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小秋裤们！世界上所有文章写得好的人都有一个共同特点——看书多，且能够背诵其中的部分或全部经典词、句、篇。天下文章一大抄，顶级“抄手”览天下文，择其善者而习之；呆禽览一文，择其全文而“袭”之，结果自然不同！范文的背诵贵在范围广，类型多。最重要的是，一定要十分细致准确地记住每个词、每句话的搭配和使用语境。要达成如此精细而深刻的记忆，子睿老师以为，非“万遍朗读”不可达成！英文学习固然不能死记硬背，然书读百遍其义自见，每天朗读，假以时日，有正常智能之人类皆可百分百习得文章精髓并融会贯通。若如此，则写作考满分可计日而待也！《子睿托福范文精选》由王子睿老师专为托福考生编辑整理，精选自创及其他作者的优秀文章，此次更新的版本，加入了若干篇独立写作，另特加入综合写作范文数篇，供同学们学习参考。后续会不断更新，并在考满分网 <http://www.kaomanfen.com/> 上以精美练习形式呈现。若有任何问题，请联系子睿老师微信 zirui1984；获取机经及课程信息，请关注微信公共账号“王子睿老师”。

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**Real test topic 1:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is more important to make friends with people who can have fun with us than to make friends with people who can help us when we are in need.

Friends, in some ways, determine what kind of life we live and thus we choose them carefully. Since friends have different types, people naturally try to distinguish good ones from the bad. Some people claim that it offers more advantages to make friends with people who can have fun with them than with people who can help them when they are in need. However, my attitude is just the opposite of such statement. I believe that no one is more important and valuable than those who can help.

Making friends with people who can have fun with us is not always necessary or beneficial. Having fun is indeed an indispensable part of life, yet we do not always need friends to do so. When the timing is right, we can have fun with anyone without making friends with them. It is just like that we dance with strangers on a square when celebrating the national day, or that we have an interesting chat with the driver while taking a taxi. Such things happen frequently, but these people do not necessarily become our friends. What is more, even if such people become our friends, they would not act as important ones if the only thing we do together is having fun. Staying with fun friends too much can easily distract our attention from things that we are supposed to focus on, which means a waste of time and letting opportunities slip. People with so many tasks to deal with every day seldom need or think of their fun friends.

On the contrary, friends who can help us when we are in need not only benefit our life but even change it in an unexpected positive way. Getting support from others always brings us a sense of security and makes us feel safe no matter what difficulty we encounter. Making friends with such people means comfort, protection, and sometimes, even privileges. That is why many of us consider making some local friends the most urgent mission that we need to accomplish after moving to a new city or a new country. In addition, some people not only help us when we ask for assistance but even remind us of what we need or lack without being required to. These people can be our saviors as well as mentors, for they can even prevent us from being too proud of ourselves and making terrible mistakes. To me, my parents are such kind of friends and they give me advice even if they know that I may not like it. Thanks to them, I have achieved accomplishments better than most people expected.

Friends might be the most influential people in our lives. They are like teachers, supporters and reminders. Although we can also have fun with them, we still know quite clearly that this is not why we value them so much. (Written by Zirui Wang)



**Real test topic 2:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Cars have more effects on human beings than airplanes do.

Cars and airplanes are both significant inventions in human civilization and they influence our lives in different ways. These days, we often hear people say that the influence of cars far outweighs which of planes, for they are used more frequently. However, I believe this is a misunderstanding, for importance is not just a matter of the frequency of usage. Automobiles and jets complete each other by playing different yet indispensable parts in our lives, so we cannot value one more than the other.

With cars, our trips will be fun and flexible. If there is no limit of time, most people would choose to travel by having a road trip, taking pictures for beautiful sceneries, enjoying wonderful foods all along the journey. But with jets, they have no choice but to sit tight, even without being allowed to use their cell phones, not to mention that foods on planes are usually bad-tasting. Also, cars can be parked anywhere they can go, but airplanes need to land at an airport, which is not seen everywhere. In other words, cars can directly take people to their destinations; jets, however, still need to be assisted by other transports to deliver their passengers to where they want to go. We often see that people drive their cars to offices, schools and supermarkets, but such places are not even able to accommodate helicopters, not to mention jets. It is quite obvious that cars can do the parts that planes never do and we cannot live without them.

