

# 概 述

## 一、四、六级考试中的写作题材

国家教委考试中心的命题者考虑到中国大学生所学的文、理、工科专业的不同，以及他们对地道的英美文化缺乏深入的了解，因此在四、六级考试写作的命题中多选用所有考生都较熟悉的社会话题，如 The World Is Getting Smaller and Smaller (1994. 1), Can Money Buy Happiness? (1995. 1), Should Fireworks Be Banned? (1995. 6), Global Shortage of Fresh Water (1996. 6), Harmfulness of Fake Commodities (1998. 1), Do Lucky Numbers Really Bring Good Luck? (1998. 6 筹 或与大学生的日常学习和生活有关的话题，如 Reading Selectively or Extensively? (1999. 6), Is a Test of Spoken English Necessary? (2000. 6) . How to Succeed in a Job Interview? (2001. 1), A Letter to a Schoolmate (2001. 6 筹)。

总之，四级考试中的作文题目具有显著的现实意义，题目涉及的内容为考生所熟知，不会涉及考生无话可说的偏题、怪题。考生可以结合自己的亲身经历或自己身边熟悉的事情进行阐述。

## 二、写作要求

写作在四、六级考试中占有较重的比例，占 15 分，其目的是考查学生用英语书面表达思想的能力。《大学英语教学大纲》对四、六级考试作文的要求是：能运用学到的语言知识，按规定的题目和提示，在半小时内写出一篇 120 词以上（四级）或 150 词以上（六级）的短文，要求能够正确表达思想，语义连贯，无重大语法错误。

考生完成四级写作要注意做到符合如下的基本要求：

### 1. 完整性

一篇作文是一个有机的整体，它要表达的是一个完整的信息，因此，考生在写作文

时要充分考虑到文章意义、结构的完整。

### 2. 唯一性

唯一性是指文章的主题的唯一，也就是一篇文章只有一个主题，而且主题鲜明，内容突出。

### 3. 连贯性

文章的连贯性是指对中心思想的阐述要合乎逻辑、前后连贯。为了使文章连贯，写作时经常用一些过渡性转承词句。

请看下面的短文：

## Reemployment for the Laid-off Workers

With the rapid development of reform and market economy, many workers have been laid off from some poorly-run enterprises. People in all walks show great concern over their reemployment, because if this problem could not be solved successfully, it would have a bad effect on the discharged workers' life, which might in turn disturb the economic growth and social stability of our country. How to get them re-employed has become a serious social problem.

In fact, there are many ways to solve this problem. The government, most important of all, needs to draw up an economic policy that will create more job opportunities. On the other hand, the laid-off workers themselves should adjust to the new situation by arming themselves with new knowledge and skills, so that they could be qualified for new positions.

So in my opinion, through joint efforts of the government and the workers, the reemployment problem can be settled smoothly. More importantly, reemployment provides possible development for both enterprises and the laid-off workers. By hiring more skilled workers, the companies and factories can improve their management and work efficiency. And as for those re-employed, it offers more opportunities and challenges. In the keen competition of the market economy, they may excel out as main creative force.

[点评] 上面的这篇文章很好地实现了内容的完整性、主题的唯一性和语义的连贯性。首先，文章开头交代了事情发生的背景原因，即 *With the rapid development of reform and market economy, many workers have been laid off ...*，然后提出了问题，即“他们的再就业问题”，接着进一步分析了这个问题的重要性，提出了解决问题的方法，最后阐述了自己的对这个问题的看法，同时表达了对未来乐观的展望 - *reemployment provides possible development for both enterprises and the laid-off workers*。全文围绕“下岗工人的再就业”这一主题，同时用一些过渡性的词语，如 *because, in fact, on the other hand, so, more importantly, And as for* 等实现了文章的连贯性。

### 三、写作过程

万事开头难，写作也是如此。许多考生面对所给的题目，不知如何下笔。写作要一步一步来，主要经过如下四个步骤：

#### 1. 构思

考生看到要写的作文题目和要求后，首先要进行审题、构思，也就是根据题目进行思考，展开联想，想到一些具体内容，然后确定哪些材料是必要的，哪些可以舍弃，从而选择出那些切题、典型、最具有说服力的材料。作者需要将各个思想片断和信息单位密切组合成更大的体系或布局，同时，开始计划文章的基本结构，即确定陈述事物的顺序。

#### 2. 列提纲

考生在四、六级考试中通常没有时间打草稿，但是一个清晰的提纲对于完成一篇优美的作文来说是必不可少的。如果题目中已经给出了内容提示，可以据此列出每段的主题句 (topic sentence) 和支持主题句的具体内容 (supporting details)。

