

## 2019 年 11 月 7 日 社会类 ( 讨论型 )

*In some cultures, old age is more valued; while in other cultures youth is more valued. Discuss both views and give your opinion.*

Every country has particular traditions and norms. In some, old people are **venerated** whereas in others, it is youth who are **put on a pedestal**. In my opinion both are valuable to society.

**Proponents** of the first viewpoint argue that the elderly can offer life experience and are a **repository** of wisdom. Moreover, having experienced and seen a lot in their lives a society benefits from their experiences. For example, in most societies leaders are usually older and attract respect and attention. Asian cultures, especially, may revere the elderly for their acumen and support them in their later life. While I believe that the elderly deserve respect, their views should not be accepted blindly and without reason, for that could prevent the progression of society.

**Advocates** of the second viewpoint maintain that youth are the backbone of a nation. Subsequently, it is they who will become the future doctors, teachers and engineers contributing to the development of

society. Furthermore, it is pointed out that it is their taxes that pay for the pensions of their grandparents in their **dotage**. However, what is clear to me is that young people often lack the stability and wisdom of the older generation and are likely to be more reckless. For instance, many young people enjoy extreme sports often at the risk of **life and limb**, activities unsuitable for the leaders of a nation.

In my opinion, life goes on. We are born and we get older everyday. In each period of our life, young or old, we have something to offer our societies so we should make the **best both worlds**.

269 words

By Dr Rob Burton

## Vocabulary

**venerated** (adjective) To regard with deep respect or reverence.

**place (someone or something) (up) on a pedestal** (idiom) To believe or behave as if someone or something is perfect, extraordinarily wonderful, or better than others.

*I know it's easy to be smitten with a romantic partner, but I don't think it's healthy for one to place the other up on a pedestal.*

*Stephen has been placing classic literature on a pedestal ever since college, so he gets really judgmental of other genres he deems to be inferior.*

**proponent** (noun) One who argues in support of something; an advocate.

**repository** (noun)

One that contains or is a store of something specified:

**revere (someone or something) for (something)** (idiom) To hold a deep and profound respect, deference, admiration, or honor for someone or something because of some reason.

*Many people around the world revere celebrities purely for their status and wealth.*

*The scientist was revered by many for her contributions to revolutionary cancer treatments.*

*He revered the author for his incredible characters and world-building.*

**acumen** (noun) Quickness, accuracy, and keenness of judgment or insight:

*"A brilliant acumen in agricultural matters ... had made the old man a legend in the district*

**advocate** (noun) One that argues for a cause; a supporter or defender:  
*an advocate of civil rights.*

**backbone** (noun) The main support or major sustaining factor: *the backbone of a thesis.*

**in (one's) dotage** (idiom) In a state of senility or mental decline due to old age.  
*My grandfather in his dotage has lately had trouble remembering our names.*

**life and limb** (idiom) One's bodily well-being, up to and including one's life. Usually used when describing something that might cause severe injury or death, especially in the phrase "risk life and limb."  
*Today we pay our respects to the brave men and women who risk life and limb every day to keep our country safe.*  
*I'm sure it's thrilling, but I'd rather not chance life and limb just for a bit of an adrenaline rush.*

**best of both worlds** (idiom) The most ideal or desirable attributes of two different things, situations, or circumstances.

*We hope that by forming a bipartisan committee we will be able form a body that represents the best of both worlds.*

*I believe that living at college gives you the best of both worlds: a place where both study and social life can thrive.*

范文解析：

这是一篇讨论类的文章，话题为社会类的话题。面对这类型的文章时，只能使用双边类的结构来完成，如本篇范文，作者在主体段分段论述了两方的观点。本题中，需要针对不同文化对于老年人和年轻人的不同态度进行论述。作者在首段首先通过改写题目的方式来呈现主题，并且在首段就表达了自己的观点。在第二个主体段作者主要讨论了有些文化中的老年人更得到人们的尊重，这一段中作者使用了论点+解释+示例的结构来完成。第二个主体段作者主要论述了年轻人在一些文化中更有价值。最后结尾段，作者总结上文并且强调了自己的观点。作者在文章的撰写是运用了丰富的词汇和短语，并在文末标注出释义和例句，可以供各位考生学习和拓展。双边类结构大作文的写作结构在启德 2019 雅思标准化教材的强化段第八课有详细的讲解和练习。其他的写作结构以及大作文类型和话题也会在标准化教材中有详细的讲解，如果大家想学习更多关于雅思写作的内容，欢迎大家来启德上课。