

成人本科学士学位英语统一考试

# 成人英语三级考试

All in One for  
Level Three

综合辅导一本通

成人英语三级考试命题研究组 编

中国石化出版社

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# 第 章 阅读理解

## 第一节 阅读理解题型介绍

成人英语三级考试阅读理解部分包括 15 个题项, 每题为 2 分, 共 30 分, 此节旨在考查考生理解总体和特定信息的能力。要求考生根据提供的 3 篇文章的内容, 其平均长度约为 250 词, 从每题所给的 4 个选项中选出最佳选项。

与大学英语四级、六级考试、硕士研究生入学考试、WSK 考试一样, 成人英语三级考试也将阅读理解能力的测试放在首位, 测试的时间最长, 所占的分数权重最大。提高阅读速度、加强阅读理解能力是考生不可忽视的学习目标, 也是考生增进英语水平的首要任务, 因为阅读是语言输出的主要来源。

## 第二节 阅读理解解题技巧



### 一、主旨大意题

主旨大意题是全局性的问题, 也就是说只有读完全文, 了解文章的大意才能做。因此我们建议这类问题最好在做完这篇阅读理解所有问题后再去做, 因为你在做完局部性的、细节辨认性的问题后, 自然会对文章大意有一定的了解。这时再去做主旨大意题, 就可省去读全文。

#### (一) 常见的表述方式

- What is the main topic of the passage?
- With what topic is the passage primarily concerned?
- The central idea conveyed in the above passage is that \_\_\_\_\_.
- Which of the following best sums up the passage?
- The main idea of this passage is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The passage tells us \_\_\_\_\_.
- Which of the following statements best expresses/summarizes the main idea of the passage?
- What is the main idea of the passage?
- This article is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.
- This passage deals mainly with \_\_\_\_\_.
- What does the passage mainly discuss?
- Which of the following best states the theme of the passage?
- In this passage the author/writer mainly argues that \_\_\_\_\_.



- The purpose of the author in writing the article is to \_\_\_\_\_.
- What does the author intend to convey through the passage?

## (二) 解题方法

### 1. 重要位置解题法

任何一篇阅读理解文章都有一个中心思想。尽管绝大多数阅读理解文章是从一篇较长的文章中摘选下来的,但不管摘选一段还是几段,不管摘选哪几段,不管摘选长短,摘选下来的句子必须本身是自成一体的,是有中心思想的。一般说来,绝大多数文章的中心思想是用一个句子表达出来。其特点是概括性的。中心思想句到哪儿找?它在文章中的位置比较有规律,一般出现在文章的开头。

### ► 例 1

Describing learning as meaning centered reminds us that the most fundamental concern of any learner is “making sense”. In the relationship between reader and text, then, the making of meaning is primary. To describe the activities of reading and writing, we prefer the word “transacting” which “designates an ongoing process in which the elements or parts are seen as aspects or phases of a total situation.” A transactional view of reading and writing argues that writers construct texts “through transactions with the developing text and the meaning being expressed”. Transformed in the process are the text itself and the writer’s ways of organizing knowledge. During reading, readers construct texts by transacting with the page and indirectly with the author. Although reading is generally considered a “receptive” language process, this does not mean that the process is essentially passive. Readers use directions from the page to construct meaning from their own prior knowledge; the reader must read between and beyond the lines.

Like reading, the process of writing is generative of meaning; we do not simply write down ideas that are fully formed before we put them to paper. The act of composing itself bring us ideas and insights. As meaning-making processes, reading, writing and talking are dynamic; meanings are developed and changed, discovered and clarified, during the activities themselves. Iser has described this aspect of reading as “setting the work in motion” and setting oneself in motion too.

Clearly in reading and writing the learner’s prior knowledge plays an important role. There are many types of knowledge important to the acts of reading and writing. Since all meanings are made in the context of prior meanings, with each person bringing a unique fund of prior knowledge and experience, we should not expect everyone to respond to texts in the same way.

The passage is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.