#### 3. 成文

根据所列的提纲运用合适的词句表达自己的思想。一篇成功的作文不是各部分的简单相加，它们所呈现的思想和信息不是一个个孤立的单位，而是一个有说服力的有机整体。因此，要注意做到内容的完整性、主题的唯一性和语义的连贯性。

#### 4. 修改

文章写完以后，需要自己用评判的眼光进行检查、修改。应当保证陈述中没有晦涩难懂的地方；应当使读者觉得意义清晰、风格得当；应当考虑拼写、语法等方面的问题（具体内容详见“四、修改清单”）

下面以 1997 年 6 月 CET 作文考试题为例具体说明以上四个写作步骤：

#### **Getting to Know the World Outside the Campus**

1. 学生了解社会的必要性。
2. 了解社会的途径。
3. 我打算怎么做。

题目 Getting to Know the World Outside the Campus，意思是大学生要走出象牙塔，进入社会，了解社会。第一段的提示为：学生了解社会的必要性。考生可以联想到这样一些内容：现今的世界发展迅速，可以说是日新月异。大学生应不能满足学习课本上的死知识现代的社会要求具有多种能力、高素质的人才，而不是“书呆子”。大学生应走出象牙塔，参加社会实践，在实践中运用自己所学的知识，并且找到自己学习中的不足。另外，了解社会也可以帮助大学生在毕业后顺利地进入社会，较快地转变心理等。文

章第二段的提示为：了解社会的途径。考生可以想到：随着社会的进步，社会给大学生提供了多种了解社会的途径。如通过收听广播、看电视、读报纸等大众传媒了解外面的世界；也可以发挥主观能动性，参加社会实践和社会调查，了解社会的状况及发展过程；还可以作家教、服务员、售货员等，所有这些都可以帮助大学生了解社会。第三段要求写“我打算怎么做”。命题要求学生在理解了了解社会的必要性并联想到很多了解社会的途径后，要回到自己身上。身为大学生，如何去，如何付诸行动，引发学生的思考。这正是这篇文章的目的所在。

构思后，考生可以根据题目中给出的三段提示，就此展开文章，以防止跑题，并列如下提纲：

1. It is important for college students to go outside to know about the world.
2. Various ways are helping students to get in touch with the society.
3. As for me . I plan to . . .

列出提纲后，考生要选择自己所学过的、熟悉的词组、句型进行写作。写作中要注意语法的正确性，尽量避免语法错误。此外，在平时的练习中还应该有意识地记忆一定的词组、表达法，尤其是副词、连词等，作为过渡和连接，如 first, second, in the first place, for one thing, for another, however, moreover, on the contrary, in contrast with, as a result, to sum up 等等，使文章连贯、有条理、结构完整，使读者一目了然。

完成写作后，根据“修改清单”对作文进行必要的修改。下面的短文仅供参考。

### **Getting to Know the World Outside the Campus**

With the development of our society, the campus should no longer be an “Ivory Tower.” It is necessary for college students to go outside to get to know the world. They should acquire knowledge not only from books but also from the society. Thus they can adapt to the society more quickly when they graduate from school.

Science and technology are developing rapidly, which provides students with various ways to know about the world. Most students can keep themselves informed by watching TV, listening to the radio, reading newspapers and using computers. It's also good to take a part-time job, such as tutoring, or working in a restaurant. All of these methods will enable students to get in touch with the society.

As for me, I plan to take advantage of the summer vacation to work as a volunteer to help others. I think I can do well. Although I won't be paid, the most important thing is that I can learn a lot about the society.

## 四、修改清单

修改的目的是为了保证意思能够清楚地传达给读者。修改既包括对思想内容组织方式的审查,也包括对表达方式的审查。修改时可以做如下工作:增加、删除、移动、更改。

1. 考生写完作文后应检查如下内容:

- (1) 文章是否通顺上口?
- (2) 有没有语义模糊的地方?
- (3) 有没有重复的地方 如果用词重复 应进行更换(详见“五、行文变化”)
- (4) 有没有需要增加细节以便说清楚观点的地方?
- (5) 词的搭配是否合适?

2. 如何修改文章结构?

- (1) 检查开头。开头是否说清楚下面要讲什么?
- (2) 检查各段。有没有主题句?每段是否只展开一个中心思想?
- (3) 检查结束段。它像不像结束语?能否将文章圆满结束?