Although automobiles enjoy many advantages, we still need planes to make the society function for the time they save and the possibility they offer. For international or intercontinental traveling, airplanes would always be the primary choice, as most people do not want to waste too much time on the way. The saved time could be used in lots of more meaningful ways like having a good rest, preparing for a conference or visiting a friend. In addition, people taking airplanes usually do not worry about what is between where they leave and where they go. However, cars can be blocked by oceans, rivers, mountains and forests, which makes them not even practical options when traveling to some destinations. No matter how off-road a car is, it has limitations in the face of a varied topography, which has not influence on planes at all. Airplanes' merits make them perfect choices on many occasions when cars are not capable or suitable, and living without them is also unthinkable.

Since cars and planes cannot replace each other while both handling important tasks, it would be illogical to claim that the influence of one kind is greater than the other's.

(Written by Zirui Wang)



**Real test topic 3:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Telephone has more effects on people's lives than television does.

Telephones and TV sets are quite common appliances in modern families and they influence people's lives in different ways. Nowadays, some people claim that the influence of telephones already outweighs which of television, for they feel that they use telephones more frequently. However, I believe this is a popular misunderstanding. Actually, people of different ages will have different answers to the same question. Young people (people under 50) rely on telephones much more than on TV, yet aged people (people older than 50) are more likely to be influenced by TV programs than by phone calls.

Most young people cannot live without phones, but they will not feel the same about television. Young people are either students at school or employees in companies, so they will need to keep in touch with their classmates, teachers, colleagues and bosses. Missing an important phone call or text message might be unacceptable to young people, for they may miss a test or even lose a job because of that. Telephones are also indispensable tools for young people to contact friends and to make engagements. However, most young people do not watch TV frequently. The two main purposes for people to watch TV are to acquire information and to entertain, and it is quite obvious that young people have many other better options. They usually turn to the internet for help if they want to learn about something, for information from that source is usually much more specific and professional. Also, they do not consider watching TV a good way of relaxation, for they would prefer going shopping or playing sports. Young people's life relies very much on their phones, yet television never plays a necessary or even important part.

For aged people, making phone calls is no longer a daily activity, but watching TV happens almost every day. Aged people no longer work, nor do they go to schools. So there is no need for them to keep in touch with many people frequently. The only people they want to contact with are their family members, who come back home at regular hours, and aged people would prefer to have face-to-face communication rather than make phone calls, for they sometimes cannot even hear clearly on the phone. On the contrary, television seems to be the best friend and companion to most aged people, for it helps them keep up with changes and kill the "too much leisure time". Many elderly do not surf the internet or read newspapers much, so TV programs might be the only source from which they can know what is happening around the globe. Since they have a whole day to spend at home alone if their children are working in companies or studying at school, some TV programs serve as the time-killing activities with which they will not feel lonely and bored. For aged people, a wonderful gift would be a TV set but not a new cell phone.

It is obvious that people with different expectations will have different choices. The importance of telephone and television differs as the users' ages change, which is why we cannot say that anyone always has more effects than the other does. (Written by Zirui Wang)



**Real test topic 4:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Students twenty years from now will no longer use printed books.

With the appearance of new technology, things which used to be popular and widely used keep turning into antiques in museums and many believe that printed books will be among those things in the future—some even go so far as to say that students at school will no longer use them in about 20 years. This, however, is an exaggeration from my perspective. Although the use of electronic books will be more frequent, it does not mean the disappearance of printed ones.

Since many students in developing countries are unlikely to afford e-books, printed ones will continue playing an important part in the near future. One of the primary advantages of using paper books is the low cost and even students in developed countries like the United States today are still using them almost every day. It is hard to believe that all the countries in the world will be wealthy enough to afford every student at school an electronic book. In comparison with e-books, printed books are much more cost-effective choices and will still be popular at school in most countries even 20 years from now.

Another reason which keeps paper books popular is the convenience they offer, and it is clear that e-books might never have those attributes. Paper books are so easy to take and to read anywhere: you never worry about running out of batteries and the notes you take or the signs you mark will never disappear because of that. On the contrary, people usually need to take extra care when using e-books, for they could be easily broken. We often see that people pass their printed books to others by throwing them, yet they can never do the same to e-books. Printed books just have too many advantages that they cannot be easily replaced soon.

