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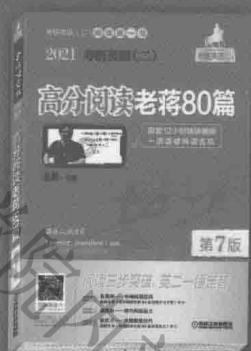
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策划编辑：姜玉琴

封面设计：陈博

ISBN 978-7-111-63672-4



9 787111 636724 >

定价：86.00元

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Text 1



考生注意：本文配有详细视频讲解，对掌握英语（二）阅读命题套路与解题规律有较大帮助。扫描二维码，关注作者公众号，输入“高分80篇视频”，点击配套视频01的链接，即可观看本文视频讲解。

The link between climate and disease is most often identified through the spread of disease vectors such as mosquitoes. As areas warm, habitats for insects — mosquitoes and deer ticks, for example — expand, exposing new populations to new disease threats. As Maryn McKenna recently explained in *The New York Times Magazine*, the approximately one degree Celsius increase in average temperatures the planet has experienced is “changing the numbers and distribution of the insect intermediaries that carry diseases to people.” Most immediately, we could see a larger number of people at risk in the United States from Zika this summer as the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito moves farther north, complicating the already challenging efforts to constrain the disease.

But a second, and less appreciated, interaction between climate change and epidemics occurs when humans and animals are forced to compete for dwindling habitat and resources. The scenario behind Ebola's rise and global threat in 2014 illustrates this point. Climate change destroys habitats and stresses animal populations such as the bats of West Africa, forcing them to hunt for food nearer to humans. Humans, likewise pressed by climate impacts, encroach more closely on animal habitats. While we cannot know that climate change was the cause of the specific interaction between bats and humans that is believed to have launched the Ebola outbreak in Guinea, we will see more of these interactions in the future, and more epidemics as a result.

Ebola demonstrates that even localized dislocation of people and animals can create global risk. Climate change is a threat multiplier for much broader dislocation — accelerating the complex factors that drive people from their homes. While in some cases climate-affected dislocation will be “planned” — as with the climate refugees in Louisiana or on remote Pacific islands such as Kiribati — more often it will occur in large, unplanned migrations that amplify regional instability and crisis. This dynamic can also drive migrations from rural into urban

areas, as occurred in Syria, where the 2006—2010 drought killed off 80 percent of the country's livestock and helped drive more than 1.5 million people into stressed urban centers. The U. S. intelligence community's bottom-line assessment of the risk is plain: "Over 20 years, the net effects of climate change on the patterns of global human movement and statelessness could be dramatic, perhaps unprecedented."

We saw Ebola breach the rural-to-urban interface in West Africa; the outcome and extent of the current outbreak of Ebola in Congo remains to be seen. As climate change accelerates the movement of people, the risks of disease formation and transmission will multiply.

1. According to Para. 1, one threatening consequence of global warming is _____.
 - A. the increasing population and distribution of insects worldwide
 - B. the migration of insects from the south to the north of the planet Earth
 - C. the increase in average temperatures in the United States
 - D. new diseases carried by dangerous insects
2. The 2014 Ebola epidemic occurred in that _____.
 - A. climate change forced the bats and humans to encroach onto each other's habitats
 - B. the intermediary mosquitoes in West Africa moved into warming habitat of local people
 - C. the interaction between climate and disease became less appreciated
 - D. humans destroyed the habitats of the bats of West Africa
3. The rural-to-urban migration in Syria is mentioned to illustrate that _____.
 - A. localized movement of people and animals can create global risk
 - B. some climate-affected dislocation can be large and unplanned
 - C. regional instability and statelessness may result from climate change
 - D. climate change impacts human movement that may eventually amplify disease risks
4. The other types of climate-disease interaction differ from the one mentioned in Para. 1 in that they _____.
 - A. are identified through the spread of insect intermediary
 - B. breach the rural to urban interface in West Africa
 - C. involve climate-affected human movement
 - D. are better understood by the public
5. The best title for this text is _____.
 - A. Deadly Consequences of Climate Change