- |                                 |                                      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| A. reading and writing          | B. learning as meaning-centered      |
| C. reading through transactions | D. the importance of prior knowledge |

读了第一句 Describing learning as meaning centered reminds us that the most fundamental concern of any learner is “making sense”(把学习语言描写成以意思为中心,



因为学习者最关心的就是自己说的、写的能否让人懂。)根据我们粗读和做其他题时得到的信息,这一句应是全文的中心思想。再读选项,B) learning as meaning-centered 正好和这句意思对上,因此是答案无疑了。

当然中心思想句出现在文章的后几段也有:

### ► 例 2

A wise man once said that the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing. So, as a police officer, I have some urgent things to say to good people.

Day after day my men and I struggle to hold back a tidal wave of crime. Something has gone terribly wrong with our once-proud American way of life. It has happened in the area of values. A key ingredient is disappearing, and I think I know what it is: accountability.

Accountability isn't hard to define. It means that every person is responsible for his or her actions and liable for their consequences.

Of the many values that hold civilization together—honesty, kindness, and so on—accountability may be the most important of all. Without it, there can be no respect, no trust, no law—and, ultimately, no society.

My job as a police officer is to impose accountability on people who refuse, or have never learned, to impose it on themselves. But as every policeman knows, external controls on people's behavior are far less effective than internal restraints such as guilt, shame and embarrassment.

Fortunately there are still communities—smaller towns, usually—where schools maintain discipline and where parents hold up standards that proclaim: "In this family certain things are not tolerated—they simply are not done!"

Yet more and more, especially in our larger cities and suburbs, these inner restraints are loosening. Your typical robber has none. He considers your property his property; he takes what he wants, including your life if you engage him.

The main cause of this break-down is a radical shift in attitudes. Thirty years ago, if a crime was committed, society was considered the victim. Now, in a shocking reversal, it's the criminal who is considered victimized; by his under-privileged upbringing, by the school that didn't teach him to read, by the church that failed to reach him with moral guidance, by the parents who didn't provide a stable home.

I don't believe it. Many others in equally disadvantaged circumstances choose not to engage in criminal activities. If we free the criminal, even partly, from accountability, we become a society of endless excuses where no one accepts responsibility for anything.

We in America desperately need more people who believe that the person who commits a crime is the one responsible for it.

The key point of the passage is that \_\_\_\_\_.





- A. stricter discipline should be maintained in schools and families
- B. more good examples should be set for people to follow
- C. more restrictions should be imposed on people's behavior
- D. more people should accept the value of accountability

这篇文章的中心思想句就出现在文章的第四段:Of the many values that hold civilization together—honesty, kindness, and so on—accountability may be the most important of all. Without it, there can be no respect, no trust, no law—and, ultimately, no society(在许多人类文明的价值观念中,负起责任是最重要的)。文章最后一句的总结也是这一意思:We in America desperately need more people who believe that the person who commits a crime is the one responsible for it. 使更多的人认识到犯罪的人要对自己的罪行负起责任。对照选项, D. more people should accept the value of accountability 就是这个意思。

也有中心思想句在文章结尾出现的。

### ► 例 3

The death of reading has been frequently, if not prematurely, reported. We are told that we live in an audio-visual age with radio, television, film, or other forms for ear and eye replacing the printed page. The picture is said to be faster to present, more adaptable to the message, and easier to comprehend.

How can anyone be expected to resist the tide, the torrent of competing images? Can we preserve the printed page and the art and skills of reading? Untold teachers, writers, and others have struggled to show the rewards of reading, to demonstrate the practical values, and to encourage reading for personal discovery and growth. The question is whether the dedicated have had more influence than the image-flashers. Fortunately there are some hopeful signs.

We can note the publication of more books, magazines, and papers than in any previous time in our history. Libraries report far greater use than ever before. Schools continue to show large numbers at all ages(except the young, due to a changing birthrate) seeking to attend. Even the visual media acknowledge their great dependence on the production of the printed word. Reading is not dead, dying, or seriously ill. It remains as the major avenue to individual learning and satisfaction.