No matter how advanced and powerful e-books are, schools should always consider carefully whether to use them since not all students can benefit from their merits. High school and university students may find electronic books powerful tools helping them study, yet primary school students, lacking self-control, are very likely to treat them like toys. The functions that printed books do not have, such as connection to the Internet and video playing, would probably distract them instead of improving their efficiency. It is for sure that both parents and teachers would not like to see that no matter now or in the future.

Technology indeed changes us and the world we live in, but it does not easily make things disappear. Printed books, enjoying so many advantages that e-books never possess, will continue to be used in the near future or even forever. (Written by Zirui Wang)



**Real test topic 5:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Patience is usually not a good thing and we need to take actions at once.

People encounter problems and issues throughout their lives, and being patient is always considered to be a wise practice. Nowadays, some people claim that patience is no longer a good thing and it sometimes lets opportunities slip, so taking action at once is usually a better choice. However, I cannot agree. In most cases, being patient continues to be a sound strategy.

Admittedly, being patient could make people miss opportunities, but it only happens when it comes to emergencies. When natural disasters happen, many people lose everything and become refugees. Some of them are trapped in burning houses or sinking cars, and we need to take actions at once instead of trying to figure out the best solutions. The time is so limited that taking any action will be better than taking no action at all. However, such situations do not happen frequently. Plus, rescuing people immediately without thinking carefully sometimes also brings unpleasant results.

Being patient sometimes means waiting for the best chance to carry out a deliberate plan, and taking actions before the right time is an unwise practice. My father here is a good case in point. He used to plan to set up his own company when he was a college student, but he did not do it immediately, for he believed that he was not experienced enough and there was still much to learn. My father worked for a large company for three years to gain field experience. He also spent two years finding a like-minded sponsor. He did not start his own business before everything was ready, and that is why his company now runs quite well and makes large profits.

Sometimes people take actions at once when they are in a bad mood, and being patient may help them avoid making terrible mistakes. All parents want their children to do well at school, and they usually get upset if their children fail to satisfy them. Some parents are not patient enough to allow children to make mistakes and to learn from these mistakes, and instead, they blame children violently. Being treated in an inappropriate way, children are very likely to become passive and diffident. Many young parents often regret that they hurt their children's feelings, and they all admit that if they could be patient at first, some negative results can be avoided.

Even though we are living a life of a quicker rhythm, it is quite obvious that patience is still a good way to find the best solution to problems and issues or the wisest strategy to carry out our plans in most cases, and it would be an exaggeration to say that it is no longer a good choice. (Written by Zirui Wang)



**Real test topic 6:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The government should support scientific research which does not have any practical use.

The benefits of scientific research, in some ways, shape the future of a nation, thus, supporting scientific research naturally becomes one of the highest priorities of every government. However, it seems that not every research is worth supporting, for some of them do not have practical use. Some people believe that there is no need for the government to fund these useless researches, but I think this is a misunderstanding.

Researches which seem to have no practical use may become meaningful, or even revolutionary as time goes by. Governments focusing on programs which can provide immediate benefits only are short-sighted, because many so called unpractical researches actually have huge potentials. The research of nuclear matter seemed to be useless and even dangerous in the past, but today humans have enjoyed many benefits of this research: nuclear power stations can satisfy the increasing need for electricity; radiation can be used to reveal the internal structures of human body and steel. If governments refuse to encourage and fund these advanced researches, we may have no revolutionary progress at all.

Since some advanced scientific research cannot produce immediate benefits, individuals or companies are unlikely to be interested, and governments' supports may be the only chance for this kind of researches. Many countries pay close attention to space research, and probes were sent into the space by rockets constantly. Building such facilities and hiring engineers and technicians concerned require an incredibly large fund and various resources, and no organization but governments can afford to do that. Without necessary equipment and facilities provided by governments, these researches with huge potentials cannot be carried out.

Despite money and resources, advanced researches often involve a great number of specialists and experts, and only governments have the power to gather so many talents. We humans have already established a gene mapping database by carrying out an international program which involves six big powers of the world. Such a great program cannot be completed by any individual or organization without governments' support, because few people are really interested in it due to its lack of immediate benefits, and if governments did not realize its importance, there would be no enough human resource to finish all the tasks.