- B. Climate Change and the Spread of Diseases
- C. Ebola and Other Climate-affected Epidemics
- D. Climate Change and Human Dislocation

|| 文章导读 ||

本文编选自 www.washingtonpost.com (华盛顿邮报网) 的一篇文章, 原文题为 *Another Deadly Consequence of Climate Change: The Spread of Dangerous Diseases* (《气候变化另一个致命后果: 危险疾病的传播》), 作为考题, 原文的部分内容被命题人删减, 共 424 词。

篇章主题: 文章探讨了气候变暖与疾病传播之间的相互关系。

行文思路: 指出气候与疾病之间的一种联系 (Para. 1) — 气候变化与流行病之间另一种不太为人知悉的关联 (Para. 2) — 气候变化引发人口迁移, 由此加剧疾病的出现与传播 (Para. 3~4)。

逐段梳理:

第一段讲气候变暖导致昆虫栖息地扩大, 使人们面临新的疾病威胁。

第二段讲气候变化破坏栖息地, 人与昆虫被迫争抢日益减少的资源。

第三段讲气候变化对全球人口迁移模式的影响。

第四段讲气候变化加速人口迁移, 致使疾病形成与传播的风险增大。

|| 文章精讲 ||

Para 1

①The link between climate and disease is most often **identified** through the spread of disease **vectors** such as mosquitoes. ②As areas warm, **habitats** for insects — mosquitoes and deer ticks, for example — expand, **exposing** new populations to new disease threats. ③As Maryn McKenna recently explained in *The New York Times Magazine*, the approximately one degree Celsius increase in average temperatures the planet has experienced is “changing the numbers and **distribution** of the insect **intermediaries** that carry diseases to people.” ④^难Most immediately, we could see a larger number of people at risk in the United States from Zika this summer as the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito moves farther north, **complicating** the already challenging efforts to **constrain** the disease.

①气候与疾病间的关联常可通过蚊虫等疾病媒介的传播得以识别。

②当某些区域气候变暖，昆虫——比如蚊子和鹿蜱——的栖息地会随之扩张，致使新的人群面临新的疾病威胁。③正如马琳·麦肯娜最近在《纽约时报》中解释的那样，地球平均温度上升大约 1°C 时，“传播疾病给人类的昆虫媒介数量与分布也会随之变化。”④最直接的影响是，今夏随着埃及伊蚊进一步北移，美国受寨卡疾病威胁的人数将会更多，使得该疾病的控制工作难上加难。

【篇章理解】

该段揭示了气候变化与疾病间的第一种因果关联。

①指出气候与疾病存在一定关联；②引出第一段主旨：气候变暖会让携病昆虫的栖息地扩张，致使所到区域的人口面临新的疾病威胁；③④分别引用专家的话和寨卡病毒的北侵对②做例证说明。

【词汇突破】

identify [iden'tifai] *v.* 鉴别
vector ['vektə] *n.* 传染媒介
habitat ['hæbitæt] *n.* 栖息地
expose [iks'pəuz] *v.* 暴露
distribution [ˌdistri'bju:ʃn] *n.* 分布
intermediary [intə'mi:diəri] *n.* 中介

complicate ['kɒmplikeit] *v.* 使……变得复杂
constrain [kən'streɪn] *v.* 抑制
expose... to 使……接触
at risk 处境危险

【难句精解】

Most immediately, we could see a larger number of people at risk in the United States from Zika this summer as the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito moves farther north, complicating the already challenging efforts to constrain the disease.

