还指出作者对于每一个 perspective 都有很透彻的理解,特别是第一个 perspective(机器如何让人们缺少人性),作者提出了 devalue human life 这样的 ethical 概念。对于第二个 perspective,说机器带来 prosperity,作者带出了 material value 这样一个深层解读。

Development and Support:展开和论证。特别夸奖了中间第一段中的 cotton gin 这个例子,中间第二段用 genocide 这个概念去论证失去人性,也特别精彩。

Organization:框架结构。特别提到作者技巧性地将每一个 perspective 都很好地区套在自己的文章中。事实上,将两个 perspective 融合在一段写需要很好的构思。事实上,对于较难的题目,这样的融合式结构会更为适用,我们将在下一节讨论。

Language Use:语言功底。除了常规地说词汇好,句型丰富,还特别指出作者在写到 genocide 的时候语气很正式、很学术,让人顿生敬畏之情。

第2章 如何写新 ACT 作文

在上一节我们了解了新 ACT 作文的评分标准和写作的一个基本思路。在四个标准中,对于大部分同学来说,难关是第一个评分标准(理解)和第二个评分标准(论证)。本节我们会把重点放在这两个标准上,通过进一步的讲解来加强理解和论证。

2.1 真题引入

The Importance of Creativity [Sept 12, 2015 Asia ACT] ①

Creativity can be defined by some as the act of turning new and imaginative ideas into reality. It is characterized by the ability to perceive the world in new ways, to find hidden patterns, to make connections between seemingly unrelated phenomena, and to generate solutions. However, the practicality and usefulness of all things described as creative is certainly debatable in today's world that is filled with an endless stream of newly created information. Do people need to be creative and is it important for living well? Should young people today be encouraged to learn creativity?

Read and carefully consider these perspectives. Each suggests a particular way of thinking about creativity and how it should be viewed.



Perspective One

Creativity is overrated. New works defy tradition and history. Real great thinkers build their ideas upon proven methods.



Perspective Two

Can one make do without creativity? Yes. But to make real progress in this rapidly changing globalized world, creativity is essential.



Perspective Three

Creativity has no clear definition. People should focus on abilities that can be accurately recognized or measured.

Essay Task

Write a unified, coherent essay in which you evaluate multiple perspectives on creativity and its view as being a necessity. In your essay, be sure to:

- analyze and evaluate the perspectives given;
- state and develop your own perspective on the issue;
- explain the relationship between your perspectives and those given.

Your perspectives may be in full agreement with any of the others, in partial agreement, or wholly different. Whatever the case, support your ideas with logical reasoning and detailed, persuasive examples.

① 题目的背景部分来自于网络,题目的 perspective 部分来自于笔者学生刘某的回忆。