Governments should support scientific researches which have no practical use by providing assets as well as human resource, because all the researches will finally benefit us in some way someday. (Written by Zirui Wang)



**Real test topic 7 :Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? In order to succeed, people should be more like others than be different from others.**

Being successful is always desirable to everyone, and what exactly is the key to success? Some suppose that they should be different from others, while other people believe that being like others is the best choice. As far as I am concerned, we should try to be different while working or studying, but we should be like everybody else in daily life.

People who can appear to be different from others when studying or working are more likely to catch the eye of important people and gain opportunities. In this competitive society, being good is no longer enough. In order to be remembered, we have to be different as well. Steve Jobs was never satisfied with making a good cell phone because he knew that a good product could only attract attention while it is novelty. To make something remarkable and classic, he created iPhone, a revolutionary product which did not look like any other competing products. Being good and different, iPhone soon became the most popular and successful cell phone that human had even made. It ended NOKIA's dominance at its best time and opened a new era of the cell phone industry. Since then, no other products could seriously threaten iPhone because they all looked or felt a lot like it.

Although being different invites opportunities, we still cannot deny the importance of being like others in daily life. Being too different from others in life sometimes makes it hard to fit in, and thus we are unlikely to gain trust or cooperation from others. My father is a businessman who looks a lot like other business people—he likes wearing gray or black suits, and he smokes and drinks every day. But actually, he was totally different before, and he never wore clothes without light colors and he used to hate smoking and drinking. He changed himself because he found that his previous preferences and behaviors brought nothing but misunderstanding from others. Since he finally became a “typical” businessman, he made a lot of friends and widened his social circle considerably. His success today, in some ways, relies on his popularity, and popular people can usually get along well with everyone because they look like everyone.

Being different at work is a wise choice, and being like others in life will bring more friends. People should have different strategies when facing different situations and it would be an exaggeration to suggest that any strategy is always better than others. (Written by Zirui Wang)





**TPO 1:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? At universities and colleges, sports and social activities are just as important as classes and libraries and should receive equal financial support.

Universities and colleges focus their budgets on different aspects, providing students with a better environment to learn and to grow. Some people suggest that classes and libraries deserve more money than other aspects since the main purpose for most students to attend college or university is to be educated. However, I think this is a misunderstanding. Education does not only happen in classes and libraries, and it also happens when students play sports or attend social activities. Therefore, it would be rigid to say that classes and libraries are more important or they deserve more funds.

Students can increase their knowledge of certain careers in classes, and they also learn a great deal about how to study all by themselves in libraries. College students take specialized courses and prepare themselves for the competitive job market, because they know that having special skills can help them gain the upper hand while hunting for jobs. They listen to professors, do experiments, and prepare for exams and papers, so they will get relatively skillful and knowledgeable for specific jobs when they graduate. That is one of the most common reasons for students to go to college. Also, since students cannot be easily satisfied with what their professors teach in classes and professors are not always available to answer their questions, libraries become places where students go most frequently for references. Students can read books about a wide range of topics and broaden their horizons. Without additional information that students acquire by reading in libraries, they can never be fully prepared for challenges ahead.

Playing sports teaches students lessons about how to cooperate, and social activities improve their social skills. Cooperation is now needed everywhere and one of the best ways to learn about it is to play sports. Students who play sports more often will be more likely to know about the importance of respect and tolerance, and they will also be good at dominating a sentiment. Playing sports makes people less selfish by showing them the negative effects that selfishness can cause, and it also teaches people how to communicate with others efficiently because wasting time often means the loss of the game. In addition, other skills that interpersonal communication requires will be trained when students get involved in social activities. Club activities provide students with opportunities to expose themselves to people of different races and backgrounds, teaching them about how to start a conversation friendly and how to end one politely. Without such lessons, students are unlikely to survive the competition after graduation.

Students become professionally knowledgeable and skillful by taking classes and studying in libraries; they also grow socially experienced and prepared by playing sports and attending social activities. Both aspects deserve equal attention as well as equal funds. (Written by Zirui Wang)



**TPO 2:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Always telling the truth is the most important consideration in any relationship between people. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

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Throughout human history, seeking truth has always been a crucial part of human desire, for they consider it to be the key of knowing and changing the world. Some people would even go so far as to say that they would rather die than to be denied the right of searching for truth. But is truth always good in any situation for any relationship? If we think about this question rationally, we realize that there are many exceptions.