本句是个复杂句，句首是副词状语，主句“we could see... people at risk...”是主谓宾补结构，其中 from Zika 是补语 at risk 中名词 risk 的后置定语，说明威胁的来源；其后的 as 引导原因状语从句，而句末现在分词词组充当全句的结果状语，二者与主句合起来展现了“蚊虫北移使寨卡疾病向北传播，结果控制该病更不易”的复杂因果链条。

重点 as 引导的原因状语从句；现在分词作状语表结果。

Para 2

①But a second, and less **appreciated**, **interaction** between climate change and **epidemics** occurs when humans and animals are forced to compete for **dwindling** habitat and resources. ②The **scenario** behind Ebola's rise and global

threat in 2014 **illustrates** this point. ③Climate change destroys habitats and stresses animal populations such as the bats of West Africa, forcing them to hunt for food nearer to humans. ④Humans, **likewise** pressed by climate impacts, **encroach** more closely on animal habitats. ⑤ **难** While we cannot know that climate change was the cause of the specific interaction between bats and humans that is believed to have **launched** the Ebola outbreak in Guinea, we will see more of these interactions in the future, and more epidemics as a result.

①但是，气候变化与流行病间还存在另一种较少为人悉知的相互影响，当人与动物不得不相互争夺日渐缩减的栖息地与资源时，这种影响就会发生。②2014 年埃博拉病毒出现并成为全球性威胁，其发生的背景便是明证。③气候变化破坏栖息地，从而给西非的蝙蝠群等动物群体带来（生存）压力，它们不得不靠近人类找寻食物。④同样，人迫于气候影响，会进一步侵占动物们的栖息地。⑤人们认为当年致使几内亚埃博拉病毒爆发的原因就是人蝠间的这种相争，尽管当前无法确定这一人蝠相争的根源是否就是气候变化，但是类似的人与动物间的相互影响未来将更常见，由此引发的流行病也会更多。

【篇章理解】

本段揭示了气候变化与疾病间的第二种因果关联。

Para. 2①是段落主题句，其中“second”一词表明 Para. 1、2 讨论的内容同质不同类，属逻辑递进关系，而“less appreciated”则表明本段所言气候对疾病的作用类型（人与动物对日渐缩减栖息地和资源的争夺）不太被世人关注。②利用埃博拉病毒发生的背景对①作例证解释；③④完整描述了气候变化背景下动物与人相互侵占栖息地的模式，其中“likewise”一词点明人与蝙蝠两者行为的同质性；⑤进一步指出类似的人与动物之争在气候变化的影响下将越来越多，流行病也因此更多。

【词汇突破】

appreciate [ə'pri:ʃieɪt] *v.* 意识到
interaction [ɪntə'rekʃn] *n.* 相互作用
epidemic [epi'demɪk] *n.* 流行病
dwindle ['dwɪndl] *v.* 减少
scenario [sə'næ:riəu] *n.* 情形
illustrate ['ɪləstreɪt] *v.* 说明

likewise ['laɪkwaɪz] *ad.* 同样地
encroach [ɪn'krəʊtʃ] *v.* 侵占
launch ['lɔ:ntʃ] *v.* 引发
compete for 为……争夺
pressed by 迫于
hunt for 搜寻，寻找

【难句精解】

While we cannot know that climate change was the cause of the specific interaction between bats and humans that is believed to have launched the Ebola outbreak in Guinea, we will see more of these interactions in the future, and more epidemics as a result.

本句是主从结构，主句“we will see...”是主谓宾结构，其中 and 连接两个的“more...”名词词组，语法上并列，而句末 as a result 明示二者间的因果逻辑；句首 while 引导让步转折从句，内嵌的第一个 that 从句充当谓语动词 know 的宾语，该从句内部又内嵌一个 that 从句，充当名词词组“specific interaction...”的后置定语。

重点 while 引导的让步状语从句；that 引导的宾语从句与定语从句。

Para 3

① Ebola **demonstrates** that even localized **dislocation** of people and animals can create global risk. ② Climate change is a threat **multiplier** for much broader dislocation — **accelerating** the **complex** factors that drive people from their homes. ③ While in some cases climate-affected dislocation will be “planned” — as with the climate **refugees** in Louisiana or on **remote** Pacific islands such as Kiribati — more often it will occur in large, unplanned **migrations** that **amplify** regional **instability** and crisis. ④ **难** This **dynamic** can also drive migrations from rural into urban areas, as occurred in Syria, where the 2006—2010 **drought** killed off 80 percent of the country’s **livestock** and helped drive more than 1.5 million people into stressed urban centers. ⑤ The U. S. intelligence community’s bottom-line assessment of the risk is plain: “Over 20 years, the net effects of climate change on the patterns of global human movement and statelessness could be dramatic, perhaps **unprecedented**.”