If you agree with the point of view in this article you would probably \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. read less than ever
- B. rely more on visual media
- C. watch television selectively
- D. attach due importance to reading

这道题绕了个圈子,问的还是文章中心思想。根据中心思想句出现的位置和特征,我们读到文章第一句:The death of reading has been frequently, if not prematurely, reported。文章最后一句:Reading is not dead, dying, or seriously ill. It remains as the major avenue to individual learning and satisfaction. 文章第一句是说人们一直认为阅读已消亡。经过一番论述,文章最后一句总结说阅读没有消亡,相反仍然是个人学习和满足的主要途径。可见这句是文章的中心思想句。用这句意思去看四个选择项,不难发



现 D. attach due importance to reading 是正确答案。

## 2. 主题句解题法

主题句通常以判断句的形式出现,在文章中的通常位置为第一段首句、第一段末句和全文末句等地方。

### (1) 主题句在首段首句

许多文章开门见山,一开始就摆出要说明的主要对象或要论述的主要观点,接下去的句子和段落都说明或论述它。这样,文章的结构就属于从一般到具体,主题也就在首段首句。

### ► 例 4

Researchers have established that when people are mentally engaged, biochemical changes occur in the brain that allow it to act more effectively in cognitive (认知的) areas such as attention and memory. This is true regardless of age.

People will be alert (警觉的) and receptive (愿意接受的) if they are faced with information that gets them to think about things they are interested in. And someone with a history of doing more rather than less will go into old age more cognitively sound than someone who has not had an active mind.

Many experts are so convinced of the benefits of challenging the brain that they are putting the theory to work in their own lives. "The idea is not necessary to learn to memorize enormous amounts of information," says James Fozard, associate director of the National Institute on Aging. "Most of us don't need that kind of skill. Such specific training is of less interest than being able to maintain mental alertness." Fozard and others say they challenge their brains with different mental skills, both because they enjoy them and because they are sure that their range of activities will help the way their brains work.

Gene Cohen, acting director of the same institute, suggests that people in their old age should engage in mental and physical activities individually as well as in groups. Cohen says that we are frequently advised to keep physically active as we age, but older people need to keep mentally active as well. Those who do are more likely to maintain their intellectual abilities and to be generally happier and better adjusted. "The point is, you need to do both," Cohen says. "Intellectual activity actually influences brain-cell health and size."

本文以引经据典的方法强调了头脑健康,尤其是老年人头脑健康的重要性。这个中心内容在第一段第一句就已指出:人在用脑时,大脑会处于兴奋状态,这时大脑在诸如注意力和记忆力等属于认知领域的能力方面会得到有效发挥。

What is the passage mainly about?

- A. How biochemical changes occur in the human brain.
- B. Why people should keep active not only physically but also mentally.
- C. How intellectual activities influence brain-cell health.



D. Why people should receive special mental training as they age.

这道题的正确答案为 B。A 与 C 均为原文中的细节,而 D 与原文第三段第 4~5 行“... Such specific training is of less interest than being able to maintain mental alertness”相矛盾,所以都不是正确答案。

(2) 主题句在第一段末句

首段末句也是主题句常出现的地方。假若如此,这个主题句就不仅是对全文的总结,也是对第一段的总结,而且开启第二段及以后的说明或论述。简而言之,这种文章结构是:具体说明或论述(一段)→总结(一段末的主题句)→后文的具体说明或论述。

这种形式的主题句之前通常有表示总结的提示词,如:in conclusion, to conclude, in summary, to sum up, in short, in brief, in a nutshell;或表示推断的提示词:therefore, thus, as a result, accordingly;或表示转折的提示词:but, however 等。转折之后就出现主题句的情况较多,这种谋篇套路可以用“去旧取新、标新立异”八个字概括。文章中诸如“every parent”、“a popular belief”、“frequently assumed”、“universally accepted”等词句提示作者可能在下文提出一个与之不同的观点标新立异,假若如此,那么作者“标新立异”之处的观点就是主题大意。对于某一现象,过去已有解释,作者提出新的解释,新解释就是主题大意。这体现了上述的“去旧取新”原则。

### ► 例 5

Do you find getting up in the morning so difficult that it's painful? This might be called laziness, but Dr. Kleitman has a new explanation. He has proved that everyone has a daily energy cycle.

