



Village and City Life

乡村与城市生活

1 思维拓展及如何审题 Brainstorm

如果你从小就生活在大城市，你有没有想过去看看乡村的星空？如果你出生在乡村，你是否也梦想着去体验一下城市的繁华？这个话题要求同学们将城市和乡村的生活作对比（compare），谈谈各自的特点（characteristics），以及有什么优势（advantages）和劣势（disadvantages）。

谈观点是七级考试的难点，如何能够回答得条理清晰，不重不漏呢？同学们不妨先填写下面这个表格整理一下思路：

	Advantages	Disadvantages
City Life	1. 2.	1. 2.
Village Life	1. 2.	1. 2.

填完表你也许会发现，其实城市生活的优势正是乡村生活的不足之处；而乡村生活的好处也正是城市生活的缺陷。将一个回答用于两个问题，事半功倍。



考官常会问到的问题



问题

1

你脑海里的乡村生活是怎样的？

How is village life in your mind?

参加三一口语考试的考生大多是生活在城市的孩子，很少有机会了解真正的乡村生活。这道题目实际上就是让你谈谈乡村与城市有哪些不同之处。

乡村相比城市而言，优点包括环境污染小 (better environment)、自然风光好 (better scenery)、生活节奏慢 (slower pace of life)、压力小 (less stress)；缺点包括工作机会较少 (fewer job opportunities)、工资较低 (lower salary)、娱乐方式较少 (less entertainment) 等。当然，也不能一概而论。

句型示例

Village life is very different from city life in my mind. In terms of environment, I believe the air quality in villages is much better than in cities due to ... (reason). And the pace of life in villages is slower than in cities, so that ... (result). However, there are also some disadvantages of village life. For example, ... (what) and ... (what).

问题

2

你认为城市与乡村的差距是不是在逐渐减小？

Do you think the differences between cities and villages are becoming smaller?

近些年，乡村的发展可谓日新月异，城市与乡村的差距也在逐渐减小。回答这道题目，主要抓住差距变小体现在哪些方面。比如，乡村的交通运输建设步伐正在逐渐加快，乡村的通讯也比以前更加便利了。

句型示例

Yes, I think it is true that the differences between cities and villages are becoming smaller. This is reflected in a number of social phenomena. First, Second, What's more,

问题

3

如果父母要去乡村工作，你愿意同往吗？

If your parents need to work in a village, would you like to go with them?

其实准备好上面两道题目，这道题目便十分简单了。如果你愿意同往，那么原因当然就是上面所说的乡村生活的优点或乡村近年来发生的变化；相反地，如果你不愿同往，原因显然就是乡村生活的缺点。

句型示例

If my parents need to work in a village, I would love to go with them because ... (advantages of village life).

或者：

If my parents need to work in a village, I don't want to go with them because ... (disadvantages of village life).

问题

4

城市高速发展是好事还是坏事？

Is it good to maintain the rapid development of cities?

这个问题应该一分为二地回答。城市的高速发展总体来说是好事，城市居民的生活水平提高了，同时也带动了城市周边乡村的发展。然而，城市的发展也引发了很多社会问题，比如环境污染、人口密集等。如果想表达正反两种观点，可以用 however 作转折，也可以用 On the one hand, ... On the other hand ... 的句型。

句型示例

Every argument has two sides and the development of cities is not an exception. On the one hand, rapid growth can ... (advantage 1) and ... (advantage 2). On the other hand, growth also causes some social problems such as ... (disadvantage 1) and ... (disadvantage 2).

2 词汇讲解 Vocabulary

基础词汇 Basic Vocabulary

<p>city life vs. village life</p> <p>城市生活 vs. 乡村生活</p>	urban	——	rural
	城市的		乡村的
	convenient	——	inconvenient
	方便的		不方便的
	developed	——	underdeveloped
	发达的		不发达的
	well-informed	——	isolated
	信息灵通的		隔绝的
	adequate	——	inadequate
	充足的		不足的
	bustling	——	peaceful
	繁华的		宁静的
	crowded	——	spacious
	拥挤的		广阔的
polluted	——	clean	
污染的		干净的	
expensive	——	cheap	
昂贵的		便宜的	
stressful	——	relaxing	
压力大的		轻松的	