It is undeniable that any healthy relationship should be based on honesty. Since most of us build relationships for love and support, the truth, in this case, means accurate information with which we can make free and wise decisions. People telling us what they think and how they feel can avoid us from letting opportunities slip or taking unnecessary risks. Even if sometimes we know that we would not like the truth, we still expect to hear about it from family members and friends so that we can correct mistakes and achieve greater success.

However, every coin has two sides, and it would be an exaggeration to say that telling the truth is above everything else in all circumstances. If truth does not serve the purpose of bringing a better life, then it is not the best choice. There are occasions when people close to us would prefer kind feedback than absolute truth from us. When wives ask their husbands the question “I am really getting old, aren’t I” after many years they married, everybody knows the answer should be “no, you haven’t changed a bit”. Under such circumstances, white lies would be considerate and welcomed.

Also, there are instances where telling the truth can cause misunderstandings. For example, if a friend of mine comes to me to ask for my opinions because she is hurt from a breakup, I would probably not tell her exactly how I feel or think about her complaints and vents. What my friend needs now are comfort and understanding. Telling the truth regardless of her feelings would be harsh and would definitely not bring a better outcome. When telling the truth is not only unnecessary but also hurtful, even keeping silence would be a better option than that.

Living a life is indeed an art form. Although telling the truth is desired in most situations for a healthy relationship, the exceptions still exist widely. (Written by Zirui Wang)



**TPO 3:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is more important to keep your old friends than it is to make new friends.

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People today have various ways to meet strangers and to make friends with them thanks to the ever renewing technology on social networking. Therefore, making new friends seems to be much easier, and some people even start to claim that it is not as important and meaningful as it is to keep old friends, but is this really the case? Since new friends and old friends all have their own ways of making our lives happy, fulfilled and satisfying, it would be a rigid approach to say that one outweighs the other.

Making new friends is a natural part of life, for they take good care of us when we move to new places and encounter new environments, and they also bring new possibilities which may lead to better lives. Throughout our lives, we are often “newcomers” to a place or situation, and it is our new friends who lend us a hand when old friends might be unavailable or too far to help. Without new friends, even finding the nearest hospital in a city we newly arrived in could be a challenging task. Also, new friends show us different ways of thinking or doing things, and they can help us widen social circles by introducing us to their friends too. Some people become more tolerant by interacting with friends of different sorts; some people even get married thanks to new friends’ arrangements. With new friends, life is more likely to be safe and promising.

New friends are indeed of great importance and value, but it does not mean that we should pay any less attention to keeping old friends. When we hang out with old friends from the same place in a strange city, a sense of belonging, a feeling of nostalgia arises and that is something never happens with new friends. When we return to our hometowns, it is also our old friends who give us a warm welcome and make us feel that we are home. In addition, whenever we need a listener to share our sorrow or happiness, old friends would probably be the first we call on the phone, since they usually know much better about what confuses us and how to comfort us than new friends. We may not be in the most frequent contact with our old friends, but they do have their own places which cannot be taken in our hearts.

Friends’ importance cannot be determined by how long we know them, and each friend may play a unique role that can never be replaced by others. It would just be an unfair statement to claim that keeping old friends is more important than making new ones. (Written by Zirui Wang)



**TPO 4:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? In 20 years there will be fewer cars in use than there are today.

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Nowadays, people in growing numbers possess and drive their own cars as the living standard improves. Although some say that there will be fewer cars in use 20 years later, I am of the belief that the need for cars will continue to increase due to the development of society.

The development of technology will allow people to use cars more frequently to improve their quality of lives. Fifty years ago, owning a private car used to be a privilege enjoyed only by the wealthy in developed countries, but today, the middle class in many developing countries can afford private cars due to the lower prices caused by technological improvement in the car industry. As such, it is predictable that people twenty years from now will be much better able to afford using and maintaining their own cars. If this happens, then the number of cars in use cannot get smaller.

