差神田娛

Wonderful Essays for CET-6



大学英语广级

读写译精华文集 (押题版)

考神团队 赵建昆 主 编 王 菲 曲 根 副主编

大学英语六级读写译精华文集

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。 前 言 Preface

2013 年 8 月起,四六级考试的再次"变身",让全国千万考生心慌意乱,不知所措。回顾 几次考试,段落信息匹配题前所未见;"核电站土豪大妈"的材料让准备中国风翻译的孩子傻 了眼;"漫画式"写作突然尝试口语话题方向……诸如此类的考试风向,让那些认为四六级 "僵化""规律"目"裸考"即可成功的考生,频频遭遇考试失利。

虽然,每一个开学季,当四六级分数公布后的一瞬间,我们所编写的四六级辅导图书销量便瞬间飙升,但是,我还是想说一句,早知如此,何必当初,早点准备,善莫大焉。备考四六级,折射出的就是你的生活态度。我们不需要病入膏肓时的幡然醒悟,我们需要的是基于规划的健康人生。

所以,考神团队向你推荐这本适合所有六级备考学生随时阅读,反复品味,经常背诵,且 基于六级真题经典原文所编写的押题美文集。

这本书的独特价值在于:

- (1)材料精选自占考试比例 70%的听力和阅读原文,吃透它们,等于吃透真题,等于走上过级的正轨。
- (2)四六级及考研英语的阅读材料,均来自诸如《卫报》《经济学人》《今日美国》《时代周刊》等英美报刊,本书所有美文亦出自同源,找不到或看不懂外文刊物的学生,先看懂这本再说。
- (3)真题中题材和内容的重复是明显的。美国总统、民族问题、教育话题、环保科技等主题均为考试"熟脸"。文中频频出现的相关词汇,也一定会在下次考试里和你见面。
- (4)如果说六级真题是一剂强心针,那六级美文就是一份养料,它适合我们在假期与学期,考前与考后随时学习,并为之后考研及其他考试打下基础。
 - (5)脱离了题目的文章,仔细读读,真的是有益又有趣。

书中所有文章,我们建议的学习过程是:泛读→查阅词语→翻译→精读→听懂→选择性背诵→选择性默写。坚持以此方法消化本书5~8篇文章,你定会发现,你的词汇、阅读、听力、写作、翻译的"内力"大增。

(6)本书也是一本优秀的高频词汇记忆手册。

通过对 1999—2014 年的真题进行统计,常考高分词汇共有 2380 个左右。能够在正文美文中出现的,已经放在每篇美文的后面,未出现的,放在了附录中的"常用高分词汇"里。

让你焦躁的功利之心平静一会儿吧!因为高手都明白,真正的功夫在题外。

▲大学英语六级读写译精华文集 (押题版)>>>

如果你对本书有任何建议与心得,请告诉我们。 你可以通过新浪微博及公共微信中的以下名字,轻松找到我们: @建昆老师@曲根老师@王菲老师以及@考神团队 同学们,从现在开始和考神团队一起,剿灭六级吧!

建昆老师 2014 年 7 月

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第一章 六级美文欣赏与诵读



第一节 六级历年真题美文欣赏

Passage 1 Concerns About Global Warming 对全球变暖的担忧

Apparently everyone knows that **global** warming only makes climate more **extreme**. A hot, dry summer has triggered another flood of such claims. And, while many interests are at work, one of the players that benefits the most from this story are the media; the **notion** of "extreme" climate simply makes for more compelling news.

Consider Paul Krugman, writing breathlessly in the *New York Times* about the "rising **incidence** of extreme events". He claims that global warming **caused** the **current** drought in America's Midwest, and that supposedly recordhigh corn prices could cause a global food crisis.

But the United Nations climate panel's latest assessment tells us precisely the opposite: for "North America, there is medium confidence that there has been an overall slight tendency toward less dryness". Moreover, there is no way that Krugman could have identified this drought as being caused by global warming without a time machine: climate models estimate that such detection will be possible by 2048, at the earliest.