During the hours when you labour through your work you may say that you're 'hot'. That's true. The time of day when you feel most energetic is when your cycle of body temperature is at its peak. For some people the peak comes during the forenoon. For others it comes in the afternoon or evening. No one has discovered why this is so, but it leads to such familiar monologues (自言自语) as: 'Get up, John! You'll be late for work again!' The possible explanation to the trouble is that John is at his temperature-and-energy peak in the evening. Much family quarrelling ends when husbands and wives realize what these energy cycles mean, and which cycle each member of the family has.

You can't change your energy cycle, but you can learn to make your life fit it better. Habit can help. Dr. Kleitman believes. Maybe you're sleepy in the evening but feel you must stay up late anyway. Counteract (对抗) your cycle to some extent by habitually staying up later than you want to. If your energy is low in the morning but you have an important job to do early in the day, rise before your usual hour. This won't change your cycle, but you'll get up steam and work better at your low point.

Get off to a slow start which saves your energy. Get up with a leisurely yawn (呵欠) and stretch. Sit on the edge of the bed a minute before putting your feet on the floor. Avoid the troublesome search for clean clothes by laying them out the night before. Whenever possible, do routine work in the afternoon and save tasks requiring



more energy or concentration for your sharper hours.

If a person finds getting up early a problem, most probably \_\_\_\_\_

- A. he is a lazy person
- B. he refuses to follow his own energy cycle
- C. he is not sure when his energy is how
- D. he is at his peak in the afternoon or evening.

这篇文章先出现象：早晨起床困难，接着以不肯定的口吻提出一种解释，然后“but”一转，提出 Kleitman 博士的新解释：各人的精力在一天之中有个周期。这个“but”之后的新解释就是主题句。

(3) 文章首末两段均有主题句

主题句到末段才出现的情况较少，常见的情况是文章开门见山提出主题句，中间加以论述，文末复述首段的主题，这也是写作方法之一。

### ► 例 6

Attention to detail is something everyone can and should do — especially in a tight job market. Bob Crossley, a human-resources expert notices this in the job applications that come across his desk every day. “It’s amazing how many candidates eliminate themselves,” he says.

“Resumes (简历) arrive with stains. Some candidates don’t bother to spell the company’s name correctly. Once I see a mistake, I eliminate the candidate,” Crossley concludes. “if they cannot take care of these details, why should we trust them with a job?”

Can we pay too much attention to details? Absolutely. Perfectionists struggle over little things at the cost of something larger they work toward. “To keep from losing the forest for the trees,” says Charles Garfield, associate professor at the University of California, San Francisco, “We must constantly ask ourselves how the details we’re working on fit into the larger picture. If they don’t, we should drop them and move to something else.”

Garfield compares this process to his work as a computer scientist at NASA. “The Apollo II moon launch was slightly off-course 90 percent of the time,” says Garfield. “But a successful landing was still likely because we knew the exact coordinates of our goal. This allowed us to make adjustments as necessary.” Knowing where we want to go helps us judge the importance of every task we undertake. Too often we believe what accounts for others’ success is some special secret or a lucky break (机遇). But rarely is success so mysterious. Again and again, we see that by doing little things within our grasp well, large rewards follow.

Which of the following is the author’s advice to the reader?

- A. Although too much attention to details may be costly, they should not be overlooked.
- B. Don’t forget details when drawing pictures.