Some people claim that the improvement of public transportation system 20 years later will help minimizing the use of automobiles; however, public transportations have clear limitations that a car owner would not like to experience. No matter how much buses or subways improve, cars are more comfortable and convenient for obvious reasons. Without cars, taking a road trip would carry a different meaning. Having cars at your disposal means flexible schedules and mobility to any destinations at any time. Since public transportation cannot measure up to this level of convenience and efficiency, there is no reason to believe that the number of cars will decrease.

Environmentalists argue that cars will be less frequently driven for they pollute the air and contaminate the environment. For that reason, the governments will limit the use of them by law. I think this is an oversimplification of the situation. It is already a reality that cars are becoming more environmental-friendly, and in 20 years, the technology will be sufficient to address the environmental concerns that people have. In this case, there will be no good reason for the governments to forbid the use of cars. So why would average citizens stop driving if they are not required to?

In 20 years, cars will continue to play an important role in people's lives. I cannot agree with the point of view that there will be fewer cars in use then. (Written by Zirui Wang)



**TPO 5:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People today spend too much time on personal enjoyment—doing things they like to do rather than doing things they should do.

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Thanks to modern technology, our life today becomes seemingly much more enjoyable than in the past. Entertainment has become so available and accessible to everyone with such variety and choices. But this phenomenon is not always a blessing. The easy access to amusement sometimes makes people tend to do things they enjoy doing instead of doing things they are supposed to do.

Nowadays, people consume large quantities of interesting yet useless information due to the convenience of the internet. The internet is probably the most significant invention in the 20th century, and it enables anything newly happened anywhere to spread instantly. However, the easy access to information has created problems: many students are so obsessed with social networking sites that they cannot even go through a whole night's sleep without checking and replying the comments; employees are fascinated with different video clips that they watch them during office hours. Although they all know quite well that some information is just meaningless, they still cannot resist the temptation of a click.

The frequent use of portable digital devices is another important reason that people waste their time. In subway or a bus or a taxi, we can see people everywhere playing video games, watching some shows or busy texting. It is obvious that they are killing time, but they might have failed to realize that this time can be used more productively and meaningfully. To reflect a little or to study something interesting during those hours could bring benefits beyond measure. The more means of entertainment people have, the more they complain that they do not have enough time. That is probably why many students lock their PSPs before important exams.

Finally, the broader views that people have today also tempt them to find more excuses to relax and rest. In the past, people only celebrated their own traditional festivals, but today, they tend to celebrate every festival available around the world. 50 years ago, people in my country did not even know about Christmas or Thanksgiving, but now it is considered out of date or old fashioned not to join the big frenzy surrounding such western holidays. With more excuses to play and party, people convince themselves to delay their work or study more frequently.

People today are lucky enough to experience and enjoy the rapid development of everything, but they also need to grow wiser to make good use of the new changes as well as their own time.

(Written by Zirui Wang)



**TPO 6:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Life today is easier and more comfortable than it was when your grandparents were children. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

The rapid social and technological progress has brought with it many changes. Some of these changes are positive, but there are also negative ones. Some improvements that our grandparents did not have when they were our age are meant to make our lives easier and more comfortable, yet they usually turn out to cause troubles more efficiently than they solve problems.

Life today is much more stressful than it was when our grandparents were children. As medical and agriculture technology improves, our society now has to accommodate a much larger population, and this makes people today face much fiercer competitions, even though they are far better educated in general than ever before. My grandfather got his first job as a primary school teacher when he was seventeen, though he did not even finish high school. Today, it would not be something outrageous to hear that people with college diplomas lose their jobs or never find one.

When our grandparents were young, their personal lives would not be interrupted by phone calls and emails like today. The invention and the spread of telephones and computers make people so easily reachable, no matter when they are at home or on a vacation anywhere. That is probably why many people would like to turn off their cell phones when they try to stay alone. In the past, however, our grandparents enjoyed a much better quality of life, for they had more time as well as better moods to stay with families, enjoy leisure activities, and pursue private interests.

Another progress which makes life today more complicated and exhausting is the advancement of transportation. Since airplanes and automobiles can now go much faster and further, people travel more frequently than ever. More students go study abroad and more businessmen travel around the globe, and this means that they will have to be away from families and friends for longer time, which creates problems like deeper generation gap, loss of friendship, and even divorce. People today would find it harder to keep relationships which seemed to be unbreakable in the past.