And, fortunately, this year's drought appears unlikely to cause a food crisis, as global rice 显然,每个人都知道全球变暖只会让气候变得更极端。炎热干燥的夏天引发了又一轮这样的论述。并且,很多利益关系牵涉其中,但从这一事件中受益最多的应属媒体:"极端"气候这一概念造就了更多引人注目的新闻。

保罗·克鲁格曼在《纽约时报》上不停地写着关于"极端事件的发生率逐渐上升"的文章。他宣称全球变暖导致了最近美国中西部地区的干旱,这估计会使得玉米价格再创新高,由此可能导致全球粮食危机。

但是联合国气候小组的最新评估显示,情况恰恰相反:在"北美,基本上可以确定,其干旱发生率整体而言呈轻微下降趋势"。此外,在没有时间机器的情况下,克鲁格曼没有办法确定这起干旱是由全球变暖引起的。气候模型估计,至少要等到2048年以后,这样的发现(即发现全球气候变暖导致干旱)才有可能。

幸运的是,看起来今年的干旱不大可能引 发粮食危机,因为全球大米和小麦的供应仍保 and wheat supplies remain plentiful. Moreover, Krugman overlooks inflation: prices have increased six-fold since 1969, so, while corn futures (期货) did set a record of about \$8 per bushel (蒲式耳) in late July, the inflationadjusted price of corn was higher throughout most of the 1970's, reaching \$516 in 1974.

Finally, Krugman conveniently forgets that concerns about global warming are the main reason that corn prices have skyrocketed since 2005. Nowadays 40 percent of corn grown in the United States is used to produce *ethanol* (乙醇), which does **absolutely** nothing for the climate, but certainly distorts the price of corn—at the **expense** of many of the world's poorest people.

Bill Mickbben **similarly** worries in *The Guardian* about the Midwest drought and corn prices. He confidently tells us that raging wildfires from New Mexico and Colorado to Siberia are "exactly" what the early stages of global warming look like.

In fact, the latest overview of global wildfire incidence suggests that fire intensity has declined over the past 70 years and is now close to its preindustrial level.

When well-meaning campaigners want us to pay attention to global warming, they often end up pitching beyond the facts. And, while this may seem justified by a noble goal, such "policy by panic" tactics rarely work, and often backfire.

Remember how, in the wake of **Hurricane** Katrina in 2005, Al Gore claimed that we were in store for ever more **destructive** hurricanes? Since then, hurricane incidence has dropped off the charts. Exaggerated claims **merely** fuel public distrust and disengagement.

That is unfortunate, because global warming is a real problem, and we do need to **address** it.

(2013年6月真题)

持充足。另外,克鲁格曼忽视了通货膨胀:自 1969年以来,价格翻了六番。玉米期货在去 年7月底确实创下了每蒲式耳(美制1蒲耳= 35.24升)8美元的记录,而在20世纪70年代 的大部分时间里,玉米的通货膨胀调整价格更 高,在1974年达到了516美元。

最后,克鲁格曼顺便还忘记了,对全球变暖的担忧正是2005年以来玉米价格飙升的主要原因。现在美国生产的玉米40%都用来生产乙醇,这与气候完全不相关,但必然会扭曲玉米价格——这是以世界上大部分最贫穷的人们为代价的。

比尔·迈克本同样在《卫报》上表达了自己对于中西部干旱和玉米价格的担忧。他自信地告诉我们,从新墨西哥州和科罗拉多州到西伯利亚一路肆虐的野火"正是"全球气候变暖早期阶段所应有的表现。

事实上,最新的关于全球野火事件的概览 表明,在过去的70年里,野火的强度一直呈下 降趋势,现在已经接近工业化前的水平。

当善意的社会运动人士希望我们关注全球变暖时,他们最终往往言过其实。而且,虽然这看上去似乎是出于一个崇高的目标,这种"恐慌政策"的战术很少能真正起作用,而且往往事与愿违。

还记得 2005 年卡特里娜飓风之后阿尔· 戈尔宣称我们准备好了迎接更具破坏力的飓 风吗? 从那以后,飓风发生的次数打破了之前 的记录。夸大的断言只会加剧公众的不信任 和离弃。