C. Be aware of the importance of a task before undertaking it.

D. Careless applicants are not to be trusted.

题干问作者对读者的建议,其实就是问文章的主题。本文开头提出要成就一番大事业,必须从小事做起。中间几段分别从使用沾满墨迹的求职履历表遭淘汰、小事与大事的辩证关系及其例证两个方面论证主题。文章最后呼应文章开头的主题:任何人取得成功都是靠一点一滴做出来的,成功的秘密只有一条:千里之行,始于足下。因此 A 为正确答案,而 B、C、D 均无法由文章本身推出,为错误答案。

(4) 主题句在文章中间

主题句出现在文章中间的情况也有,而且通常在第二段。倘若如此,文章的逻辑结构通常属于下面两种中的一种。

a. 从现象(或问题)到主题,再阐述或论证;

b. 从一个观点(旧观点或大众观点,即作者要驳斥的观点)到主题(新观点,即作者观点),再阐述或论证。属于这种逻辑结构的,往往伴有表示转折的提示词,如 but, however 等。

### ► 例 7

For some time past it has been widely accepted that babies—and other creatures—learn to do things because certain acts lead to “rewards”; and there is no reason to doubt that this is true. But it used also to be widely believed that effective rewards, at least in the early stages, had to be directly related to such basic physiological (生理的) “drives” as thirst or hunger. In other words, a baby would learn if he got food or drink or some sort of physical comfort, not otherwise.

It is now clear that this is not so. Babies will learn to behave in ways that produce results in the world with no reward except the successful outcome.

Papousek began his studies by using milk in the normal way to “reward” the babies and so teach them to carry out some simple movements, such as turning the head to one side or the other. Then he noticed that a baby who had had enough to drink would refuse the milk but would still go on making the learned response with clear signs of pleasure. So he began to study the children’s responses in situations where no milk was provided. He quickly found that children as young as four months would learn to turn their heads to right or left if the movement “switched on” a display of lights—and indeed that they were capable of learning quite complex turns to bring about this result, for instance, two left or two right, or even to make as many as three turns to one side.

Papousek’s light display was placed directly in front of the babies and he made the interesting observation that sometimes they would not turn back to watch the lights closely although they would “smile and bubble” when the display came on. Papousek concluded that it was not primarily the sight of the lights which pleased them, it was the success they were achieving in solving the problem, in mastering the skill, and that there exists a fundamental human urge to make sense of the world and bring it un-



der intentional control.

Papousek noticed in his studies that a baby \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. would make learned responses when it saw the milk
- B. would carry out learned movements when it had enough to drink
- C. would continue the simple movements without being given milk
- D. would turn its head to right or left when it had enough to drink

这篇文章开始指出人们以往接受的一种观点(老观点):婴儿(其他生物也是一样)学做某些事(动作),是因为做这些事(动作)可以得到“奖赏”;随后进一步指出,过去人们普遍认为(老观点):这种“产生预期效果的奖赏”都和满足诸如口渴、饥饿等关于人的“基本生理需要”直接相关。

在第二段一开始,作者指出(新观点):情况并非如此。婴儿学做某种动作,是想让这些动作在周围世界产生结果,而不是为了得到单纯满足生理需要的“奖赏”。

第三段和第四段讨论 Papousek 的实验,并得出结论:人类自身存在着一种内在的了解世界并力图对其有意识地加以控制的欲望。

由上可知,本文的结构属于从旧观点到主题(新观点),再论证。主题句为第二段的第二句话。



## 二、标题题

推测文章标题题目的问题比较简单,如

Which of the following would be the best title for the passage?

The best title for this passage would be \_\_\_\_\_.