In most ways, life today is better than it was when our grandparents were children, but it also meets setbacks and becomes harder and more troublesome in other ways. It is not that progress is not good; it is just that we still need more wisdom to benefit from it instead of being hindered by it. (Written by Zirui Wang)



**TPO 7:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is more important for students to understand ideas and concepts than it is for them to learn facts.

To be someone who is considered well-informed or educated has never been an easy task, since there are too many ideas and concepts to understand, and also, too many facts to memorize. Some people claim that ideas and concepts are of greater importance since they are more connected to the use of knowledge than facts. However, this statement does not cover the whole story. In fact, knowing “why” and “how” is as important as knowing “what”. Facts is the basis of ideas and concepts, and ideas and concepts help one dissect and understand facts.

Concepts and ideas teach us how to apply facts we memorize in reality, and they can also help us memorize better and more efficiently. All foreign language learners know that simply remembering vocabularies and sentence structures does not make them effective communicators. They need to understand the differences between expressions with similar meanings or looks so as to avoid mistakes like replacing “important” with “significant” everywhere when writing and speaking. Without such understanding, reading and listening tasks will also be challenging, for they cannot even distinguish “possibly” from “probably”. In addition, understanding ideas and concepts makes people memorize things systematically and thus more easily. After memorizing expressions about a certain topic like the Rainforest, we might not be able to give a speech on it, but reading an essay about it can familiarize us with not only the facts about rainforest but also the accurate expressions of many relevant terms such as the Canopy and the Understory.

Likewise, accurate memorization of facts is the guarantee of successful use of concepts, and with facts it is more likely for us to understand concepts and come up with ideas. When doing math, one must remember all the formulas and theorems; when giving a speech on a historical event, one is supposed to know every single name of important people and the times when significant events happened. Otherwise, they would lack the basic information to complete their tasks or to convince others, and thus they may fail to get good scores on exams which usually test their memorization on facts. Also, since most ideas and concepts are based on observing and analyzing facts, memorizing more enables us to understand better. If we read and remember historical events well, then we may realize that similar stories tend to happen time and time again throughout civilization. These stories remind us to avoid mistakes, and such lessons are usually much more impressive than words and lectures from teachers.

To study and not contemplate the acquired knowledge is a waste of energy, while to contemplate but to not immerse in your studies is potentially dangerous. Understanding and memorizing are both necessary and irreplaceable parts of learning and it would be illogical to claim that one is more important than the other. (Written by Zirui Wang)





**TPO 1 综合写作 Sample response**

The passage and the lecture are mainly about how four-day workweek will affect employees, companies and the society. The author believes that the new way of working offers many benefits; however, the professor argues that it is harmful.

According to the passage, a four-day work week makes employees more rested so that they make fewer mistakes, and companies also spend less money on paying salaries. Nevertheless, the professor points out that companies will actually spend more money. Although the salaries of employees cost less money, companies still have to pay for their health benefits, office space, and computers. Since there will be more employees, the cost will go up instead of going down.

The author suggests that the new option will benefit the country as a whole, for it can create new jobs and the unemployment rates will be reduced. On the other hand, the professor claims that companies might not hire new employees, and instead, they might require employees to work overtime and even expect them to do five days' work within four days. This way, unemployment cannot be reduced and jobs will become more difficult to handle.

The passage indicates that the quality of life will be improved if people work four days a week, because they can have more leisure time to do a lot of different activities. On the contrary, the professor argues that life will become worse but not better, for bosses tend to hire and promote those who show up five days a week and employees working four days a week will be the first to lose jobs and they are less likely to be promoted. Without stability and promising future, life cannot be better. (Written by Zirui Wang)





**TPO 2 综合写作 Sample response**

The passage and the lecture are mainly about the performance of teamwork. According to the passage, teamwork is the best option for people carrying out their plans; however, the professor argues that it is not as good as the reading suggests.

The author claims that team member can appear to be outstanding more easily, because teams usually achieve greater success and the real contributors will get the recognition that they deserve. Nevertheless, the professor mentions that some member actually got a free ride, which means they got recognition without making any contribution. The recognition that belonged to real contributors was shared by the whole team and no one gets to shine.

The passage indicates that teams enjoy larger numbers of people and resources, so they can be more efficient than individuals. On the contrary, the professor points out that the wider range of everything led not nothing but countless meetings, which slowed down the teams much.