这让人遗憾,因为全球变暖确实是一个问题,而且我们确实需要应对它。

词汇注释

absolutely /ˈæbsəluːtli/ ad. 完全地;非常,极其 address /əˈdres/ vt. 处理,对付;向……讲话; 写姓名地址;忙着做 n. 地址,住址;讲话, 演说

assessment /əˈsesmənt/ n. 评估,估定;评定的款额

cause /kɔːz/ vt. 造成,引起;使得 n. 原因;事业,奋斗目标

confidence /'kənfidəns/ n. 确实性; (in)信心, 自信:信任

current / 'kʌrənt/ a. 最近的; 现时的, 当今的; 通用的 n. (水、气、电)流; 趋势, 倾向

destructive /dis'traktiv/ *a*. 破坏(性)的,毁灭(性)的,造成危害的;消极的,否定的,有害的

estimate /'estimeit/ vt. 估计,判断
expense /iks'pens/ n. 损失,代价;开支,花费
extreme /ik'stri:m/ a. 超常的,极端的
global /'gləubəl/ a. 球面的;全球的
hurricane /'hʌrikən/ n. 飓风;十二级风;飓风
般猛烈的东西;(愤怒或其他感情等的)爆发
incidence /'insidəns/ n. 发生;影响;发生率
merely /'miəli/ ad. 仅仅,只不过
notion /'nəuʃən/ n. 想法,见解,观点,意见
precisely /pri'saisli/ ad. 恰恰,正好;精确地,
精密地;准确地;确切地;清晰地;明确地;严
格地;细致地

similarly / 'similəli/ ad. 相同地,同样地

tendency / tendensi/ n. 倾向,趋向,趋势

Passage 2 Online Shopping 网上购物

In 2011, many shoppers chose to avoid the frantic crowds and do their holiday shopping from the **comfort** of their computer. Sales at online retailers gained by more than 15%, making it the biggest season ever. But people are also returning those **purchases** at record rates, up 8% from last year.

What went wrong? Is the lingering shadow of the global financial **crisis** making it harder to accept **extravagant** indulgences? Or that people shop more impulsively—and therefore make bad decisions—when online? Both arguments are plausible. However, there is a third factor: a question of touch. We can love the look but, in an online environment, we cannot feel the **quality** of a texture, the shape of the fit, the fall of a fold or, for that matter, the weight of an earring. And physically interacting with an object makes you more committed to your

在2011年,许多消费者选择避开疯狂的人群,舒舒服服地通过电脑购买节日物品。网上零售商的销售额的上涨超过了15%,是历年来销售最火爆的一季。但是,退货率也创下了历史新高,比去年同期增长了8%。

究竟出了什么问题?是挥之不去的全球金融危机的阴影使人们对沉迷于奢侈品难以接受了吗?还是人们在网上购物时更加冲动,因此做出了错误的决定?这两种说法好像都有道理。然而,还有第三个因素:触摸。我们或许会喜欢自己所看到的图片,但是在网络环境中,我们无法感触物品的质地,了解衣物是否合身,感受褶皱的下垂,同样,也无从感知耳环的重量。这种人与商品之间的身体接触使你对购买到的商品更为钟爱。

purchase.

When my most recent book Brandwashed was released, I teamed up with a local bookstore to conduct an experiment about the differences between the online and offline shopping experience. I carefully instructed a group of volunteers to promote my book in two different ways. The first was a fairly hands-off approach. Whenever a customer would inquire about my book, the volunteer would take them over to the shelf and point to it. Out of 20 such requests, six customers proceeded with the purchase.

The second option also involved going over to the shelf but, this time, removing the book and then subtly holding onto it for just an extra moment before placing it in the customer's hands. Of the 20 people who were handed the book, 13 ended up buying it. Just physically passing the book showed a big difference in sales. Why? We feel something similar to a sense of ownership when we hold things in our hand. That's why we establish or reestablish connection by greeting strangers and friends with a handshake. In this case, having to then let go of the book after holding it might generate a subtle sense of loss, and motivate us to make the purchase even more.