①埃博拉一例表明，即使是人与动物的局部错位也能造成全球性的危害。②气候变化使更广泛的错位危害倍增——让驱使人们迁离居所的复杂因素变得更加复杂。③尽管在某些情况下，人们对气候影响下的搬迁可加以规划——如路易斯安那州或太平洋遥远岛国基里巴斯的气候难民——但更为常见的是大规模的、未经规划的人口迁徙，加剧了区域不稳定性与危机。④这种气候变化还会促使人口从乡村流入城市，譬如，叙利亚在2006—2010年间大旱，导致全国牲畜80%死亡，由此驱使150万人口涌入各城市中心，让城市不堪重负。⑤美国情报系统的底线风险评估显而易见：“20年间，气候变化对全球人口迁移模式的净影响及由此产生的无序状态是巨大的，可能也是史无前例的。”

①We saw Ebola **breach** the rural-to-urban interface in West Africa; the outcome and extent of the current outbreak of Ebola in Congo remains to be seen. ②As climate change accelerates the movement of people, the risks of disease formation and **transmission** will **multiply**.

①我们看到，在西非，埃博拉打破了农村到城市的交界面；当前，这一流行病又在刚果爆发，其后果与波及范围尚有待观察。②而随着气候变化加速人口迁移，疾病的形成与传播风险也都将呈倍数增长。

【篇章理解】

Para. 3 与 Para. 4 属一个意群，Para. 3 指出气候变化会引发更广义上的人口迁移，Para. 4 讲由此带来的影响——疾病形成与传播的风险将剧增。

Para. 3①是个过渡句，一方面承上概括了 Para. 2 中 Ebola 一例的意义，另一方面为“局部错位 (localized dislocation)”到“更广泛的错位 (broader dislocation)”作铺垫；②转而解释气候变化对人口大量迁移 (broader dislocation) 产生的重大影响；③提及气候变化引发的 planned 与 unplanned 两大类人口迁移 (侧重后者)；④递进提到 rural to urban 的人口迁移类型，⑤通过引用美国情报系统的底线风险评估例证气候对人口迁移的影响之大。

Para. 4 总结归纳，①联系上文提到 Ebola 这一人与动物“局部错位”造成的瘟疫仍在传播肆虐中；②指出气候对人口大规模迁移这一“泛义错位”的影响：疾病形成与传播的风险将会剧增 (multiply)。

【词汇突破】

demonstrate ['demənstreit] *v.* 表明
dislocation [disləu'keiʃn] *n.* 错位
multiplier ['mʌltiplaiə] *n.* 乘数
accelerate [æk'seləreit] *v.* 加速
complex ['kɒmpleks] *a.* 复杂的
refugee [refju:'dʒi:] *n.* 难民
remote [ri'məut] *a.* 僻远的
migration [mai'greiʃn] *n.* 迁徙
amplify ['æmplifai] *v.* 放大
instability [instə'biləti] *n.* 状态

dynamic [dai'næmik] *n.* 变化
drought [draut] *n.* 干旱
livestock ['laivstɒk] *n.* 牲畜
unprecedented [ʌn'presidentid] *a.* 史无前例的
breach [britʃ] *v.* 破坏
transmission [træns'miʃn] *n.* 传播
multiply ['mʌltiplai] *v.* 乘，增加
in some cases 在某些情况下
kill off 杀光

【难句精解】

This dynamic can also drive migrations from rural into urban areas, as occurred in Syria, where the 2006—2010 drought killed off 80 percent of the country's livestock and helped drive more than 1.5 million people into stressed urban centers.