## 五、行文变化

文章中如果一再使用某些词或某个句型,则很快使人感到单调乏味。为了保证文章能够引起读者的兴趣,读起来通顺、上口,应当考虑使用不同的表达方式。通过下列几种方式可以做到这一点:

1. 寻找同义词

表达某个基本相同的意思可以有若干个不同的词或短语。写作中应避免多次使用同一个词或词组表达某个意思。例如:say可以有若干个同义词——respond(回答), whisper(低声说), explain(解释), reply(回答), announce(声明), inquire(询问), blurt out(脱口而出), snap(厉声说), question(问道), shout(喊), cry(哭喊)等。再如在Should Men and Women Be Equal?这样一篇作文中,会涉及“女性受到歧视”或“认为女性不如男性”等方面的内容,可以运用多个表达方式表达出这方面的意思:

- (1) Some people think women are *unequal/inferior to* men.
- (2) Some people *discriminate against* women.
- (3) Some people think men are *superior to* women.
- (4) Some people think men are *more able/capable/competent than* women.

(5) Some people think men can *do a better job/perform better than* women.

另外，将上面的几句话变成被动语态，又可以得到几种表达方式。

这些表达方式所表达的意思大体相同，注意在变换说法时一定要确保：1) 更换后的词与句中其他词能融为一体；2) 更换后的词与句子前后的逻辑思维保持一致。

## 2. 转化词性

可以考虑将某个关键词的动词、名词、副词、形容词等多种词性运用到句子中，重新组织句子，使表达方法有所变化。

例如在 2001 年 1 月四、六级考试的作文题目 *How to Succeed in a Job Interview?* 中，考生经常用到这样一个表达方式：*in order to succeed in a job interview*。这时如果将其中的关键词 *succeed* (v.) 变换成名词 *success* 可以得到 *in order to achieve success in a job interview* 变换成形容词 *successful* 可以得到 *in order to be successful in a job interview* 变换成副词 *successfully* 可以得到 *in order to perform successfully in a job interview*，从而使表达方式多样化。

同样在 1999 年 6 月四、六级考试的作文题目 *Reading Intensively or Extensively?* 中，考生可以将其中的 *extensively* 变换成 *extend* (v.)，*extensive* (a.)，*extension* (n.)，*extended* (p. p.) 等多种不同的词性，从而可以得到多种不同的表达方式。

## 3. 合理运用长、短句

一篇作文中如果都是短句，则缺乏文采，读起来枯燥、乏味，如同嚼蜡。这时需要用连接词将短句连成复合句或从属句。但另一方面，如果句子过长，则可能包含的意思太多，你的用意所在可能被淹没。这时最好将句子拆开，以清楚地表达自己的意图。例如：

*There are many ways to advertise. Newspapers carry ads. Products are shown on TV. Commodities are broadcast over the radio. Manufacturers advertise their products, too. They often print a lot of leaflets. They put these leaflets on the billboard. They send them to customers and residents.*

上面这一段话由于全部由单句组成，虽然意思表达出来了，但没有很好地运用所学的语言知识表达思想，所以文章缺乏连贯性、索然无味。如果将其中的一些短句用一、两个连接词连接成长句，会大大增加其表现力。请看下文：

*There are many ways to advertise. Newspapers carry ads. Products are shown on TV and broadcast over the radio. Besides, manufacturers often print a lot of leaflets advertising their products. They either put them on the billboard or send them to customers and residents.*

这段文字中加入了连接词 *besides* 和 *either ... or* 并将 *Manufacturers advertise their products, too* 和 *They often print a lot of leaflets* 这两句话合成一句，这样的句子富于变化：有长句、短句，有简单句，也有复合句。仅有短句和简单句，段落平淡无奇；仅有长句和复合句，段落曲折难懂。

## 六、作文内容的思想性

大学英语四、六级作文主要从内容和形式两个方面考查学生是否达到教学大纲规定的要求。内容中很重要的一项就是作文的思想性。观点正确的作文不仅可以表现作者积极向上的一面，给阅卷人留下一个好印象，还可以使考生写起文章来得心应手，文思泉涌。

例如，在2000年1月的大学英语四、六级考试作文 How I Finance My College Education? 中第二段的提示内容为“哪种途径适合我（说明理由）”。考生根据所提示内容谈到自己支付大学学费的途径时写到利用业余时间打工挣钱，因为这样既可以减轻家庭交学费的负担，又可以开阔视野，丰富知识。这样的理由写得站得住脚、积极。还有的同学开诚布公地说“ My parents help finance my college education” 在说明理由时有的同学写到“ My family has enough money to pay the tuition”，这样的叙述显得缺乏说服力，内容也不积极；相反，如果说“ I want to concentrate on study during the precious college time. Taking a part-time job to earn money would distract me from my study...” ，这样的理由不仅站得住脚，而且描绘出了一个渴求知识、勤奋好学的学生的形象。其实，就这篇作文而言，支付学费的途径不是唯一的，但无论选择写哪种，都要有充足、正确的理由。

