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The human mind will always be superior to machines because machines are only tools of human minds.

范文

The argument above consists of three claims: (1) machines are tools of human minds; (2) human minds will always be superior to machines; and (3) it is because machines are human tools that human minds will always be superior to machines. While I concede the first claim, whether I agree with the other two claims depends on how one would consider the word *superior*.

	内容	详细条目
段落	此段结构	细看之下本段只有两句话。第一个长句分析了题目,第二句提出了
		作者观点。作者将题目内容解析为三层:机器是人类思想的工具;
		人脑优越于机器;正因为机器是人脑的工具所以人脑优于机器。作
		者同意第一条,但对第二三条的意见要基于"优越"的意义。
	此段功能	分析题目,提出作者观点。

The statement is clearly accurate insofar as machines are tools produced by human minds. After all, would any machine even exist unless a human being invented it? Even machines designed to entertain or amuse us—for example, toy robots, cars and video games, and novelty items—are in fact tools. Their inventors use them for a variety of purposes including engaging in commerce and the business of entertainment and amusement. And, the claim that a machine can be an end in itself, without purpose or utilitarian function for humans whatsoever, is dubious at best, since I cannot conjure up even a single example of any such machine. Whenever are machine is created, there is usually some purpose designated for it.

	内容	详细条目
段落	此段结构	总分结构。第一句提出本段中心,同意机器是人脑的工具的观点。
		接下来的三句话解释了无论哪种机器都是因人类有特定需要而发明
		的;再接下来的一句说道无法举出没有目的而设计的机器。最后一
		句重申了机器是配合人需要的目的而产生的。
	此段功能	提出论点一,解释机器是人类思想的工具的原因。

As for the statement's second claim, it is not clear whether man or machine is superior because each one can do something the other cannot. We have devised machines that perform number crunching and other rote cerebral tasks with greater accuracy and higher speed than the human mind ever could. In fact, it is because we can devise machines that are superior in these respects that we devise them. However, if one defines superiority not in terms of competence in task performing, perhaps we could consider human minds as being superior. For example, machines



have no capacity for independent thought, for making judgments based on normative considerations, or for developing emotional responses to intellectual problems.

	内容	详细条目
段落	此段结构	总分结构。首句指出很难区分机器和人到底哪个优越,因为各有各能
		做和不能做的事。接下来的两句解释说机器在数字运算等方面比人脑
		快而准,但正是因为人脑在这方面更优越才能设计出机器。随后的两
		句又谈到机器没有独立思考的能等等。这都是在解释机器和人各自的
		优势劣势。
	此段功能	第二个论点,作者认为很难说机器和人哪个更优越。

Until now, EQ in machines is purely science fiction. Taking the previous points into consideration, without EQ, machines can never really be fairly compared to people. Recent advances in biotechnology, particularly in the area of human genome research, suggest that within the 21st Century we'll witness machines that can learn to think on their own, to repair and nurture themselves, to experience visceral sensations, and so forth. In other words, machines will soon exhibit the traits to which we humans attribute our own superiority. In that case, the argument will have to be reexamined.

	内容	详细条目
段落	此段结构	这一段可以看作是分总结构,前面的几个句子设想了一下机器具有
		EQ 的情况。后两句指出机器如果展示出人类现在引以为豪的特征,
		那么人和机器的优劣性需要另行讨论。
	此段功能	此段展望了机器在未来发展出自己的 EQ 的可能性,提出那时机器和
		人的优劣需要再讨论。

In sum, humans do create machines and so they are certainly tools of the human mind. And insofar as humans have the unique capacity for independent thought, subjective judgment, and emotional response, it also seems fair to claim superiority over our machines. Besides, if humans are ever able to replicate consciousness, I don't think it would be sensible to call the creation a machine, but instead, a son or daughter.

	内容	详细条目
段落	此段结构	尾端的三句话分别对应了上面三段的论述。第一句指出人类创造了机
		器,机器是人脑的工具。第二句提到人类有独立思考、主观判断和情
		感反馈等能力,在这方面优于机器。第三句,对应上一段的论述,指
		出如果人类可以创造出有意识的机器,那么机器可能会变得与人一
		样。
	此段功能	总结全文论述,对应了作者观点。



满分要素剖析

语言表达

本文作者在写作中用到了很多难度较高的词汇。这些词汇不仅表达了应有的意思,还令文章显得自然而地道。语法上的错误几乎不存在,整篇文章长短句交错使用,结构亦很清晰,使读者在愉悦中读完整篇文章。

…it is because machines are human tools that human minds will always be superior to machines. 这里使用了 it is…that 的强调句型,来突出人脑优于机器的原因。作用是在解释题目内容时让读者更清楚因果之间的关系。

The statement is clearly accurate insofar as machines are tools produced by human minds. 这一句里的 insofar 是一个书面用语,和 as 连用表示"在……的范围,在……的情况下"。

And, the claim that a machine can be an end in itself, without purpose or utilitarian function for humans whatsoever, is dubious at best, since I cannot conjure up even a single example of any such machine. 作者在这个美好的长句中展示了其英语功力。在此想谈到的亮点有二:首先,whatsoever 用于强调其前方否定的内容,即 without 后面的分句内容。第二,conjure up 这个词组的使用就如同使用了修辞手法一样,因为这一词组的意思是"使呈现于脑海/耳边",可以译为"浮现",非常生动。

We have devised machines that perform number crunching and other rote cerebral tasks with greater accuracy and higher speed than the human mind ever could. 这句话中有一个词组用得比较地道,即 number crunching,它是一个口语常用的表达,表示与数字有关的运算、学科等。

逻辑结构

作者在首段将题目解析为三个层面并提出自己意见,在接下来的文章中,他/她也是对应这三个层面分别解释了理由。具体来说,三个层面分别解释了(1)机器是因人类思想、应人类需要而生的工具;(2)机器和人因为各有能做到和做不到的,孰优孰劣很难说;(3)人类与机器的智能和 EQ 的关系。因此,作者承认机器的确是工具,但不能简单地将它与人对比优劣性,而是应该具体分析这二者的关系。