本句是主从结构，主句主语 “This dynamic” 指上文提到的 climate-affected dislocation；关系代词 as 引导定语从句，as 充当从句主语，指代主句所陈述的内容；where 引导定语从句，补充说明其先行词 Syria 的情况，该从句谓语部分是 and 连接的两个动词词组，完整交代 “干旱导致牲畜死亡，进而引发乡村人口流向城市” 的因果链。

重点 as、where 引导的定语从句。

|| 题目精讲 ||

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 01 According to Para. 1, one threatening consequence of global warming is _____. | 根据第一段，全球变暖的一大危险后果是_____。 |
| A. the increasing population and distribution of insects worldwide | A. 世界上昆虫数量增加、分布范围扩大 |
| B. the migration of insects from the south to the north of the planet Earth | B. 昆虫从地球南部向北迁移 |
| C. the increase in average temperatures in the United States | C. 美国平均温度上升 |
| D. new diseases carried by dangerous insects | D. 危险昆虫传播的新型疾病 |

难词注解：migration [maɪ'greɪn] *n.* 迁徙

【题型】细节题

【思路】第一段②讲到：当气候变暖，蚊子和鹿蜱这些危险昆虫的栖息地便会扩张，让新的人群面临新的疾病威胁，由此可知，全球变暖的一大危险后果是危险昆虫给新区域带来的新型疾病，故 D 正确。

【错项分析】

A：“世界上昆虫数量增加、分布范围扩大”，对应 Para. 1③引语中的 “changing the numbers and distribution of the insect intermediaries that carry diseases to people”，但原文此处说的是 “传播疾病给人类的昆虫媒介” 而非 A 中泛泛的 “昆虫”，A 明显是对原文信息 “偷换概念”。此外，昆虫数量增

加、分布范围扩大，考虑到很多昆虫是良性昆虫，它们数量的增加不一定是 threatening consequence，因此 A 项自身的逻辑“有效性”也令人质疑。

B: “昆虫从地球南部向北迁移”，对应 Para. 1④例子中的 “*Aedes aegypti* mosquito moves farther north”，但此处举例说的是埃及伊蚊从美国南部进一步向北扩张，而不是所有昆虫 (insects) 从地球南部向北迁移，同属对原文信息的偷换概念，故 B 错。

C: “美国平均温度上升”，对应 Para. 1③，但该处讲的是地球平均气温上升可能产生的后果，并未讲“美国的平均气温上升”问题，C 项本质上是 Para. 1③increase in average temperatures 与④in the United States 的机械拼接，故 C 错。

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 02 The 2014 Ebola epidemic occurred in that _____. | 2014 年，埃博拉瘟疫爆发是因为_____。 |
| A. climate change forced the bats and humans to encroach onto each other's habitats | A. 气候变化迫使蝙蝠与人类相互蚕食栖息地 |
| B. the intermediary mosquitoes in West Africa moved into warming habitat of local people | B. 西非的病原体蚊子涌入当地温暖的居住地 |
| C. the interaction between climate and disease became less appreciated | C. 气候疾病的相互作用变得不太为人所知 |
| D. humans destroyed the habitats of the bats of West Africa | D. 人类毁坏西非蝙蝠栖息地 |

难词注解: local [ˈləʊkəl] a. 当地的

【题型】原因分析题

【思路】文章 Para. 2② “The scenario behind Ebola's rise” 意为“埃博拉瘟疫发作的背景”，换言之，即埃博拉瘟疫爆发的原因，下文③④具体介绍该背景或原因：气候变化对蝙蝠与人产生的影响导致“人蝠出现栖息地之争”，从而引发埃博拉瘟疫，选项 A 较好地体现了此意，是为正确项。

