

● 背诵，是我们记忆和理解一段文字常采用的方式。将优美的文字和短语记在心中，用时才能信手拈来。中文如此，英文也一样。背诵一些英文佳作，可以帮助我们了解和掌握文章的结构，扩大词汇量。

COMPOSITIONS OF 50 TOPICS FOR RECITING

# 英语作文

## 50主题背诵

Betty Kirkpatrick

著

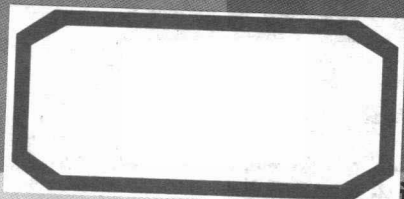
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英文写作涉及的话题范围很广，如果了解英文的文章结构，即使学生有不小的词汇量，观点很明确，事实很清晰，也无法将这些合理地组织到一篇新文章中去。了解文章的行文结构就如同了解事物的本质，万变将不离其宗。



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# 「前言」

## Prefice

本书包含涉及多方面话题的 52 篇短文，是专为中、高年级学生学习英文写作量身打造的，旨在通过设计的问题及范文帮助学生培养英语思维的能力，提高英文写作水平。

这些文章并不是提供给学生直接用于自己的写作中，而是帮助学生了解和掌握文章的行文结构。例如，范文既告诉学生应该如何组织各种事实及其想表达的观点，又指导他们如何展开资料叙述以组成段落。

范文涉及的话题范围很广，包括社会、环境、经济、人物等。这些话题深受出题人的青睐，而且其中的很多话题在以往的考试中已经出现。

本书不仅有助于帮助学生了解文章结构和组织事实、观点，这些短文对学生扩大词汇量也很有帮助。每篇短文都包括和主题相关的词汇，对于较难的词汇都加以解释，并给出例句，告诉学生如何在句中使用这些词汇。

词汇注释不仅给出了词义，还展示了语言是如何发展的，如从动词起源发展而来的名词。设置了“语言小贴士”栏目，提供了更多语言发展的额外信息。

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## Should smoking in public places be banned?

在公共场所应该禁止吸烟吗？

Some countries, such as Singapore and the UK, have already introduced **legislation** which imposes a ban on smoking in workplaces and other public places. Other countries are considering such a ban and this has given rise to much **controversy** among the population of these countries.

My view is that everyone has a right to work in a comfortable, clean, healthy environment and should not have to put up with other people's nicotine habit. Smoking is a very anti-social habit which, at the very least, can cause discomfort to others in the form of a smoky atmosphere and dirty surroundings caused by dropped cigarette ash on the floor, overflowing ashtrays and discarded cigarette ends.

Smokers also endanger the health of others. If people want to ignore the dangers and go on smoking, despite the known dangers, then that is their choice. However, it is now known that the **inhalation** of cigarette smoke by non-smokers, known as passive smoking, can lead to various health problems in the same way that smoking can. It is unjust that smokers should be allowed to have a **deleterious** effect on the health of their



workmates.

Protesters against a smoking ban in the workplace claim that such a ban is contrary to the human rights of smokers, but smokers are, in fact, **infringing** the human rights of their colleagues by endangering their health and polluting their environment. Smokers also complain that they have to go outside the building to smoke in all weather conditions. They also claim that smoking outside a building makes them look and feel like **pariahs**. However, that is the price they have to pay for **persisting in indulging in** such an anti-social habit.

The same no-smoking rule should apply to public places, such as government offices, libraries, sport complexes, airports, etc. People often have no choice but to go into such buildings and they have a right to have their health and comfort safeguarded from the habits of others. Most airlines ban smoking and smokers have to resist the temptation to **light up** during the course of the flight. Why should they not demonstrate the same level of self-control in public buildings?

The question of imposing a ban on smoking in public places of entertainment has caused the most controversy. Restaurant owners, publicans and brewers are **vehemently** opposed to it because they say that it will affect their livelihood and smokers say that it will affect their enjoyment of an evening out. Non-smokers, they say, need not go into a smoky pub or restaurant.

However, these places of entertainment are also workplaces and the waiters, barpersons, etc should not have to put their health at risk by being subjected to cigarette smoke. In the light of this, Mayor Michael Bloomberg of New York has already announced a smoking

ban in restaurants and pubs and Ireland has **followed suit**. I hope that many other countries will follow their example and impose no-smoking ban in public places.

## Vocabulary Study

**controversy** *n.* argument or debate, often carried out in public, about something that causes a great deal of disagreement among people 争论; 公开辩论

例 *There has been a lot of controversy in the press about the suggested changes to the law on human rights.*

**controversial** *adj.* causing controversy 引起争论的

例 *The decision to close the local school is an extremely controversial one.*

Traditionally, the stress is on the first syllable but pronunciation in which the stress is on the second syllable is also becoming acceptable in British English.