亮点词汇 Advanced Vocabulary

<p>compared with ... 与……相比</p>	<p>Compared with villages, big cities offer more convenient public facilities. 与乡村相比,大城市给人们提供了更加便利的公共设施。</p>
<p>gap between ... and ... ……和……之间的差距</p>	<p>There is a big gap between the salary level in cities and that in villages. 城市与乡村的工资水平存在较大的差距。</p>
<p>not as (so) ... as ... 不如……那么……</p>	<p>The air quality in cities such as Beijing and Shanghai is not as good as that in villages. 像北京、上海这种大城市的空气质量没有乡村的那么好。</p>
<p>a lack of 缺乏, 缺少</p>	<p>Villages have a lack of access to the Internet, so that the people there are not well-informed. 乡村缺少互联网的接入,因此那里的人们信息不灵通。</p>
<p>job opportunity 工作机会</p>	<p>Cities provide many more job opportunities than villages, and that's why urban population is growing rapidly. 城市提供的工作机会远远多过乡村,这是城市人口迅速增长的原因。</p>
<p>pace of life 生活节奏</p>	<p>The pace of life in villages is slower than that in cities. 乡村的生活节奏远远慢于城市。</p>

3 常见问题及回答 Possible Q&A

问题1 What are the advantages of village life?

及格回答 Survival answer:

The air quality in villages is much better than that in cities. And the pace of life in villages is slow, so people have more **freedom** to do what they like.

高分回答之一 Better to say:

The living environment in villages is much better than that in cities. The sky is always **crystal-clear**.

People can enjoy various outdoor activities without worrying about the air quality. The pace of life in villages is slow and people have more free time to enjoy what they like. **Also**, the **population density** in rural areas is rather low.

People from villages don't have to suffer from so much stress **due to** the competitive job market. I think those are the reasons why more and more city dwellers would like to take a break and spend their vacations in the countryside.



高分回答之二 Or:

Many people **are attracted to** the beauty of countryside, **where** they can be closer to the nature. You can easily find clear lakes, little hills and green forests in villages, **which** help to **evoke** your **passion** for life. **In addition**, **cost of living** in villages is much lower than in cities, so people can buy larger apartments at much cheaper prices.

点睛之笔

- 同学们在阐述观点时要注意逻辑性，可以使用 *and*, *also*, *moreover*, *what's more*, *in addition*, *besides* 等词语连接观点。这样做不但思路清晰，而且不重不漏。
- 高分回答之二运用了两个亮眼的定语从句，给答案增色不少。我们不妨就第一个从句做一下拆分练习：

Many people are attracted to the beauty of countryside, **where** they can be closer to the nature.

1) Many people are attracted to the beauty of **countryside**.

2) **In the countryside** they can be closer to the nature.

where 在句中指代 *in the countryside*。

加分表达法

freedom *n.* 自由

crystal-clear *adj.* 清澈的

population density 人口密度

be attracted to 被……所吸引

evoke one's passion 激发某人的激情

cost of living 生活成本

问题2 What are the disadvantages of village life?

及格回答 *Survival answer*:

Rural life is dull, transportation is inconvenient and the **healthcare system** is undeveloped. The biggest disadvantage lies in education. Children in the countryside don't have access to good schools, which results in their limited **career prospects**.

高分回答 *Better to say*:

The disadvantages of village life include the following: first, public transportation and communication channels in villages are not as developed as those in cities. It often takes a long time for village people to travel around. Meanwhile, they can

hardly get updated information because it's hard for them to connect to the Internet. These all leave village people **relatively** isolated from the outside world; second, villages offer fewer **job opportunities** than cities and people there are often paid less; lastly, you can hardly find movie theatres and amusement parks in villages, which makes life a bit boring. These are the main reasons why many people leave their villages and look for jobs in cities.

点睛之笔

- 从正反两方面谈事物的优缺点 (advantages vs. disadvantages) 是七级考试的又一个重点。第一道题目已经从正面 (advantages) 就乡村生活展开了讨论, 这道题目则是谈反面 (disadvantages)。同学们要学会一分为二地看待事物。

- 注意阐述观点时的逻辑性, 学习范文中 firstly, secondly, lastly / finally 等词语的使用。

- 定语从句解析:

You can hardly find movie theatres and amusement parks in villages, **which** makes life a bit boring.

1) You can hardly find movie theatres and amusement parks in villages.

