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GRE 官方写作题库 55

In order for any work of art—for example, a film, a novel, a poem, or a song—to have merit, people must be able to understand it.

范文

The argument above asserts that people must understand art in order for it to have merit. I disagree with this argument. I assert that if an individual derives satisfaction from the art, whether or not the art is understood, then the art has merit.

	内容	详细条目
段落	此段结构	第一句话简单复述了题目;第二句话作者直接提出了自己的立
		场:不同意题中观点;第三句话解释了不同意的原因。作者认
		为,如果艺术给予人满足感,无论被理解与否,艺术都是有价
		值的。
	此段功能	分析题目,提出作者观点。

Let's first look to the function of art—it is meant to elicit a reaction. As Freud said, art, in essence, is a kind of release of individual lust, converting the human libido into plentiful creativity. According to Freud, creation of the art in and of itself proves that it has merit. It is through the work of art that artists express their passions, emotions, and desires. In this case, art is first about the artist.

	内容	详细条目
段落	此段结构	作者在段首句提出了本段的论点,关于艺术的功能。接下来他/她用弗洛伊德的观点解释了艺术在本质上是释放个人欲望,使人的生命本能转化为丰饶的创造力。这样艺术本身就证明了自己的merit。
	此段功能	论点一,从艺术家的角度来说,艺术的功能在于激发个人本能的情感。

Let's look to the audience and their understanding of art. Understanding the artistic work is anything but an abrupt process. It calls for the admirers' gradual appreciation. The paintings of Van Gogh, for example, now recognized as among the greatest in the impressionism style, were deemed worthless by the connoisseurs of its time. Beethoven's early listeners, again, accustomed to the predictable harmonies and melodic lengths of Hayden, dismissed his symphonies as literally causing their hearts to hurt. There's no denying the fact that artwork will lose its value without the adoration of its time. This phenomenon proves that even if some do not appreciate art, artistic works may have a chance apiece to awaken in the hearts of later audiences.

	内容	详细条目	
段落	此段结构	第一句指出本段围绕的核心:观众及其对艺术的理解。	第二句为



	本段论点:理解艺术绝不是一个突然的过程。艺术需要仰慕者渐
	进的欣赏。作者用梵高的画作和贝多芬的音乐为例,解释道他们
	的艺术作品开始都没有被人们理解和赞赏,但后代却认可他们的
	成就与贡献。
此段功能	论点二,从观众欣赏的角度来说,理解艺术的过程有时很漫长。

To look at the matter from another angle, understanding art can sometimes be difficult. However, artwork presents us with insight into what is eternal and universal, while at the same time, provides no conclusive indication about whether or not the audience understands it. Further, the artist sometimes doesn't or sometimes can't provide a satisfactory explanation as to the meaning of the art. Beauty, many would insist, maintains aesthetically in spite of the fact that few can wholly depict the very essence of it. Interpretation in terms of meaning is meaningless. The same is true with art. The pictures of Picasso, though elusive at its appearance, contributed a lot to the development of cubistic style. The sculptures of Daley, seem puzzled to most of the audience, still took a lead in the modern art.

	内容	详细条目
段落	此段结构	第一句提出了本段的中心论点:艺术有时候难以理解。随后作者
		解释了几个原因。首先,艺术作品本身不具备表现观众听众理解
		它与否的确凿迹象。更进一步来说,有时艺术家也未必能给自己
		的作品提供合理的解释。第三,不可解释的艺术依然是艺术,试
		图去解释是无意义的。作者举了毕加索和 Daley 的例子来支持自
		己的观点。
	此段功能	论点三,从艺术作品的角度来说,艺术有时候就是难以理解的。

In the final analysis, art is its own merit and doesn't require people to understand it to be worthy. However, being understood is a positive quality and while some people do not understand art, one can always wait for a new audience rather than considering the work a loss. Art has merit as long as it was meaningful to the artist in its creation and as long as there are still new audiences to have a look.

	内容	详细条目
段落	此段结构	第一句话对应了第一个论点,指出艺术本身已具有价值,这个价值
		存在于人们的理解之外。第二句对应第二个论点,理解艺术不是突
		发,而是渐进的过程。第三句话对应第三个论点,对那些难以理解
		的艺术作品,艺术家本身也享受了创作过程,也会有人欣赏,那么
		艺术也还是有价值的。
	此段功能	总结全文论述,重申作者观点。



满分要素剖析

语言表达

这一篇规矩的五段总分总作文用到了不少 GRE 级别的词汇和表达,配合准确得当的语法运用,使文章显得很地道。尽管偶有拼写错误(已改),但不影响理解。在此还是要提醒考生,警惕拼写、人称、单复数、时态等"硬伤"错误。这类简单的无心之举会令人对你英文水平的印象打折扣。

As Freud said, art, in essence, is a kind of release of individual lust, converting the human libido into plentiful creativity. 这句话中的 in essence 本可以放在 individual lust 的后面,作为修饰谓语动词的状语。然而作者将其提前到主语后谓语前作为插入语,意在强调被插入的成分。 In essence 是"本质上"之意,在这里强调它自然是为了提醒人们注意艺术的本质,后文用它来证明这个本质与别人理解它与否无关。

Understanding the artistic work is anything but an abrupt process. 本句采用了现在分词短语作主语的用法,但这并不是全句亮点。需要考生注意的是 anything but 这个词组,它是表示"根本不,决不,远非"之意的固定搭配。

Beauty, many would insist, maintains aesthetically in spite of the fact that few can wholly depict the very essence of it. 这句话句尾 the very essence of it 的 very 用法很常见,因此希望考生在写作中可以在合适的条件下使用,显得文章比较地道。Very 在这里是强调其后的名词 essence,表示最佳的,最合适的,最想表达的本质和精华。

逻辑结构

本作文题要求考生对题目中的 statement 发表意见,关注的重点是艺术作品的可理解性与其价值的关系。从总起全文的第一段可见,作者对题中 statement 有异议,他/她的观点是艺术作品无论被人理解与否,都具有价值。作者分别从艺术家、观众和艺术品的角度出发,选择了三个论点来解释的观点。这三个角度做到了涵盖本题要点,可见作者的逻辑很严谨。