再如一篇 On the Laid-off Workers Problem，其中一段要求发表对工人下岗问题的看法。如果你的评论只是停留在这个问题产生的负面影响，如下岗工人生活上遇到的困难、给社会造成的不稳定因素等等，这样从文章的内容上、思想性上来看都不能算是一篇合格的作文。相反，如果从积极的一面考虑，客观分析它给社会经济发展带来的促进作用，会比你一味地发牢骚、抱怨好得多。如可以写：It is a by-product of economic development. With the reform of state enterprises, those poorly-run factories have to cut labor in order to survive. The phenomenon, to a certain degree, is a sign of efficiency and progress in the management of state-owned enterprises.

总之，所持的观点可以百家争鸣。选择哪种观点时，应考虑支持该观点的论据是否充分、积极、站得住脚。这样才会论点明确，论据充分，才不会没有话可说。

历年的大学英语四、六级写作考试主要包括以下几种体裁：(1)议论文；(2)说明文；(3)描写文；(4)图表作文；(5)书信。本书将分五章对上述五种文体的写作技巧逐一进行讲解。

# 第一章 议论文的写作

## 一、四、六级考试议论文命题的固定模式

历年来四、六级考试议论文的命题均采用一种模式，即“三点提示”式：

1. 有些人对某个话题的正面意见；
2. 另一些人对该话题的反面意见；
3. 作者本人的看法或态度。

需要说明的是，“三点提示”式并不一定非要写成三段式，尽管我们常常将其写成三段。议论文展开的顺序应当与三点提示的顺序一致，即首先介绍有些人对某个话题的正面看法及支持他们这种看法的理由；其次介绍另一些人对该话题的反面看法及支持他们这种看法的理由；最后阐述作者本人的看法及形成这种看法的一些有说服力的理由。请看下面 4 篇四、六级作文考题的命题及范文：

### 范文 1

#### Can Money Buy Happiness? (1995. 1)

1. 有人认为金钱是幸福之源 (source of happiness)
2. 也有人认为金钱是万恶之源 (root of all evil)
3. 我的看法

Can money buy happiness? Some people would not hesitate a moment to give an affirmative answer since money can virtually meet all their needs in life; food and shelter, luxury and amusement. In their minds, money means everything.

Other people, however, view money as the root of all evil. They maintain that almost all organized crimes such as drug trafficking and making and selling fake products are attributed to the pursuit of money.

In my opinion, money itself is not to blame for all evil conducts that are related

to it. The simple truth is that no one, good or bad, can practically live without money. The determining factor lies in how one obtains money and how he or she uses it. There is nothing evil if one earns money through hard and legitimate work or through useful inventions. So money, when earned and used properly, helps improve the quality of one's life, but it may cause trouble when in the hands of those outlaws.

## 范文 2

### **Should Fireworks Be Banned? (1995. 6)**

1. 有人认为放鞭炮是好事，为什么？
2. 有人认为放鞭炮是坏事，为什么？
3. 我的看法

Some people are in favor of setting off fireworks during the Spring Festival because they believe that the cracking sounds of firecrackers can drive away those evil haunting spirits and bring good luck to the coming year. Besides, the pleasant beautiful colors of some fireworks can really add to the festival's happy atmosphere. Seeing it as a kind of exciting game, small kids are simply keen on this activity.

But there are some people who deem it harmful to set off fireworks as they tend to look at the negative side of it: each year, many kids get seriously injured when setting off fireworks; fires often break out because of misplaced fireworks, and furthermore, the unbearable noise and dense smoggy air caused by the explosions may do great harm to human health.

Whether you like it or not, setting off fireworks is a traditional way of celebrating the Spring Festival. Without it, this great festival would not seem so great and merry. In my opinion, fireworks will not be so harmful as they seem if they are set off in designated areas and with great caution.

## 范文 3

### **Do Lucky Numbers Really Bring Good Luck? (1998. 6)**

1. 有些人认为某些数字会带来好运
2. 也有人认为数字和运气无关
3. 试说明你的看法

In the eyes of some Chinese people, certain numbers can bring them good luck. Take, for example, the number "8." In Cantonese dialect, "8" is read as "fa." which

has the same sound as a Chinese word meaning “making a big fortune.” Because of its pleasing sound, many people would go all out to end the numbers of their houses, cars, and telephones with “8,” even at the cost of a lot of money.

