

B2 经典外刊阅读

解构阅读中段落—匹配类题目详解





信息匹配题型

 阅读中的信息匹配类题目主要考查我们对文章的整体内容和结构以及上下文逻辑意义的理解和 掌握。在高考英语、四六级、雅思托福等主流考试中均有相关题目的考点,但在不同类别的考 试中出题的形式有一些差别,整体的考查目标是一致的。





七选五题型





高考七选五题型

- 在高考英语阅读中信息匹配题以句子七选五的形式出现。
- 七选五阅读可分为正文和选项两个部分,正文通常是250词左右的短文, 文中有5个句子被挖空,正文后给出七个选项,要求考生根据文章结构、 内容,选出正确的句子,填入相应的空白处。《考试说明》对该题型命题 目的的表述为"主要考查考生对文章的整体内容和结构以及上下文逻辑意 义的理解和掌握。备选项中,个别选项间区分度不大,干扰性强,这就增 加了题型的难度。如果不小心误选一题,就有可能造成连带效应,出现几 个错误。总的来说,七选五的题型难度要大于传统的阅读理解题,对学生 把握文章结构脉络、逻辑思维能力和语言综合运用能力,有更高的要求。





高考七选五题型

 分析历年高考真题可发现,七选五题型考查体裁,以说明文占比最高,议 论文次之,而记叙文考查较少。因为说明文和议论文问题结构比较清晰, 适合考查标题概括、主题句、过渡句等,从而考查学生对行文结构、脉络 层次的综合分析能力。





Emoji(表情符号) and Workplace Communication

In Asia, messaging platforms are growing rapidly, with users in the hundreds of millions, both at work and play. <u>36</u>. It's been reported that 76 percent of employees in some western countries are using emojis at work.

Written communications can often read as cold and dull. Using emojis can add humor and feeling, keeping intention clear. 37, encouraging better and more frequent communication.

In any given office, employees can range from age 22 to 70 and beyond, and finding common ground in communication style can be a challenge.___38__. While the younger generations prefer to communicate visually, for those used to working with traditional tools like email, it may feel like a learning curve(世线).The good news is that it's simple to learn and can be worth the effort.

There is also the matter of tone (语气). Who hasn't received an email so annoying that it ruined an entire day? _____39 ____. Emoji can help communication feel friendlier, and even a serious note can be softened with an encouraging smile.

<u>40</u>, and emoji can contribute directly to that positive outcome. And when your employees begin adding smiling emojis to their business communication, you'll know you have succeeded in improving your work culture.

- A. Message with emojis feel more conversational
- B. Even a formal email can seem cold and unfriendly
- C. Sending smiling faces to colleagues may seem strange
- D. The popularity of these platforms is spreading globally
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- G.An easy way to bring all work generations together is with a chat platform





1. 略读文章抓大意

以最快的速度跳跃式地浏览文章的大小标题、首段、每段的首句,以及表示句、段关系的连接性词语(特别是however, but等后的内容)等重要部分,以了解文章的基本结构和内容大意。事实上,一般只需花5~10秒阅读大小标题和第一段首尾句即可。





2. 分析选项, 串联主题。

在开始解题前,了解文章的主题、大意,会让解题的方向更明确。如果文章有标题,标题往往就点出了文章的主题。如果文章没有给出标题,就需要同学们快速分析出主题。但是正文中空缺了五处,结构和逻辑可能被打断。而且阅读文章要耗费一定时间,考场上需要争分夺秒,故建议同学们直接从选项着手,勾画选项关键词,串联出文章主题。关键词包括:名词、动词、形容词、数词、代词等。因为七选五正文通常都是说明文,选项中反复出现的高频词、词组,通常就是文章的说明对象。如果7个选项中没有同一高频词、词组出现,就把各个选项的核心关键信息进行叠加,也可以总结出文章的主题。





2. 分析选项,结合速读内容串联主题。

比如,根据以下选项串联中文章主题方向:

- A. Control includes the use of records and reports to compare actual work with the set standards for work.
- B. In this connection there is the difference between top management and operative management.
- C. Examples of nonprofit business include such organizations as social service agencies and many hospitals.
- D. However, some businesses only seek to enough to cover their operating costs
- E.The second aspect relates to the application of these policies by departments.
- F. In the theory of business management, organization has two main aspects.
- G. Planning in business management has three main aspects

分析: business, business management等信息反复出现,一定和主题相关,马上推出文章的主题就是: 商业管理。



- 3. 研究空格前后,对比选项,选择答案。
- 了解了文章主题后,马上开始解答题目。此时需要回到文中,重点阅读空格附近的句子,圈定线索词,再和选项进行比对,锁定和线索相关的选项,从而确定答案。如果有题目拿不准,不要把宝贵的时间耗在一道题上。先放过此题,继续往下,把容易的题目做完,再返回来攻克难题。此时可用的备选项已经缩小范围,选择起来难度自然小了很多。





- 4. 再次快速阅读全文,核对答案。
- 做完了所有的题目,为了保证答案的正确性,一定要把答案代入原文,进行核对检查。看文章从内容上、逻辑上是否通顺连贯,直白地说,就是检查文章是否读得通、读得懂,符合逻辑。





从题型和内容的方向来看,选项一般可总结为:

- a.主旨概括句(文章整体内容)
- b.过渡性句子(文章结构)
- c.注释性句子(上下文逻辑意义)
- 其多余的两个干扰项也往往从这三方面进行设置,如主旨概括句或过于宽 泛或以偏概全或偏离主题,过渡性句子不能反映文章的行文结构,注释性 句子与上文脱节等。
- 高考英语阅读七选五题型要求考生从整体上把握文章的逻辑结构和内容上的联系,理解句子之间、段落之间的关系,对诸如连贯性、一致性等语段特征有较强的意识和熟练的把握,并具备运用语法知识分析理解长难句的能力。





1. 理清句际间的关系

- 文章的内容是根据各层各段的大意有机地组合而成,各个层次,各个段落 之间不管怎样错落有致,但它所表达的内容都是要围绕中心的,各句之间 都有一定的语脉,从逻辑意义上来看,语段的句际关系可分为平列、顺序、 层递、转折、总分、解释、因果等关系。
- 构成语段的各个句子之间有时可以包含一种以上的句际关系。
- 因此,理解阅读材料时一定要把握语脉,理清句际间的关系,进而理解语 段或全文的内容。





2. 找出句子之间的连接性的词语

- 文章的语句间的组合,除了从语句间的意义关系分析外,还可借助句子之间的连接性词语来把握, 因为连接性词语能表明这个语段句与句之间、层与层之间的基本关系有:
- 承接关系(如 so, therefore, thus, hence, accordingly, consequently, as a result 等)
- 平列关系(如first, second, third...; firstly, secondly, thirdly...; first, next, then...; in the first place, in the second place...; for one thing, for another thing...; to begin with, to conclude 等)





2. 找出句子之间的连接性的词语

- 转折关系(如 however, nevertheless, nonetheless, still, though, yet, in spite of, at any rate, in any case, whoever, whatever on the contrary, in contrast, by contrast, in comparison, by comparison, conversely, otherwise 等)
- 递进关系(如 also, further, furthermore, likewise, similarly, moreover, in addition, what's more, too, either, neither, not...but..., not only...but also 等)





七选五实战练习

2020全国卷2

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- G.An easy way to bring all work generations together is with a chat platform

36.D 承接句

空前的 "In Asia, messaging platforms are growing rapidly, with users in the hundreds of millions, both at work and play. 在亚洲,短信平台发展迅速,无论是工作还是娱乐,都有数亿用户"以及空后的"It's been reported that 76 percent of employees in so me western countries are using emojis at work.据报道,在一些西方国家,76%的员工在工作中使用表情符号。",空白处前一句讲的是表情符号在亚洲的使用情况,后一句讲的是表情符号在一些西方国家的使用情况,由此可知,D项"The popularity of these platforms is spreading globally. 这些平台的普及正在全球蔓延。"符合语境。

37.A承接句

空前的 "Using emojis can add humor and feeling, keeping intention clear使用表情符号可以增加幽默感,使意图清晰。",以及空后的 "encouraging better and more frequent communication.促进更好、更频繁的交流。"由此可知,A项 "Message with emojis feel more conversational带有表情符号的信息会让人感觉更口语化"符合语境。





In any given office, employees can range from age 22 to 70 and beyond, and finding common ground in communication style can be a challenge. 38 . While the younger generations prefer to communicate visually, for those used to working with traditional tools like email, it may feel like a learning curve (曲线) . The good news is that it's simple to learn and can be worth the effort.