A recent study also revealed the power of touch, in this case when it came to conventional mail. A deeper and longer-lasting impression of a message was formed when delivered in a letter, as opposed to receiving the same message online. Brain imaging showed that, on touching the paper, the emotional center of the brain was activated, thus forming a stronger bond. The study also indicated that once touch becomes part of the process, it could translate into a sense of possession. This sense of ownership is simply not part of the equation in the online shopping experience. (2013 年 6 月 真题)

当我最近的新书《品牌洗脑》发行之时,我同当地的一家书店合作开展了一项实验,调查网上购物与线下购物的不同体验。我仔细指导了一组志愿者用两种不同的方式推销书籍。第一种方式叫"请勿动手"。当顾客询问《品牌洗脑》这本书时,志愿者将他们带到放书的书架旁并指出书籍所在位置。20位有购书需求的顾客中,有6位购买了这本书。

最近的一项调查也显示了触觉的力量。 这个案例与传统的邮件有关。与在线接收一 条信息相比,虽然是同样的信息,在寄信的过 程中能形成更深刻、更持久的感觉。大脑成像 显示,在接触纸的时候,大脑的情感中心就会 被激活,因此形成一种更强大的联系。研究还 表明,一旦接触成为这个过程中的一部分,它 就可能转化成一种占有感。而拥有感压根就 不会是网购体验中的一部分。

词汇注释

comfort / kɔmfət/ n. 安慰;舒适,安逸 vt. 使安慰;使舒服

conventional /kən'venʃənl/ a. 传统的;普通的,常见的;习惯的,常规的

crisis / 'kraisis/ *n*. 危急关头,(政治、经济上的)危机,决定性时刻;转变期

equation /i kweiʃən/ n. (~with)(数学)等式, 方程式:相等:均衡

establish /is tæbliʃ/ vt. 建立,建造,设立;确定,制定

extra / ekstrə/a. 额外的,分外的,特别的

extravagant /iks'trævəgənt/ a. 奢侈的,浪费的;过分的,过度的

impression /im'prefən/ n. 印象,感想;印次,印数;凹物,凹地;观点,见解

inquire /in'kwaiə(r) / vi. 打听,询问;查问,查 究,调查 vt. 打听,询问;查问;调查 message / 'mesidʒ/ n. 消息,信息;便条,口信 motivate / 'moutiveit/ vt. (-vated,-vating) 使 有动机;促起;激发

promote /prə'məut/ vt. 推销;(常与 to 连用) 提升;促进

purchase / 'pəttʃəs/ n. 购买,购置,采购;购置物 vt. (-chased,-chasing)买,购买,购置

quality / kwəliti/ n. 质量;品质,特性

shelf / ſelf/ n. 架子

subtle /'satl/ a. 隐约的;稀薄的;清淡的;纤细的;微妙的,难于捉摸的;奥妙的,深奥难测的;隐晦的;细心的;精细的;敏锐的

translate /træns leit / vi. & vt. (-lated,-lating) 转化;翻译,译成另一种语言(或文字)

volunteer / volən tiə(r) / n. 志愿者,义务服务者 vi. & vt. 自愿服务

Passage 3 Peter Smith's New Book 彼得・史密斯的新作

At some point in 2008, someone, probably in either Asia or Africa, made the decision to move from the countryside to the city. This nameless person pushed the human **race** over a historic threshold, for it was in that year that mankind became, for the first time in its history, a **predominantly urban** species.

It is a **trend** that shows no sign of slowing. Demographers (人口统计学家) reckon that three-quarters of **humanity** could be city-dwelling by 2050, with most of the increase coming in the fast-growing towns of Asia and Africa. Migrants to cities are attracted by plentiful jobs, **access** to hospitals and education, and the ability to escape the boredom of a farmer's **agricultural** life. Those factors are more than enough to make up for the *squalor* (肮脏),

在2008年的某一刻,某个人(很可能是亚洲人或者非洲人)决定从农村移居到城市。这位不知名的人推动人类跨越了一道历史性的门槛,因为正是在那一年,人类有史以来第一次成为主要生活在城市里的种群。

这一趋势没有减缓的迹象。人口统计学家预计,到2050年,世界人口将有3/4居住在城市,其中大部分新增城市人口来自于亚洲和非洲发展迅速的城镇。人们移居城市是受到城市中大量的工作岗位以及能够获得医疗和教育资源的吸引,此外,城市还使他们能够逃离当农民的枯燥农业生活。这些因素足以使一些刚刚移居到城市的人愿意住在环境肮脏、疾病肆虐、极度贫困的城市区域,这是很多城市新移民在最初阶段都肯定经常忍受的情况。

disease and spectacular **poverty** that those same migrants must often at first endure when they become urban dwellers.