Other people, however, think it ridiculous to relate such numbers to a person’s luck. They regard people who believe in that notion as ignorant and foolish. To them, a number is one thing, and luck is another.

I also believe that numbers have nothing to do with luck, and I suggest that luck is a matter of preparation plus opportunity. It is not lucky numbers but hard work that can bring good luck. Like they say, opportunities are only for the prepared mind.

#### 范文 4

#### Reading Selectively or Extensively? (1999. 6)

1. 有人认为读书要有选择
2. 有人认为应当博览群书
3. 我的看法

No one denies that reading is indispensable for those who want to upgrade their education. Yet people disagree as it comes to how to read, with some of them in favor of *selective reading* and others preferring to read *extensively*.

Those who tend to read *selectively* maintain that proper selection is needed when reading. After all, the number of books ever published is so astronomically large that no one can cover even one percent of them within one’s limited life span, and besides, it is not how much one reads but what he or she reads that really counts. *Selective reading*, therefore, is a clever choice.

Other people are against this idea, insisting that *extensive reading* enables us to acquire all the knowledge we need to cope with our work and life. Furthermore, today’s science has been advanced to such an extent that many branches of science overlap. So if one wants to achieve great success in one’s own field, he has to go beyond his field rather than confine himself to it.

I personally stand for those who favor reading *extensively*, as we all need to *broaden our mind and enrich our life experience*. If we only read certain kinds of books, our mind will be narrow and our life, dull. Who, indeed, will refuse to enjoy a colorful life?

## 二、议论文写作的要求

议论文就是要求作者通过事实材料和逻辑推理来阐明自己的观点，表明自己赞成什么，反对什么，即通过讲道理、论是非来发表自己对某一个问题的看法。

一段完整的议论由论点、论据和论证三部分组成。论点就是作者的观点或主张。论点必须正确、鲜明，这样才便于进行论证。四、六级考试中的议论文一般只有一个论点，即中心论点。论据就是作者用来证明自己论点的理由或事实论据必须确凿、典型、恰当，具有说服力。论证是指运用论据来证明观点的逻辑推理过程。在一篇议论文中，常常按照提出问题、分析问题、解决问题的逻辑顺序来安排文章的结构与层次。

议论文的写作要求：

(1) 论点要正确、清晰、鲜明。在论证中，无论是对正面观点的阐述，还是对反面观点的反驳，自己的论点都必须正确、清晰、鲜明，必须明确地表达出自己赞成什么，反对什么。

(2) 论据要充实可靠。这就要求作者选择的论据要典型、真实可靠，最好是提供一些经成功的科学实验或缜密的社会调查而得出的结论。只有提供充实的论据，文章才有说服力。

(3) 论证要合乎逻辑。这就要求论证时，说理要严谨，推理要合乎逻辑。

### 1. 段落的统一性及语篇的连贯性

#### (1) 段落的统一性

英语段落有一大特点，即一个段落只涉及一个主题（甚至只是一个主题的某个方面）。段落中的一个句子（即主题句 topic sentence）点出主题并说明作者对该主题的看法，而其他所有句子（支持主题句的句子 supporting details）都是为展开该主题而给出的事实、例证、推理，它们与主题紧密相关。段落中不应有任何与主题无关的句子。英文段落的这种各个句子与主题的关联性被称作段落的统一性。请看以下两例：

(a)

**Birds build their nests** in all kinds of places. Some are high in trees, on the sides of buildings or on the top of hills while others on the ground, in fields or by stream banks. Birds also use various nesting materials to build their nests, including sticks, mud, stones, grass and so on. Some birds are able to change to be suitable for different conditions. They'll build their nests wherever they can find a spot and use whatever materials they can find. But other birds will build their nests only in certain places and use only certain materials.

(b)

**"Culture shock"** occurs as a result of lack of understanding in a new culture. It

happens to people who have been suddenly “transplanted abroad.” Newcomers may be anxious because they do not speak the language, know the customs, or understand people’s behavior in daily life. The visitor finds that “yes” may not necessarily mean “yes,” that friendliness does not always mean friendship, or that statements that appear to be serious are really intended as jokes. The foreigner may be unsure as to when to shake hands or embrace, when to initiate conversations, or how to approach a stranger. The notion of “culture shock” helps explain feelings of bewilderment and disorientation. Language problems do not account for all the frustrations that people feel. When one is deprived of everything that was once familiar, such as understanding a transportation system, knowing how to register for university classes, or knowing how to make friends, difficulties in coping with the new society may arise.