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38.G 过渡句

空前的 "In any given office, employees can range from age 22 to 70 and beyond, and finding common ground in communication style can be a challenge.在任何一个特定的办公室里,员工年龄从22岁到70岁甚至更高,在沟通方式上找到共同点是一个挑战。"所以要寻找交流的途径,由此可知, G项 "An easy way to bring all work generations together is with a chat platform一个把不同年龄的员工聚集在一起的简单的方法是使用一个聊天平台。"符合语境。



2020全国卷2

There is also the matter of tone (语气). Who hasn't received an email so annoying that it ruined an entire day? 39 . Emoji can help communication feel friendlier, and even a serious note can be softened with an encouraging smile.

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39.B 过渡句

空前的 "Who hasn't received an email so annoying that it rui ned an entire day! 谁没有收到一封如此烦人的邮件,以至于毁了一整天?"以及空后的"Emoji can help communication feel friendlier, and even a serious note can be softened with an encouraging smile.表情符号可以帮助交流变得更友好,甚至一个严肃的话题也可以通过一个鼓励的微笑变得轻松。"

通过正反两方面的对比讲沟通过程中的语气问题。空白处前一句提到了电子邮件带来的负面情绪,后一句从正面讲表情符号的积极作用。空格处是进一步讲电子邮件的负面作用,由此可知,B项 "Even a formal email can seem cold and unfriendly甚至一封正式的电子邮件也会让人觉得冷冰冰、不友好"符合语境。

40.F并列句

空后的 "and emoji can contribute directly to that positive outcome.表情符号可以直接促进积极的结果。由此可知,F项 "Studies show that friendlier communication leads to a happier workplace研究表明,更友好的交流会带来更快乐的工作环境"符合语境。





四六级信息匹配题型



四六级信息匹配题型

- 四六级中匹配题以"匹配型长篇阅读"形式出现,其实它就是在托福及雅思阅读题目中经常出现的 段落信息匹配题。
- 信息匹配题这部分的文章是所有的阅读里面信息量最大的,包含的词汇量一般在1000字左右,选项有10个长段落,要求为每一段落选出与文中内容相匹配的一段。需要将10道题目信息配对到9-15个段落中。同时,某段可能被用到两次,而某段可能完全不被涉及。
- 由于做题时间的限制,我们将它归类为快速阅读的一种考查,也就是我们之前讲到的速读,快速寻 找阅读中重要信息的能力。
- 这类题型的出题形式为: 题干给出原文的若干条细节信息,要求考生找出文中分别有这些信息的段落,即题目当中会问道: which paragraph contains the following information?



四级真题



Living with parents edges out other living arrangements for 18-to 34-year-olds

- A) Broad demographic (人口的)shifts in marital status, educational attainment and employment have transformed the way young adults in the U.S. are living, and a new Pew Research Center analysis highlights the implications of these changes for the most basic element of their lives—where they call home. In 2014, for the first time in more than 130 years, adults ages 18 to 34 were slightly more likely to be living in their parents' home than they were to be living with a spouse or partner in their own household.
- B) This turn of events is fueled primarily by the dramatic drop in the share of young Americans who are choosing to settle down romantically before age 35. Dating back to 1880, the most common living arrangement among young adults has been living with a romantic partner, whether a spouse or a significant other. This type of arrangement peaked around 1960, when 62% of the nation's 18-to 34-year-olds were living with a spouse or partner in their own household, and only one-in-five were living with their parents.
- C) By 2014, 31.6% of young adults were living with a spouse or partner in their own household, below the share living in the home of their parent(s) (32.1%). Some 14% of young adults lived alone, were a single parent or lived with one or more roommates. The remaining 22% lived in the home of another family member (such as a grandparent, in-law or sibling (兄弟姐妹)), a non-relative, or in group quarters like college dormitories.
- D) It's worth noting that the overall share of young adults living with their parents was not at a record high in 2014. This arrangement peaked around 1940, when about 35% of the nation's 18-to 34-year-olds lived with mom and/or dad (compared with 32% in 2014). What has changed, instead, is the relative share adopting different ways of living in early adulthood, with the decline of romantic coupling pushing living at home to the top of a much less uniform list of living arrangements.