It is the city that inspires the latest book from Peter Smith. His main thesis is that the buzz of urban life, and the opportunities it offers for cooperation and collaboration, is what attracts people to the city, which in turn makes cities into the engines of art, commerce, science and progress. This is hardly revolutionary, but it is presented in a charming format. Mr. Smith has written a breezy guidebook, with a series of short chapters dedicated to specific aspects of urbanity—parks, say, or the various schemes that have been put forward over the years for building the perfect city. The result is a sort of high-quality, unusually rigorous coffee-table book, designed to be dipped into rather than read from beginning to end.

In the chapter on skyscrapers, for example, Mr. Smith touches on **construction** methods, the revolutionary invention of the **automatic** lift, the practicalities of living in the sky and the likelihood that, as cities become more crowded, **apartment** living will become the norm. But there is also time for brief diversions onto **bizarre** ground, such as a discussion of the skyscraper index (which holds that a **boom** in skyscraper construction is a foolproof sign of an imminent recession).

One obvious **criticism** is that the price of breadth is depth; many of Mr. Smith's essays raise as many questions as they answer. Although that can indeed be frustrating, this is probably the only way to **treat** so grand a topic. The city is the building **block** of **civilization** and of almost everything people do; a guidebook to the city is really, therefore, a guidebook to how a large and ever-growing **chunk** of humanity chooses to live. Mr. Smith's book serves as an **excellent** introduction to a **vast** subject, and will suggest

正是城市激发了彼得·史密斯新作的创作灵感。他的主要观点是:"忙碌的城市生活以及这种生活提供给人们的合作、协作的社会,既是吸引人们来到城市的因素,反过步的对大、商业、科学与进步的对大大、商业、科学与进步的显示。这一观点谈不上具有颠覆性,但安部先生的形式却是那样得迷人。史密斯先生到,也来轻松愉快的指导手册,书中有回见,或者近几年来为时短,这些章节致力于描写城市风格设定,就市而推出的各种各样的方案。这种创究,或者近几年来为设设的结果就是:这本书成为一本高质量的、异常严谨的咖啡桌书籍,其设计旨在适合随便翻阅,而不适合从头至尾仔细品读。

例如,在讲述摩天大楼的一章中,史密斯先生谈到了建筑方法,谈到了革命性的自动电梯的发明,谈到了居住在高层的现实意义以及由于城市正变得越来越拥挤,居住在公寓楼里将成为一种生活常态的可能性。但是,书中有时也会出现一些奇谈怪论,作为短暂的消遣,例如对摩天大楼指数的讨论(摩天大楼指数认为摩天大楼越盖越多是经济将要衰退的可靠标志)。

对于这本书的一个突出的批评就是它只有广度而没有深度——史密斯先生的许多文章中提出的问题与他所解答的问题一样多。虽然史密斯的这种做法确实让人感到沮丧,但是面对"城市"这样一个庞大的话题,这是唯一的处理方式。城市是文明以及人能是不有行为的基石——因此,一本城市指导是关于一个庞大的、日益增长的人工,是关于一个庞大的、日益增长的,是关于一个庞大的话题起到了很出色的,等作用,它将倡导人们对"城市"这个庞大的话题展开大量的、深入的研究。

plenty of further lines of inquiry.

(2013年6月真题)