The author suggests that each member has the right to influence, so everyone is responsible for the results, and that is why teams tend to make risky decisions, which are usually highly creative. On the other hand, the professor states that democracy never existed in teams and a few members would become so influential that they could deny others' ideas, making them abandoned without further discussions. Then, they would try to convince the group that their plan was highly creative, and even if some people tried to warn that the plan might not work, these people would be ignored. In the end, only when the teams failed would everyone be required to take the responsibility. (Written by Zirui Wang)



**TPO 3 综合写作 Sample response**

The passage and the lecture are mainly about whether a painting was painted by Rembrandt or not. While the author believes it cannot be a work by Rembrandt, the professor holds an opposite view.

First, the author doubts the authenticity of the painting due to its inconsistency in details—the woman in the luxurious coat was actually wearing a cap of a servant. However, the professor points out that with the help the X-rays, experts found that the luxurious collar was painted over the top of the original panting. That is because someone might try to make the painting more expensive by having it look like a portrait of an aristocratic/wealthy lady.

Second, the passage indicates that the light and shadow were mistaken in the painting, and Rembrandt should not have made such mistakes. On the contrary, the professor claims that light and shadow would have been correct and precise without the collar fur painted afterwards. Since the original color of the coat was light, the woman's face is not meant to be partially in shadow.

Finally, the author states that since no other paintings of Rembrandt were on panels made of several pieces of wood, the painting on such a panel cannot be his work. Nevertheless, the professor argues that the painting on one of the pieces of wood was drawn by Rembrandt, while several other pieces were added by others. Also, the original piece of wood was proved to be from the same tree as another painting of Rembrandt's. (Written by Zirui Wang)



**TPO 4 综合写作 Sample response**

The author and the professor hold different views about whether dinosaurs are endotherms or not. According to the passage, dinosaurs were capable of keeping their body temperatures stable; however, the professor denies all the arguments presented in the reading.

The passage indicates that since scientists discovered dinosaur fossils in polar regions, they must have the capacity to keep themselves warm in cold environment; yet the professor points out that the polar regions were much warmer than today, so dinosaurs could live there when the climate was suitable and they might hibernate when the weather was cold too. That means the presence of fossils is not necessarily the proof of dinosaurs' ability to keep body temperature constant.

The author points out that dinosaurs' legs are beneath their bodies and so are modern endotherms', so dinosaurs are very likely to be endotherms; on the other hand, the professor claims that dinosaurs' legs were underneath because this could allow them to grow bigger. Growing bigger could a great advantage for dinosaurs, so the position of legs does not necessarily mean that they could run or they were endotherms.

The passage suggests that the bone structure of dinosaurs shows that they were endotherms, because their bones contain Haversian canals, which is an important feature of endotherms; however, the professor says that although there are Haversian canals, dinosaurs' bones have growth rings. Growth rings prove that dinosaurs did not constantly grow fast. This indicates that they were not endotherms which can grow rapidly no matter how the climate changes.

(Written by Zirui Wang)



**TPO 5 综合写作 Sample response**

The author and the professor have contradictory opinions about what the Chaco houses were used for. According to the author, they were places for living, storing food and holding ceremonies, yet the professor argues that none of these theories of purposes was convincing.

The passage indicates Chaco houses are very much like the large “apartment buildings” in Tao, Mexico, so they must be made for residential purpose. However, the professor points out that there are not enough fireplaces found inside the Chaco houses. Rooms which could live hundreds of families only contain fireplaces for about ten families, and this indicates that the primary function of the houses was not residential.

Another predicted purpose of the Chaco houses was that they were built for storing food supplies due to their large sizes. On the contrary, the professor contends that not enough traces of either maize or their containers were found in the great houses. If they were really places of food storage, there would have been more spilled maize or the remains of their containers to be found.

Finally, the author states that the Chaco houses were places in which people hold ceremonies, for many broken pots were left in a mound near the houses, and the author believes that the pots were used in ceremonies and then discarded. Nevertheless, the professor mentions that beside the broken pots, many construction materials like sands, stones and even construction tools were found in the same mound. So it was possible that the pots were just regular trash which have nothing to do with ceremony at all. (Written by Zirui Wang)