[ 点评 ] (a 段的主题是 Birds build their nests, 作者在阐述这一主题时涉及两方面的内容 即 where 以及 using what materials; (b) 段的主题是 culture shock 作者分析了造成 culture shock 的原因, 并举例说明什么是 culture shock。这两段都是以某一个主题为中心, 从不同方面阐述了主题。

### (2) 语篇的连贯性

英语议论文的段落多采取直线展开式, 即段落开始直接切入主题, 并给出事实、例证、推理等。英语议论文段落的这种展开方式是形成其语篇连贯的基础。语篇的连贯是指段落中各句的意义通过某种有序的排列(如时间顺序、因果顺序、逻辑顺序等)而相互关联。在论述该段落主题的时候, 每后一个句子都是建立在前面一个句子的基础之上的如果去掉段落中的一个句子, 这种连贯便会受到影响, 就会造成读者在理解上的困难。

## 2. 议论文中心段落的主题句及其论据

一篇议论文能否获得高分与其中心段落主题句的质量不无关联, 而主题句质量的高低则又取决于审题的好坏和论据的选择(即所选的论据在逻辑性、说理性、准确性及与主题内容的关联性等方面是否都经得起推敲)。需要明确的是, 中心段落应只有两个组成部分: 段落的主题句(topic sentence)和支持主题句的论据(supporting details)。

### (1) 主题句

主题句是英文段落大意的表现形式。主题句可以位于段首、段中或段尾。一般建议考生将主题句放在段落的起始部分, 开宗明义, 这样一开始就规定和限制了段落的发展方向, 同时也便于读者明白你想论述什么内容、表明什么观点。主题句是一句概括性的话, 用来表达一种观点或看法、一项意见或一事实, 或用来说明客观事物的总体特征或性质。

#### 概括性主题句和具体性主题句的对比

概括性和具体性的主题句都应由两个部分组成, 即主题和作者对主题的看法或态度, 两者缺一不可。假设要求考生写一篇有关吸烟的议论文, 那么 SMOKING 就是中心段落的主题。请看这个主题句:

Smoking is a habit of many men.

该主题句暴露出两个问题：(1)作者审题不清；(2)作者没有表明对主题的看法或态度。

一般说来，议论文要求写作者阐明自己对某个问题的看法或态度。因此要求写作者要认真审题，权衡某事的利与弊，然后确定自己的立场。

如何构建段落的主题句呢？

经认真审题后，用英文列出你所能想起的与主题有关的例证。我们还用吸烟这个话题为例：

## SMOKING

1. Smoking can cause such a disease as lung cancer.
2. Reports say that merely 3 grams of nicotine can kill a large animal.
3. Experts say that smoking one cigarette can reduce one's life by about 10 minutes and that chain smoking is even more hazardous.
4. Smoking after a meal can also disturb one's digestive system.
5. Heavy smoking can seriously affect an adult's sexuality.
6. Smoking does harm to second-hand smokers as well.
7. Smoking makes one's mouth smell.
8. The life expectancy of smokers is shorter than that of nonsmokers.
9. Smoking in bed may cause fire.

根据上面所列出的九个句子，我们可以选择以下两个句子作为主题句，即：

(1) Smoking is a bad habit.

(2) Smoking is a bad habit that does a lot of harm to human health.

第一个主题句是概括性的，因为它概括了作者对吸烟的态度，但不如第二个具体。因此，在展开中心段落时不仅要谈吸烟对人体健康的不良影响，还要涉及吸烟在其他方面造成的危害。这样的段落考生较难掌握。因此，主题句越是相对地具体段落就越好展开。第二个主题句是具体性的，但这并不等于说第一个主题句不好。如果主题句太过具体，段落可展开的范围就会过窄。如果范围较窄，有些考生所能列出的例证就会相对较少。整篇文章写下来后可能达不到所要求的字数。因此选择哪一个主题句要视具体情况而定。

用于支持段落主题句的论据其实就是我们开始列出的那些例证，但应视主题句所涉及的范围大小而有所取舍。下面我们就上面的两个主题句分别构建两个不同的中心段落：

(a)

**Smoking is a bad habit.** For one thing, smoking in bed may cause a terrible fire. For another, regular smoking makes one's mouth smell bad. And worst of all, cigarette smoking does great harm to human health. In many cases, cigarette has proved to be the direct cause of such a fatal disease as cancer—hence its nickname

“Cancer Stick.” Experts say that smoking one cigarette can reduce one’s life by about 10 minutes and that chain smoking is far more hazardous. Recent findings of medical research show that even a tiny drop of nicotine (about 3 grams in weight) can kill a large animal like a horse. Some medical reports have also proved that heavy smoking would seriously affect an adult’s sexuality, and smoking after a meal also disturbs one’s digestive system. Cigarette smoking not only jeopardizes the physical health of a smoker, but also affects the health of a nonsmoker who passively inhales the polluted air into his or her lungs when he or she is exposed to a winding shroud of cigarette smoke. The impact on such passive smokers (also called second-hand smokers), according to the experts in the medical field, can be even more damaging, and that is why smoking is usually prohibited in most public places.