词汇注释

access /ˈækses/ *n*. 接近,使用或进入的权利, 获得(机会等);入口,通道,通路

agricultural / jægri kaltʃərəl/ a. 农业的

apartment /ə'pɑ:tmənt/ n. 公寓,住宅,套间

automatic /ˌɔːtə'mætik/a. 自动的;无意识的; 必然的

bizarre /bi¹za:/ *a*. (指态度、容貌、款式等) 奇 异的,异乎寻常的,古怪的

block / blok/ n. 大块(石料、木料、冰等);街区; 分成独立的几个部分的大建筑物;阻塞物, 障碍物 vt. 阻拦,堵塞

boom /bu:m/ n. 繁荣;景气;杆 v. (发出)隆隆声;繁荣,兴隆起来;提高

charming / 'tʃa:min/ a. 迷人的;可爱的

chunk /tʃʌŋk/ n. 大块,厚块;矮胖的人或物; 短厚木头;大量

civilization /sivilai'zeif(ə) n/ n. [C, U] 文明; 文化

construction /kənˈstrʌkʃən/ n. 建筑,建造

cooperation / kəuˌɔpə'reiʃən/ n. 合作,协作;配合;【经】合作;合作社;合作性团体;【生】(有机体间的)互助

criticism / kritisizəm/ n. 批评,评论

disease /di'zi:z/ n. 疾病,弊病

excellent / 'eksələnt/ a. 优秀的,杰出的,出色的;古典的,传统的

humanity /hju: mæniti/ n. 人性,人道;慈爱,仁爱; (单复数同形)(集合用法)人类;人

poverty / povəti/ n. 贫穷,贫困

predominantly /pri dominantli / ad. 大多数,主要地

race / reis / n. 种,种族,人种;速度竞赛,赛跑; 比赛,竞赛 vi. & vt. (raced, racing) 赛跑,与 ……赛跑;(使)飞奔;快速运动

rigorous / 'rigərəs/ a. 严厉的,严格的,严峻的; 精确的,严密的;(气候条件)严酷的

series /'siəriz/ n. 系列,序列

specific /spi sifik/ a. 特定的,特殊的;明确的, 具体的

treat /tritt/ v. 处理;对待,看待;治疗;招待 n. 款待,请客;乐事

trend /trend/ *n*. 走向,动向;趋势,倾向;时兴, 新潮;时髦,时尚

urban / 'əːbən/ a. 城市的

vast /vo:st/ *a*. 辽阔的,广大的,茫茫的;巨大的,庞大的

Passage 4 The Problem of Relying on the Unemployment Figures 依赖失业数据的问题

The report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics was just as **gloomy** as anticipated. **Unemployment** in January jumped to a 16-year high of 7.6 percent, as 598,000 jobs were slashed from U.S. payrolls in the worst singlemonth decline since December, 1974. With 1.8 million jobs lost in the last three months, there is **urgent** desire to **boost** the economy as quickly as possible. But Washington would do

劳工统计局的报告与预计的一样令人沮丧。1月份的失业率跃升至16年来的新高,达到7.6%。美国就业人数创下了自1974年12月以来的最大单月跌幅,59.8万个就业岗位遭到了削减。在过去3个月里,180万个工作岗位不复存在,人们迫切渴望能尽快提振经济。然而,在对这些严峻的数字做出反应之前,华盛顿(即美国政府)还是先做个深呼吸(冷静一下)为好。

well to take a deep breath before reacting to the grim numbers.

Collectively, we rely on the unemployment figures and other statistics to frame our sense of reality. They are a vital part of an array of data that we use to assess if we're doing well or doing badly, and that in turn shapes government policies and corporate budgets and personal spending decisions. The problem is that the statistics aren't an objective measure of reality; they are simply a best approximation. Directionally, they capture the trends, but the idea that we know precisely how many are unemployed is a myth. That makes finding a solution all the more difficult.

First, there is the way the data is assembled. The official unemployment rate is the product of a telephone survey of about 60,000 homes. There is another survey, sometimes referred to as the "payroll survey", that assesses 400,000 businesses based on their reported payrolls. Both surveys have problems. The payroll survey can easily double-count someone: if you are one person with two jobs, you show up as two workers. The payroll survey also doesn't capture the number of self-employed, and so says little about how many people are generating an independent income.

The household survey has a larger problem. When asked straight forwardly, people tend to lie or **shade** the truth when the **subject** is sex, money or employment. If you get a call and are asked if you're employed, and you say yes, you're employed. If you say no, however, it may surprise you to learn that you are only unemployed if you've been actively looking for work in the past four weeks; otherwise, you are "marginally attached to the labor force" and not actually unemployed.

The **urge** to quantify is embedded in our society. But the idea that statisticians can then capture an objective reality isn't just impossible. It also leads to serious misjudgments. Democrats and Republicans can and will take sides on a

总体而言,我们依赖于失业数据和其他数据来对现实情况作出判断。我们利用一系列的数据来判断现状是好是坏,而这些数据反过来又能左右政府政策、企业预算以及个人消费决定,失业数据及其他数据只是此类数据中的一个重要部分。问题在于,这些数据并不能客观地衡量现实情况,它们只是最佳的近似值。就方向而言,它们能够体现出趋势,但如何准确地获知失业人数还是个谜。这就使得寻求解决之道难上加难。