- E) Among young adults, living arrangements differ significantly by gender. For men ages 18 to 34, living at home with mom and/or dad has been the dominant living arrangement since 2009, In 2014,28% of young men were living with a spouse of partner in their own home, while 35% were living in the home of their parent(s). Young women, however, are still more likely to be living with a spouse of romantic partner(35%) than they are to be living with their parent(s)(29%).
- F) In 2014, more young women (16%) than young men (13%) were heading up a household without a spouse or partner. This is mainly because women are more likely than men to be single parents living with their children. For their part, young men (25%) are more likely than young women (19%) to be living in the home of another family member, a non-relative or in some type of group quarters.
- G) A variety of factors contribute to the long-run increase in the share of young. Adults living with the parents. The first in the postponement of, if not retreat from, marriage. The average age of first marriage has risen steadily for decades. In addition, a growing share of young adult may be avoiding marriage altogether. A previous Pew Research Center analysis projected that as many as one-in-four of today's young adult may never marry. While cohabitation (同居) has been on the rise, the overall share of young adults either married or living with an unmarried partner has substantially fallen since 1990.





- H) In addition, trends in both employment status and wages have likely contributed to the growing share of young adults who are living in the home of their parent(s), and this is especially true of young men. Employed young men are much less likely to live at home than young men without a job, and employment among young men has fallen significantly in recent decades. The share of young men with jobs peaked around 1960 at 84%. In 2014, only 71% of 18-to-34-year-old men were employed. Similarly with earnings, young men's wages (after adjusting for inflation) have been on a downward trajectory (轨迹) since 1970 and fell significantly from 2000 to 2010. As wages have fallen ,the share of young men living in the home of their parent(s) has risen.
- I) Economic factors seem to explain less of why young adult women are increasingly likely to live at home. Generally, young women have had growing success in the paid labor market since 1960 and hence might increasingly be expected to be a be to afford to afford to live independently of their parents. For women, delayed marriage—which is related, in part, to labor market outcomes for men—may explain more of the increase in their living in the family home.
- J) The Great Recession (and modest recovery) has also been associated with an increase in young adults living at home. Initially in the wake of the recession, college enrollments expanded, boosting the ranks of young adults living at home. And given the weak job opportunities facing young adults, living at home was part of the private safety net help young adults to weather the economic storm.
- K) Beyond gender, young adult's living arrangements differ considerable by education—which is tied to financial means. For young adults without a bachelor's degree, as of 2008 living at home with their parents was more prevalent than living with a romantic partner. By 2014, 36% of 18-to 34-year-olds who had not completed a bachelor's degree were living with their parent(s) while 27% were living with a spouse or partner. Among college graduates, in 2014 46% were married or living with a partner, and only 19% were living with their parent(s). Young adults with a college degree have fared much better in the labor market than their less-educated counterparts, which has in turn made it easier to establish their own households.





- 36. Unemployed young men are more likely to live with their parents than the employed.
- 37.In 2014, the percentage of men aged 18 to 34 living with their parents was greater than that of their female counterparts.
- 38. The percentage of young people who are married or live with a partner has greatly decreased in the past three decades or so.
- 39. Around the mid-20th century, only 20 percent of 18 to 34-year-old lived in their parents' home.
- 40. Young adults with a college degree found it easier to live independently of their parents.
- 41. Young men are less likely to end up as single parents than young women.
- 42. More young adult women live with their parents than before due to delayed marriage.
- 43. The percentage of young men who live with their parents has grown due to their decreased pay in recent decades.
- 44. The rise in the number of college students made more young adults live with their parents.
- 45. One reason for young adults to live with their parents is that get married late or stay single all their lives.