做这种题和做文章主旨大意题是一样的,只要抓住文章中心思想,就不难对上答案。所不同的是推测文章大意题的选项是一个句子,或较长的词组,因而较易理解,较易和文章的中心思想对上;而推测文章标题的选项只有几个词,是对文章中心思想的高度概括,因而较难理解。一般说来,一篇阅读理解文章要么出现推测文章标题的问题,要么出现推测文章大意题,不可能两种问题同时出现,因此,可放在最后,等做完这篇阅读理解的所有问题后再做,这样可以依靠前几题提供的线索来判断。

### 1. 文章标题题目相当于文章主旨题

问标题的题也是一种主旨题,与主旨题的做题方法和技巧完全一样。二者的差别主要体现于选项的形式:主旨题的答案通常以一句话表示,而问标题的答案大多为一个名词词组。

### ► 例 8

The origin of America's colour problem today lies in a great crime against humanity, committed long ago. The black population is a little over twenty million, or one-tenth of the whole. Nine tenths of the black people are the offsprings of Africans brought to American as slaves in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Nearly all their offsprings were kept in legal slavery in the south until 1865. The background of complaints cannot easily be wiped out, and it has been kept alive by unpleasant memo-



ries from a more recent period. During the last hundred years of British rule steady and increasing flow of Africans were carried across the Atlantic to the West Indies and the American mainland, there to be sold as slaves. The ships were designed so as to provide space for the greatest possible number of human beings on the westward journey, and to carry freight on the return. The colonies protested constantly against this immoral activity but their attempts to stop it were in vain. The census of 1790 reported a total of about 700,000 slaves in the United States, of whom 300,000 were in Virginia, 200,000 in the Carolines 100,000 in Maryland. Before 1800 every state had prohibited the traffic, though it continued illegally. In 1763—1767 a line had been drawn by two English surveyors, Mason and Dixon, dividing the commercial or farming states to the north from the plantation states to the south. The main part of the line followed the boundary between Maryland and Pennsylvania, though Delaware was included in the northern region. In the states north of the Mason-Dixon line slavery had been effectively abolished by 1800, but it continued in the southern states.

The best title for this passage might be \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Slavery in the Southern States of America by 1800
- B. A Great Crime against Humanity
- C. Descendents of Black People in America
- D. The Background of the Colour Problem in America

显然文章第一句 The origin of America's colour problem today lies in a great crime against humanity, committed long ago. (美国种族问题的根源是很久以前他对人类犯下的极大罪行。)是全文中心思想句。对照选项, D. The Background of the Colour Problem in America 这一标题概括了这一中心思想。

2. 归纳各段落大意

### ► 例 9

A rapid means of long-distance transportation became a necessity for the United States as settlement (新拓居地) spread ever farther westward. The early trains were impractical curiosities, and for a long time the railroad companies met with troublesome mechanical problems. The most serious ones were the construction of rails able to bear the load, and the development of a safe, effective stopping system. Once these were solved, the railroad was established as the best means of land transportation. By 1860 there were thousands of miles of railroads crossing the eastern mountain ranges and reaching westward to the Mississippi. There were also regional southern and western lines.

The high point in railroad building came with the construction of the first transcontinental system. In 1862 Congress authorized two western railroad companies to build lines from Nebraska westward and from California eastward to a meeting point, so as to complete a transcontinental crossing linking the Atlantic seaboard with the Pacific. The Government helped the railroads generously with money and land. Actual





work on this project began four years later. The Central Pacific Company, starting from California, used Chinese labor, while the Union Pacific employed crews of Irish labourers. The two groups worked at remarkable speed, each trying to cover a greater distance than the other. In 1869 they met at a place called Promontory in what is now the state of Utah. Many visitors came there for the great occasion. There were joyous celebrations all over the country, with parades and the ringing of church bells to honor the great achievement.

The railroad was very important in encouraging westward movement. It also helped build up industry and farming by moving raw materials and by distributing products rapidly to distant markets. In linking towns and people to one another it helped unify the United States.