(b)

**Smoking is a bad habit that does a lot of harm to human health.** Cigarette smoking does great harm to human health. In many cases, cigarette has proved to be the direct cause of such a fatal disease as cancer—hence its nickname, “Cancer Stick”. Experts say that smoking one cigarette can reduce one’s life by about 10 minutes and that chain smoking is far more hazardous. Recent findings of medical research show that even a tiny drop of nicotine (about 3 grams in weight) can kill a large animal like a horse. Some medical reports have also proved that heavy smoking would seriously affect an adult’s sexuality, and smoking after a meal also disturbs one’s digestive system. Cigarette smoking not only jeopardizes the physical health of a smoker, but also affects the health of a nonsmoker who passively inhales the polluted air into his or her lungs when he or she is exposed to a winding shroud of cigarette smoke. The impact on such passive smokers (also called second-hand smokers), according to the experts in the medical field, can be even more damaging, and that is why smoking is usually prohibited in most public places.

[ 点评 ] (a) 段中的主题句概括性强，所以作者从各个角度来论证 **Smoking is a bad habit** 如会造成火灾、使吸烟者口腔有异味、有损身体健康、对被动吸烟者的危害等；(b) 段中的主题句相对具体，作者主要从吸烟对健康造成危害这一个角度来论证 **Smoking is a bad habit that does a lot of harm to human health** 这一主题。可见不同的主题句需要有不同的论据来支持。

导向性的主题句

导向性的主题句与概括性或具体性的主题句的区别在于：导向性的主题句中并没有表明作者对主题的看法或态度，而是指出了支持主题句的论据的发展方向与范围。下列几个句子都属于导向性的主题句：

- 1) America today has three major pollution problems.
- 2) How to learn English well?
- 3) Some people believe that women have the ability to challenge men in all ways.

4) To make a wise choice, two important factors should be taken into consideration.

5) The development of science and technology has brought about many changes in people's life.

6) To avoid energy crisis in the future, the government must take measures.

用来支持导向性主题句的论据一般多以列举的方式展开,如:for example, for instance, first (second, finally), firstly (secondly, lastly), on the one hand (on the other hand), for one thing (for another) 等例如:

***In my opinion, there is good reason to take CET-6.*** For one thing, the aim of passing CET-6 encourages you to go on developing reading, writing, speaking and listening abilities in English. For another, with good command of English, you can communicate with English-speaking people freely, which may in turn bring your English to a higher level. What's more, a CET-6 certificate may promise you better opportunities in finding a satisfactory job in the future.

[点评] 作者在段落开头概括性地总结了主题句我们有充足的理由参加 CET 六级考试。接着,围绕这一主题从不同方面列举了具体理由。段落内容紧凑、中心论点明确、论据充分。

## (2) 论据

论据的展开必须根据和围绕主题句,论据的内容必须详实例如:根据 The Internet plays an important role in our life 这一主题句,作者可以围绕 Internet 在不同方面,如学习、生活、与人交流、获取信息等多方面所起的重要作用进行阐述。具体内容如下:

With the rapid development of computer technology, the Internet is playing an important role in our life. When you surf the net, the world seems smaller than ever, and New York seems no farther than your hometown. Every hour, thousands of people, including young children, university students, scientists, businessmen, seek various information through the Internet. You can discuss international crises, football match, or share your viewpoint on current affairs with known and unknown people. In this way, you may make some friends, who have common views with you. What's more, various meetings are held on the net. "What a wonder!" you may say.

## 3. 怎样支持论点

写一篇议论文时,你必须尽力使读者信服你的观点是正确的。因此,你就必须用强有力的论据支持你的论点。支持论点一般可以通过以下几种方法:

### (1) 在主题句中直陈你的观点

议论文的主题句应该明确、切题。主题句可以出现在段落开头、中间或结尾。最好将主题句写在段落的开头,这样既节省时间,又可以突出、明确自己的观点。请看下面的例子:

Travel will broaden a person's knowledge. Once you have had the pleasure of meeting people of other countries . . . your thoughts and decisions in the future will be affected . . . in some way . . . by them and the impression of the people and nations you have visited. No matter how well educated you may be . . . you will learn a lot during your travels.