【错项分析】

B: Para. 1 提及的携病媒介 “mosquitoes” 引发的是 Zika 流行病，而引发 Ebola 瘟疫的是 Para. 2 提及的 “bats of West Africa”，B 属典型的张冠李戴，故错。

C: 对应原文 Para. 2① “a second, and less appreciated, interaction between climate change and epidemics”，但此处讲的是“气候变化与流行病之

间的另一种关联性较少为人们熟知”，而非“气候疾病间的相互作用变得不太为人所知”，此外，该处信息与埃博拉病毒的爆发不存在因果关系，故 C 错误。

D: Para. 2③明确指出毁坏蝙蝠栖息地的是“climate change”，而人类的行为仅是“encroach on”蚕食或侵犯动物栖息地，故 D 错。

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 03 The rural-to-urban migration in Syria is mentioned to illustrate that _____. | 文章提及叙利亚从农村到城市的人口迁移模式是为了说明_____。 |
| A. localized movement of people and animals can create global risk | A. 人与动物的局部迁移能造成全球风险 |
| B. some climate-affected dislocation can be large and unplanned | B. 某些受气候影响的迁移可能规模很大且毫无规划 |
| C. regional instability and statelessness may result from climate change | C. 气候变化可能导致区域性不稳定与无序状态 |
| D. climate change impacts human movement that may eventually amplify disease risks | D. 气候变化影响人口迁移，最终可能放大疾病风险 |

【题型】例证题

【思路】Para. 3④中 as 从句提及 Syria，例证了气候变化导致农村人口大量流向城市这一迁移模式，即题干中提到的“rural-to-urban migration in Syria”。但根据上文 Para. 1~2 可知文章主题是有关气候与疾病的因果关联，因此根据下文 Para. 4②“As climate change accelerates the movement of people, the risks of disease formation and transmission will multiply”，可进而推知：气候变化导致的农村—城市人口迁移将会最终加剧疾病传播的风险，故 D 正确。

【错项分析】

A: 对应 Para. 3①，但此处讲的是 Para. 2 以 Ebola 为例所描述的“人与动物局部错位”的情形，而非 Syria 一例讲的“人口大规模迁移这一泛义错位”情形，后者并不涉及动物，A 属张冠李戴型错误。

B: 对应 Para. 3③“While..., more often it will occur in **large, unplanned** migrations...”，但 Syria 出现在 Para. 3④，该句“also”标示 Syria 体现的是又一种人口迁移模式，而非③中的模式，B 同属张冠李戴型错误。

C: “regional instability”与“statelessness”分别取自 Para. 3③与⑤，但 Syria 出现在 Para. 3④，该句仅提到“令城市备受压力 (stressed urban centers)”，并未讲到“区域不稳定”和“无序”，此外，C 未将气候变化与终

极影响“疾病”做关联，背离 Para. 3、4 两段的整体逻辑，故 C 错。

点睛

明确 climate-disease interaction 在全文的分类以及相关的因果链是解题关键。

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 04 The other types of climate-disease interaction differ from the one mentioned in Para. 1 in that they _____. | 与第一段提到的“气候—疾病”相互作用类型不同，其他类型_____。 |
| A. are identified through the spread of insect intermediary | A. 通过昆虫媒介的传播得以鉴别 |
| B. breach the rural to urban interface in West Africa | B. 打破西非农村到城市的交界面 |
| C. involve climate-affected human movement | C. 涉及气候引发的人口迁移 |
| D. are better understood by the public | D. 更好地为大众所知 |

难词注解：involve [in'vɒlv] v. 涉及

【题型】篇章结构题

【思路】本题要求辨析文章 Para. 2~4 提到的“types of climate-disease interaction”与 Para. 1 提到的类型有何不同。Para. 1②提到的气候变化引发疾病在于昆虫携病媒介进入人类栖息地，不存在人口迁移；而 Para. 2①提到的气候变化引发疾病在于动物与人因气候变化而向对方栖息地侵入，Para. 3~4 提到的第三种类型是因气候变化而发生人口大规模迁移（不涉及动物），综上所述可知，第二、三种类型不同于第一种类型在于它们都涉及气候变化带来的人口迁移，故 C 正确。