The best title for this passage would be \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Settlements Spread Westward
- B. The Coast-to-Coast Railroad: A Vital Link
- C. American Railroad History
- D. The Importance of Railroads in the American Economy

A 为本文细节,因此不对。C 说的是美国铁路史,而本文仅从一个侧面反映美国铁路的发展,因此 C 也是错的。D 泛指美国铁路,而原文三段只是指 transcontinental railway 在美国经济上有重要作用,所以也错了。只有 B 可以做本文的标题,因为它恰如其分地涵括了本文的中心思想:横贯美国的铁路在开发西部、发展工农业生产和统一美国等方面起到了纽带作用(a vital link)。

标题必须反映文章的中心大意,而且只能反映文章的中心大意,这就要求选项的归纳范围要恰如其分,既不能只提及文中的一个细节,也不能将文章以外的内容概括其中。

### 3. 总结

做标题的关键是能找出恰如其分概括文中所阐述的内容的题目,不能以偏概全。要提高解答这类题目的能力,可以从以下几个方面入手。

(1) 树立大局观念。阅读理解就像下围棋,要从大处着眼,小处着手。注意不要纠缠于个别的字句,大可大刀阔斧,进行宏观俯视。要交叉使用略读(skimming)和查读(scanning)两种方法,把握文章的中心思想。

(2) 分析结构特点。文章都有一定的结构,诸如演绎法、归纳法、层层深入法等等。在把握文章大意的基础上,注意分析文章各个部分之间的逻辑关系,有助于发现作者的真正意图,从而找出最恰当的标题。

(3) 增强判别能力。作者在论证一个观点时,有时会从反面或侧面提供证据;或者找到一个相反的观点,进行分析驳斥,先破后立;或者引经据典,他山之石可以攻玉;或者在绕了很大圈子后才亮出最终观点等等。这时需要提高警惕,沉着应战,去伪存真,去粗存精,正确理解文章的主旨。



## 三、写作目的题

推测作者写作目的的题目往往是这样问的。





The author's main purpose in writing the passage is to \_\_\_\_\_.

The author writes this passage to \_\_\_\_\_.

The author in this passage tends to \_\_\_\_\_.

推测写作目的题和了解文章大意题有所不同,后者要知道文章讲什么,中心思想是什么。而前者要知道写文章是为了什么,达到什么目的。例如有一篇讲美国离婚问题的文章。中心思想可能是高离婚率对美国社会、家庭、当事者和孩子的影响,而写这篇文章的目的可能是要社会引起关注或要人们对离婚十分谨慎。因此,这种题比了解文章大意题更难解答,它不仅要求了解内容,还要了解作者的口气,分析作者的论述方法,这样才能推断出写作目的。例如以下短句表达了作者不同的用意。

To argue a belief,文章作者摆事实,讲道理,论证自己的观点。

To inform people of something,文章作者只介绍和传递信息,并不发表自己看法。

To illustrate the significance/importance,文章作者会从多方面阐述意义或重要性。

To warn people of certain danger,文章作者会分析该事物的后果,危害性。

To analyse the causes of something,文章作者会从间接和直接或平行几方面分析原因或因素。

To describe certain problems/phenomena,文章作者会用事实、数据、例证或生动的形象描写。

To give people a piece of advise,文章作者用祈使句较多。告诉方法、做法等。

To propose a solution,文章作者会阐明某种建议或解决方法的可行性、优点等。

### ► 例 10

Most individual stockmarket investors, particularly in Asia, are speculators who want to pit their wits against the market at large. They share British entrepreneur Jim Slater's view that "a long-term investment is a short-term investment gone wrong," and look for the big, quick profits which can be made when share prices are driven up by important new information about a company's business, for instance the announcement of a takeover bid.

Official market-moving announcements of this kind are frequently foreshadowed by unofficial rumours. Buying or selling on the basis of such "inside" information violates the rules of most stockmarkets, but is widely practised and hard to document. Sometimes a rumour may be spread deliberately for the purpose of artificially raising a share price, usually by investors who hold shares which they want to sell. This is the so-called "ramp".

Speculative situations tend to produce the highest rewards, but they also carry with them the highest risk: the profits made by the first people into a ramp are only as big as the losses made by those who get in last. The merit of analysing companies before plunging headlong into buying their shares is that it helps limit the "downside" of any investment—the amount of money you stand to lose if your investment goes wrong. Companies which have good saleable assets and steady cash earnings may fall periodically out of favour with the stockmarket, but they are unlikely to collapse alto-