2) **This fact** makes life a bit boring.

which 在句中指代的是整个前半句的内容, 即乡村缺少娱乐设施这个事实。

- 被动语态解析: People are paid less. 直译为“人们被付的工资较少”。为了避免拗口, 可意译为“人们挣的工资较少”。

加分表达法

healthcare system 医疗体系

relatively *adv.* 相对地

career prospect 事业前途

job opportunity 工作机会

问题3 What are the advantages of city life?

及格回答 Survival answer:

Life is convenient in cities and people can enjoy various forms of entertainment easily. Education is better in big cities as well. There are plenty of good teachers and advanced teaching equipment.

高分回答 Better to say:

Cities offer people **a wide variety of** choices to do shopping, dine and have fun. **Compared with** villages, cities provide better education. Most of the top universities in China are located in big cities like Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. There are also more job opportunities in cities. I believe these are the reasons why many people **migrate to** big cities to **pursue** a better life.



点睛之笔

- 又是一个阐述优缺点的题目 (advantages vs. disadvantages)。同学们要注意观点的逻辑性。
- 注意定语从句的使用:

... these are the reasons why many people migrate to big cities ... 译为“这就是很多人移居大城市的原因”。

句中的 why 也可以换成 that, 或被省略。即 These are the reasons that many people migrate to big cities 或 These are the reasons many people migrate to big cities.

加分表达法

a wide variety of 很多……

migrate to 移民到……

compared with ... 与……相比

pursue v. 追求

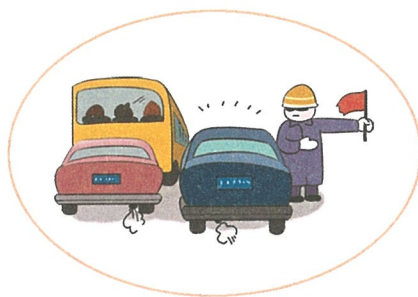
问题4 What are the disadvantages of city life?

及格回答 Survival answer:

Traffic congestion occurs from time to time in big cities. The **heavy traffic** makes air quality worse. And the cost of living in cities is rather high. Many people **who** live in big cities are renting their apartments because they **can't afford to buy** their own houses.

高分回答 Better to say:

Although cities provide people with convenient and colourful lives, there are quite a lot of disadvantages of city life. **Traffic congestion** occurs from time to time especially **during the rush hour**. The heavy traffic makes the air quality in cities worse, **which** causes many people to get sick. Also, the cost of living in cities is rather high. It's reflected in education fees, healthcare expenses and housing prices. Many people who live in big cities are renting their apartments because they can't afford to buy their own houses.



点睛之笔

- 高分回答先用 **although** 引出一个大众化的观点，再转而道出自己独到的见解。这样回答不仅展示了不同的句型，而且让考官感觉你很客观。
- 定语从句解析：

Many people **who** live in big cities are renting their apartments.

1) **Many people** are renting their apartments.

2) **Many people** live in big cities.

who 在句中指代 many people。

加分表达法

heavy traffic 拥挤的交通

traffic congestion 堵车

can't afford to buy 负担不起

during the rush hour 上下班高峰期

问题5 Is it good to maintain the rapid development of cities?

及格回答 Survival answer:

It's definitely good to maintain the rapid development of cities because it makes **city dwellers** enjoy higher salaries and **standard of living**.

高分回答 Better to say:

It cuts both ways. Rapid growth makes city dwellers enjoy higher salaries and standard of living. **But on the other hand**, growth causes a number of social problems. An obvious example would be pollution. When I was little, I **used to** play games in the park near my house. Now due to urban development, the park has become a **chemical factory** that **discharges** a large amount of wastewater every day.

点睛之笔

- On the one hand, ... On the other hand, ... 译为“一方面……，另一方面……”。这个句式常用于阐述事物的两面性。同学们要养成从不同角度看待和分析问题的好习惯。
- 讲述过去常常做某事 (used to do sth.) 或过去是怎样的 (used to be) 也是七级的新增语言点。
- 这道题目还可能这样问: What's your opinion on the rapid development of cities?