这是一个主题句位于段首的例子。作者首先开宗明义提出自己的观点——Travel will broaden a person's knowledge ,接着具体说明旅游如何增长知识。

#### (2) 给出相关原因或事实作为论据

议论文中总是需要原因或事实来证明自己提出的观点。你所给出的原因或事实必须切题、准确、真实,这样才能使读者相信你的观点的正确性。请看下面一个例子:

During the past five decades, the computer has been rapidly advanced. What once required a very large room for bulky computer equipment can now be carried by a person in a briefcase and be operated everywhere. Personal computers are very common today in high schools . . . businesses . . . and even families. They are used for many things that were previously done by hand.

这一段中作者用具体的事实从三方面(计算机的体积、普及性以及功能)论证了自己在主题句中提出的观点——在最近50年中,计算机得到了飞速发展。

#### (3) 举例说明

列举具体的实例可以帮助读者更好地理解你的观点,使抽象的观点具体化、形象化。例如:

In developing countries . . . on the other hand . . . people have fewer calories than necessary. In India . . . for example . . . almost everyone gets a much lower daily intake of calories than considered basic . . . namely . . . 1 810 instead of 2 500 . . .

这一段中作者举了印度这个典型的发展中国家来说明自己的观点——发展中国家人民消费少于人体必需的卡路里。

#### (4) 引用引言

引言可以是一个单词、词组、句子甚至段落。引用引言既可以进一步强调自己的观点,又可以为文章增添色彩和感情。但是注意不要过多地引用引言。

引用引言时注意要与原词、原句、原段的措辞、拼写、大小写、标点等保持一致,还要注意引言的风格适合于你写的作文,这样才能读起来连贯、通顺。例如:

Happiness is very important to our life. Shakespeare said, "One who is unhappy can never get a beneficial result." This good advice gives us the best method to make our mental and physical lives both strong.

这个段落中恰当地运用引言说明一个众所周知的观点——幸福对于我们的生活很重要。

#### (5) 注明出处

有时,可以不必引用原文,用自己的话陈述并说明你的论点或论据的可靠来源,同样可以强调自己的观点,令人信服。例如:

According to a recent article in *China Daily* . . . lung cancer is ten times higher

among smokers than non-smokers.

这句话中作者注明自己的观点出自于权威出版物 *China Daily* (《中国日报》), 增加了观点的可信度。

以上的几种论证方法不是孤立的。一篇议论文中, 往往会综合运用多种方法论证自己的观点。

#### 4. 怎样组织论点

组织论点, 又称为立论, 即运用充分有力的证据来证实自己观点的正确性写作中经常运用三种方法进行立论——演绎法、归纳法、类比法。

##### (1) 演绎法

演绎法就是引用一些经典的原话, 或用公认的、众所周知的科学原理或道理来推断出一个新的论点, 即以理论为依据, 证明自己观点的正确性例如:

The emergence of laid-off workers is the inevitable result of current economic reform. The purpose of the new market economic system is to bring about the economic development to the largest degree. This requires the labors to contribute their utmost to promote social wealth. Under the formerly planning economic system, plenty of people did the work which could be managed by several people. This resulted in the waste of labors and low degree of productivity. The current economic reform is to change this situation and to bring everybody's talent and skill to full play. So the laying off of the workers does not mean that they are useless, but that they can be re-employed in other jobs, more suitable to themselves.

这段文字用了一些公认的经济原理, 如: 工人下岗是经济发展的必然结果、新的市场经济要最大程度地发展经济、原有的计划经济体制造成劳动力的浪费和生产效率低下等, 进而推出了作者自己的论点——the laying off of the workers does not mean that they are useless, but that they can be re-employed in other jobs, more suitable to themselves (下岗并不意味着下岗工人没有用了, 而是意味着他们可以找到其他更适合自己的工作)。

##### (2) 归纳法

归纳法就是通过一些个别事例, 归纳出它们的共同特性, 综合出它们的共同本质, 得出一个带有普遍意义的论点, 即以事实为依据, 证明自己观点的正确性。例如:

Look at what has happened to our other parks that outsiders are allowed to use. Early every weekend morning, the picnic tables are always taken by outsiders. The outsiders never clean up their trash, and they constantly blast their radios so that they disturb residents who live nearby. Nobody from our city can use these parks anymore. I disagree with the article saying we should allow people from surrounding communities to use our city's Foothill Park. We must never let outsiders use Foothill Park. It has to be saved for residents.

这段中作者首先列举了其他城市的人给我们城市的公园造成的破坏, 然后总结出 Foothill Park 应该留给我们自己用, 即用具体的事实证明自己的观点是正确的