

2019 年 12 月 7 日社会类 (观点型)

Nowadays, some older people choose to live in retirement communities with other people, rather than living with their adult children. Is it a positive or negative development?

A contemporary phenomenon is that of elderly family members choosing to remain independent and live in **sheltered housing** rather than at home with their **extended family**. I believe this is a positive development overall.

On the one hand, in some countries, people firmly believe it is the family who should **bear the burden** of their aged parents. For instance, in Russia and China, people believe it is the responsibility of sons and daughters to care for their parents and it would be disrespectful to send their **loved ones** to a retirement home. This is because most families believe they can provide better care for their older generation. More importantly, it is thought that the grandchildren and children will be closer to their grandparents who live with them rather than in any of the retirement homes.

On the other hand, with increasing life expectancy and a modern healthcare system our senior citizens are now living longer and are, **for the most part**, financially secure. Consequently, they do not have to rely solely on others for their maintenance and can **pick and choose** the freedom of a retirement community.

Indeed, companies have **sprung up** across the world catering for this new development in elderly care. For example, many of these types of communities will have doctors, nurses and other services **embedded** in them in order to help their elderly customers in their **twilight years**. The freedom, medical care, and social opportunities provided by these retirement communities can definitely be a blessing to senior citizens.

To conclude, I support the decision of older people to live in retirement communities. It is a positive development, but care should be taken that elderly people do not become isolated from their **nearest and dearest**.

288 words

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Vocabulary

sheltered housing (noun) (Social Welfare) accommodation designed esp for the elderly or infirm consisting of a group of individual premises, often with some shared facilities and a caretaker. *Also called: sheltered accommodation or sheltered homes*

extended family (noun) A family group that consists of parents, children, and other relatives, often living in close proximity.

for the most part (idiom) Mostly; typically.

For the most part, Paul is a good student, but he does struggle with math.

pick and choose (idiom) To select and combine various different options as one desires.

Starting next month, customers of the airline will no longer be able to pick and choose the things they pay for on their flights, instead having to select one of three pre-determined price tiers.

spring up (idiom) To appear, arise, or become available very suddenly.

Problems started springing up as soon as the software went live.

The next page should spring up in a moment, just give it a second to load.

Cafés and boutique shops have been springing up all over this part of town in recent months.

embedded (verb) To cause to be an integral part of a surrounding whole:

"a minor accuracy embedded in a larger untruth"

twilight years (idiom) the last years before death.

In his twilight years, he became more mellow and stopped yelling at people.

bear the burden (of something) (idiom) To endure something distressing, painful, stressful, or emotionally or physically taxing, especially for the sake of others.

Our mother bore the burden of this farm for 53 years until the day she died.

My partner quit his job to stay home with the baby, so I have to bear the burden of earning enough to pay the mortgage.

loved ones (idiom) Persons one loves or is close to, members of one's family.

"Donate to the American Cancer Society in memory of a loved one."

nearest and dearest (idiom) The people with whom one has the closest relationships; one's closest and most beloved family members and friends.

People would much rather go home and spend time with their nearest and dearest, not hang around their co-workers at some dull office party.

范文解析：

这是一篇典型的观点型大作文，话题为社会类话题：探讨越来越多的老年人选择住在养老院而不是和自己的成年子女住在一起，这是一个正向的还是一个负向的发展呢？关于这道题目，作者采用了双边类的结构来完成，双边类的写法即作者在主体段部分分别探讨了双方的观点。首先，作者在首段采用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。主体段部分，在第一个主体段中作者首先表达了在有些国家，认为将父母送去养老院是一种不尊重的行为，因为他们认为自己能更好的照顾父母并且视此作为一种应当承担的责任。在第二个主体段中，作者则认为随着医疗系统的发展并且伴随着经济基础的保证，现如今年纪大的不在需要去依靠其他人来维持自己的生活，而且现今的养老院多配有医生护士及各种先进的硬件设施，所以年纪大的人可以在这里获得更好的生活。这样的观点可以为各位考生提供一些参考，在遇到这类型题目的时候都可以加以应用。最后结尾段，作者总结上文重申自己的观点。这样的写作结构，在启德 2019 雅思教材第六课第七课中有详细的介绍，并且此类型话题在新教材中也有讲解，如果了解学习更多的写作知识，欢迎来启德上课。