加分表达法

city dweller 城市居民

chemical factory 化工厂

standard of living 生活水平

discharge *v.* 排放

it cuts both ways 这个问题具有两面性

问题6

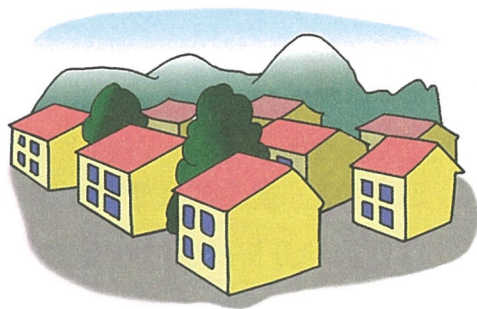
Do you think the differences between cities and villages are becoming smaller?

及格回答 Survival answer:

Yes, I think the differences between cities and villages are becoming smaller. During the past decade, many changes have **taken place** in villages. Take my hometown for example. Five years ago, there were crops everywhere. I could hardly see any high buildings along the streets. But now there are several modern shopping malls in the town centre, which make the villagers' lives much more convenient.

高分回答 Better to say:

Yes, I think so. People from villages enjoy much higher standard of living than before. This is **reflected** in a lot of aspects. For example, **because of** the **railway construction**, public transportation in villages has become much more convenient than before. Besides, a number of villages are able to provide Internet access for the public, which makes communications more efficient. And **thanks to real estate** development, many villagers are living in **spacious** and **well-furnished** houses now.



点睛之笔

- 学会使用 *because of* + 名词或名词性短语来表示原因。类似的词组还有 *due to*, *thanks to*, *owing to*, *as a result of* 等。在语义上,除了 *thanks to* 通常用于好的方面,译为“多亏”之外,其他几个词组的用法基本相同。
例句:

1) Your failure is **due to** your carelessness.

你的失败缘于你的粗心。

2) **Thanks to** your cooperation, we managed to finish the project on time.

多亏你的合作,我们按时完成了这个项目。

3) **Owing to** a lack of experience, I'm not sure how to deal with such problems.

由于缺乏经验,我不确定如何处理这样的问题。

4) **As a result of** his careless driving on the highway, they had a terrible car accident.

由于他在高速公路上不专心开车,出了严重的车祸。

加分表达法

take place 发生

real estate 房地产

reflect *v.* 反映

spacious *adj.* 宽敞的

railway construction 铁路建设

well-furnished *adj.* 家具齐备的

4 拓展性阅读 Reading Extension

Education in rural areas

乡村教育

People from rural China have far less access to education. One of the most important factors **hindering** the development of basic education in rural areas is the **shortage** of **qualified** teachers. As a result, some subjects such as English, computer science and music are no longer offered in the **curriculums** of many rural schools. Another problem is the lack of money. A large percentage of the rural population lives below the **poverty line** and there has not been enough economic development to support the **construction** of schools in many regions.

(Source: *irrdol.org*, ShilingMcQuaide, *Making Education Equitable in Rural China through Distance Learning*)

词汇表 >>

hinder /'hində/ v. 阻碍

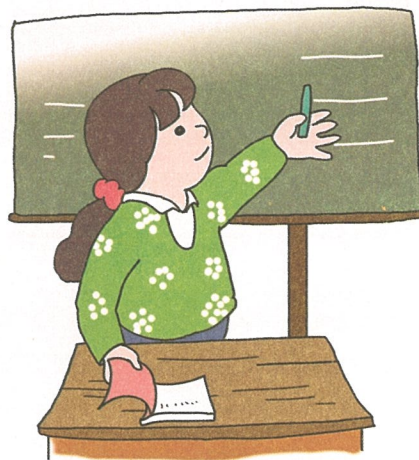
shortage /'ʃɔ:tɪdʒ/ n. 短缺

qualified /'kwɒlɪfaɪd/ adj. 胜任的

curriculum /kə'rikjʊləm/ n. 课程

poverty line 贫困线

construction /kən'strʌkʃən/ n. 建设



Healthcare in Rural China

中国的乡村医疗

Compared with urban areas in China, the healthcare system in rural areas is still undeveloped. Medical costs are raising faster than the growth of **per capita income** in most areas of rural China.

Recent research from the World Health Organization shows a direct link between diseases like **AIDS** and poverty in over 30 percent of the rural population. A growing number of people, especially the elderly, are suffering from various diseases but few have access to basic healthcare facilities.

词汇表 >>

healthcare /'helθkeə/ *n.* 医疗

per capita income 人均收入

AIDS 艾滋病