语言小贴士

**deleterious** *adj.* (used in formal context) damaging or harmful 有害的

例 *The closure of the factory has had a deleterious effect on the economy of the whole town.*

**follow suit see suit.**

**indulge in** *v.* to allow yourself to have or do something that you like or enjoy, although this may be bad for you in some way 放纵自己

例 *I'm supposed to be on a diet but I'm going to indulge in a large tub of chocolate ice cream and start my diet again tomorrow.*

**infringe** *v.* (used in formal context) if you **infringe** someone's rights, you prevent them from doing what they are entitled to do 干涉; 侵犯

例 *It was feared that the new president would attempt to infringe the right of the people to freedom of speech.*

**inhalation** *n.* the act or process of breathing 吸入 (法)

例 *The inhalation of unpleasant chemical fumes is one of the disadvantages of this job.*

**inhale** *v.* to breathe in 吸入

例 *As we sat in the traffic queue, we were inhaling the fumes from the car in front.*

**legislation** *n.* a law or a set of laws passed by an official body, such as parliament 法律; 法规

例 *Some people think that we need new legislation to stop the import of illegal goods.*

**light, light up** *v.* (used in informal context) to light a cigarette and begin smoking it 点上 (烟) 吸起来

例 *As soon as the meal had come to an end, Jim and Mark lit up.*

**pariah** *n.* someone who is not accepted in society and who is avoided by most people 社会的遗弃者

例 *I am the only person over 30 who works there and I am made to feel like a pariah.*

**persist in** *v.* to continue to do something in a determined way, although this may cause problems or difficulties of some kind 坚持; 执意

例 *Bob persists in leaving his car outside his neighbour's house even though he knows that it annoys her.*

**suit, follow suit** *v.* to do the same as someone else has already done 照别人的方式去做

例 *Little Lucy began to cry and the rest of the children followed suit.*

**vehemently** *adv.* extremely strongly, showing strong feelings 感情强烈地

例 *Mary was accused of spreading rumours about Anna, but she vehemently denied this.*

**vehement** *adj.* showing strong feelings 感情强烈的

- ❏ *We showed vehement opposition to the proposed new shopping mall, but the mall was built anyhow.*

## What Do You Think?

1. Why do people smoke?
2. How would you discourage smokers from smoking in the first place?
3. How could the ban be enforced effectively in your country?
4. Should the ban be extended to public parks?
5. Should smokers of cigars be treated differently from cigarette smokers?
6. Do you think increasing the tax on cigarettes would discourage smoking among habitual smokers?
7. Under what circumstances should smoking be allowed?
8. Should non-smokers suffer in silence at home when other family members smoke?

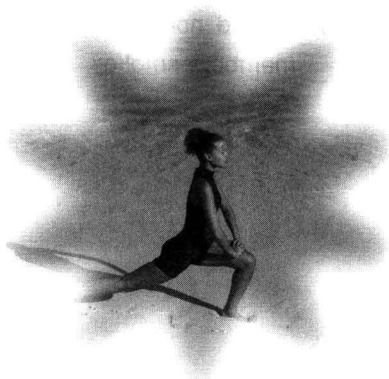


## Why people are living longer

### 人的寿命为什么越来越长

In the developed countries at least, the life expectancy of people has increased quite considerably over recent decades. More and more people are living into their eighties and even their nineties and there are various reasons for this.

Medical advances have done much to prolong people's lives. Improved diagnostic techniques have made it possible for doctors to detect the signs of disease much earlier than before. This enables them to treat conditions at a much earlier stage and early **intervention**, particularly in the case of some cancers, can do much to save lives.



Many countries have developed **screening** programmes to enable doctors to identify certain diseases. An early example of this was the introduction of mass screening by chest X-ray for tuberculosis. More recently, in several countries, women over a certain age are asked to have a mammogram, an X-ray of the breasts taken every two years or so as a means of detecting breast cancer.

Some governments have introduced health education programmes. This has been done to make people more aware of their bodies and of any changes which may occur. People are thus much better informed and are more likely to visit their doctors early enough to prevent diseases from becoming fatal.

There have been major advances in medical treatment as well as in medical **diagnosis** in recent decades. More and more sophisticated drugs are used to treat **cardiac** disease, **hypertension** and **strokes**, more technically known as cerebrovascular accidents. These drugs prevent people from dying of such conditions at an early age. Meanwhile, **chemotherapy** and improved forms of **radiotherapy** are saving the lives of many cancer patients.

Advances in surgical techniques also prevent many people from dying at a relatively young age. One of the most major advances was the introduction of **transplant surgery** by Dr Christian Barnard that has saved so many lives.

There is no doubt that better medical care has done much to keep people alive longer. However, it is not the only reason for increased lifespans. Better living conditions have also played a part. More people in the developed world now live in warm, dry accommodation and are much healthier because of this.

Then there is the fact that more people are now better informed about nutrition and are more able to afford the ingredients of a healthy diet. Eating the right foods, such as fruits and vegetables can, for example, do much to prevent people from developing high levels of **cholesterol**, thought to be a factor in the occurrence of heart diseases and strokes. In addition, more people are also better informed about what represents a danger to their health, such as