【错项分析】

A：对应 Para. 1，属于第一种“气候—疾病”的相互关联类型，与其他类型特点无关，属张冠李戴。

B：对应 Para. 4①，是关于 Ebola 的描述，属于 Para. 2 提到的第二种关联类型，但不适合 Para. 3-4 所描述的第三种类型，同属张冠李戴。

D：Para. 2①明确指出第二种类型是“less appreciated（较少为人熟知）”，据此可推知，第一种类型才是“better understood”的，D 也属张冠李戴型错误。

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| 05 The best title for this text is _____. | 最适合本文的标题是_____。 |
| A. Deadly Consequences of Climate Change | A. 气候变化的致命后果 |

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| B. Climate Change and the Spread of Diseases | B. 气候变化与疾病传播 |
| C. Ebola and Other Climate-affected Epidemics | C. 埃博拉及其他气候引发的流行病 |
| D. Climate Change and Human Dislocation | D. 气候变化与人口迁移 |

难词注解: deadly ['dedli] a. 致命的

【题型】篇章主旨题

【思路】Para. 1①中提到“link between climate and disease”, Para. 2①中提到“interaction between climate change and epidemics”, Para. 3②与 Para. 4②中提到“climate—dislocation—disease”, 综上可知, 该文各部分都紧扣“气候变化与疾病之间的关联”, 故 B 正确。

【错项分析】

A: 未点明文章关键词“疾病”, “致命后果”过于宽泛, 缺乏本文的对应性; C: 只涉及作为结果的疾病, 未涉及相应的因果关联, 以偏概全; D: 仅反映 Para. 3 提到的“气候—人口迁移”, 既未涉及其终极影响“疾病”, 也不能涵盖文章前面两段信息, 同属以偏概全。

点睛

本题考查文章中心话题, 需综合各段信息进行提炼。

Text 2



考生注意：本文配有详细视频讲解，对掌握英语（二）阅读命题套路与解题规律有较大帮助。扫描二维码，关注作者公众号，输入“高分80篇视频”，点击配套视频02的链接，即可观看本文视频讲解。

The term “bureaucracy” has few positive connotations. It’s been called the “death of all sound work,” (Einstein), the “giant power wielded by pygmies” (Balzac), the “slime” left behind when revolutions fade (Kafka), and a “symbol of hell” (C. S. Lewis). Though it isn’t America’s only bureaucracy, the federal government is probably its most infamous one. The Pew Research Center for the People and the Press shows only 28 percent of Americans viewed the federal government favorably in 2012, its lowest rating since the poll began in 1997. The study didn’t delve into why, but perhaps part of the answer is the perception of federal agencies as bloated, ineffective bureaucracies that stifle creativity.

But there’s hope government can change this. The software industry can show us how. A little more than 20 years ago, Linux triggered a paradigm shift in programming, from hierarchy and restriction to collaboration and openness. It gave rise to practices that now seem commonplace, like cloud computing and crowdsourcing. But most importantly, it transformed the culture of programming. From a field primarily focused on producing products, tech development became what IT pioneer Tim O’Reilly called a whole new field of “scientific and economic inquiry.” If that formerly stratified world could transform how it did business, maybe government can as well.

Before Linux, the software industry looked very different. As tech advocate Eric Raymond wrote in *The Cathedral and the Bazaar*, proprietary software firms used to resemble the grand churches of old; those in charge cloistered from the common folk, their discussions secret, decision-making a top-down, fixed-route operation. With open source, development came to resemble a “great babbling bazaar of differing agendas and approaches,” with many contributors working collaboratively. In the bazaar model, what matters is not rank but who finds the answer. The benefits of the approach are summed up in the aphorism,