首先,是收集数据的方式。官方公布的失业率是对 6 万个家庭进行电话调查的结果。另外,还有一种调查方式,有时被称为"薪资名单调查",即根据 40 万家企业报告的薪资名单评估得出。两种调查都存在问题。薪资名单调查很容易把一个人算成两个人,如果某个人同时拥有两份工作,结果会显示为两个人工作。薪资名单调查也无法获取个体经营的那部分人数,所以,对有多少人拥有独立收入基本无法得出结果。

家庭调查的问题更突出。当被直截了当地问及有关性别、金钱或就业问题时,人们往往会说谎或隐瞒事实。如果你接到一个电话,对方问你是否拥有一份工作,你给予肯定回答的话,你就被认定为有工作。而如果你给出否定回答,则会很惊讶地了解到,只有在过去4个星期里积极寻找工作却无果才能算失业,否则你只是"游荡在劳动力市场的边缘",而不是真正意义上的失业。

凡事都要求用数字说话的理念已经在我们的社会中根深蒂固。而统计学家掌握客观情况也并非不可能。但这也会导致严重的判断错误。民主党人和共和党人可以,而且也会在许多问题上有一定的倾向,但更关键的问题

number of issues, but a more **crucial concern** is that both are basing major policy decisions on guesstimate rather than looking at the vast wealth of raw data with a **critical** eye and an open mind. (2013 年 6 月真题)

在于,双方都基于猜测性的估计来做出重大的 政策决定,而不是用批判性的眼光和开放的心 态来研究大量的原始数据。

词汇注释,

array /ə'rei/ n. 队列;排列;一系列 vt. 装扮 assess /ə'ses/ v. 估价,评估

boost /buːst/ v. & n. 提升,增加,提高;推进 capture /ˈkæptʃə/ vt. 捕获,俘获;夺取,占领 concern /kənˈsəːn/ n. 所关切的事,(利害)关系;关心,担心;公司 vt. 与……有关,涉及;

使担心,使关心

corporate /ˈko:pərit/ a. 公司的;共同的;全体

的;联合的 critical /ˈkritikəl/ a. 批评的,批判的;批评性

的,挑剔的;危急的

crucial / 'kru:ʃəl/ a. 关键的,决定性的 **gloomy** / 'glu:mi/ a. 阴暗的;悲观的,令人沮丧的

independent / indi pendent/ a. 独立的,自主的;不依赖······的

official /ə^lfiʃəl/ a. 官方的,正式的;官员的,公 务的 n. 官员,高级职员

product /'prodəkt/ n. 产品,产物;结果

rely /ri'lai/ vi. (-lied,-lying) 信任,信赖

shade / ſeid/ n. 树荫,阴凉处;掩盖

subject /'sʌbdʒikt,sʌb'dʒekt/ n. 主题,问题 v. 使某人(某物)经历或遭受某事物

survey /'səvei/ *n*. & *vt*. 全面考察,概括论述; 审视,研究;调查(民意等);测量,测绘(土 地等)

unemployment /'ʌnim'plɔimənt/ n. 失业;失业率

urge /ə:dʒ/ vt. 催促,敦促;怂恿

urgent /ˈəːdʒənt/ a. 紧急的,急切的,迫切的

vital /'vait(ϑ)1/ a. 充满活力的;生机勃勃的; 关系重大的;至关重要的

Passage 5 Studying on Poetry at the University of Pennsylvania 在宾夕法尼亚大学学诗歌

Eleven summers ago I was sent to a management program at the Wharton School to be prepared for bigger things. Along with lectures on **finance** and entrepreneurship and the like, the program included a delightfully out-of-place **session** with Al Filreis, an English professor at the University of Pennsylvania, on **poetry**.

For three hours he talked us through *The Red Wheelbarrow* and *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening*. The experience—especially when contrasted with the **horrible prose** of our

11 年前的夏天,为承担更重要的事情做准备,我被送去沃顿商学院学习管理课程。这个项目除了提供金融和企业管理等课程外,令人高兴的是,居然还有一门"格格不入"的课程,就是跟宾夕法尼亚大学的英语教授阿尔·费瑞斯学习诗歌。

他给我们讲了3个小时的《红色手推车》 和《雪夜林边停》。这些经历——尤其是跟我 们另外指定要阅读的讨厌的文章相比——让 我飞跑到校园书店,在那儿,我又重新开始了