段落匹配解题思路

- 在做四六级和雅思等考试的信息匹配题时,一般时间都是需要被严格控制的。
- 比如,四六级考试中常规留给段落匹配这个部分的解题时间是15分钟内, 而因为信息匹配题的文字内容较多,一不小心就容易陷进去,而忘记了时间,所以我们在日常练习中一定要养成快速阅读习惯。
- 这一类的快速阅读其实答题的策略是很明确的:
- ①看到什么,定位什么,选择什么;
- ②看到什么,定位什么,同义替换,选择什么。





先题后文, 划关键词

- 这种题型属于绝对乱序,绝对超细节,大概率出现出现词的同义转换,而且通常没有可以特别容易定位的单词或符号。而且还常出现同一个段落复选的情况。
- 由于题目顺序与原文不同,所以考生不能按照传统的题文同序方法做题, 同义转述和细节题的特点要求考生能迅速找到文中的细节信息。
- 虽然文章很长,但还是有规律可循。一般来说,虽然句子陈述的都是文中的细节,但其基本内容都是围绕其所在段落的主题进行描述的。所以,建议采取先看题后看文章的策略。在浏览题目时,要注意划出句中的关键词,通过快速阅读题干中的若干条细节信息,考生可以迅速了解文章主旨大意,从而能在回头阅读文章时加快速度,节省定位时间。





- 主要定位专有名词和有特点的词,像人名、地点、数字、时间、专有名词等。优先匹配定位词明显的选项。
- 如果没有明显可以定位的专属名词:
- 1) 选择重点名词,但要注意匹配其他主要信息,尤其是描述对象是否一致。
- 2) 选择名词短语或形容词短语,确定题目和原文描述的对象是否相同,细节或其他主要信息是否一致。
- 3) 选择强烈感情色彩的词语,像essential, vital等,定位段落后,要确定感情色彩是否匹配。





• 关键词定位

比如:

题目: Since the mid-1970s, the enrollment of overseas students has increased at an annual rate of 3.9 percent.

这个题目的关键词就是两个数字,20世纪70年代中期和3.9%。然后回到原文中寻找。

原文: Over the past three decades the number of students leaving home each year to study abroad has grown at an annual rate of 3.9 percent, from 800,000 in 1975 to 2.5million in 2004.

在原文的C段,出现了1975和3.9%两个数字,这道匹配题就完成了。





同义替换

比如:

题目: A series of books, mostly authored by Americans, warned...

这个题目没有明显的定位词,可以画Americans。

原文: A succession of books, mainly by Americans... sounded the alarm.

对应到题目,可以发现两段开头,几乎一模一样,部分进行了同义替换。 mainly换成了mostly, sounded the alarm换成了warned。

在平时一定要多做同义替换的积累,关键时刻才能游刃有余解题。





段落匹配解题注意事项

- 这类题目一定要记得先看题目,并圈出每个选项的关键词。不能用表达中心思想的主题词去定位, 因为文章通篇讲的都是它,这样会扩大选择范围。
- 如果记不全题干中所有段落的关键词,就退而求其次,先记住前面几个,减少记忆量,然后再到全文中快速浏览找到关键词或同义替换词。(六级文章中同意替换词比较多,需要注意题文不同的关键词匹配。)
- 先匹配定位词明显的题,不确定的可以放在最后。有的快速阅读文章里有小标题,利用小标题就能快速定位到相关段落快速找到答案,这类题型一般都是送分题,得分率比较高。
- · 匹配完记得按照已选顺序浏览检查一遍,看看是否读的通。这一步对于信息匹配很重要,因为段落之间排序都是有联系的,错了1个就可能连着错,一定要带入原文,核对排除。



段落匹配实战分析



- 36. Unemployed young men are more likely to live with their parents than the employed.
- 37.In 2014, the percentage of men aged 18 to 34 living with their parents was greater than that of their female counterparts.
- 38. The percentage of young people who are married or live with a partner has greatly decreased in the past three decades or so.
- 39. Around the mid-20th century, only 20 percent of 18 to 34-year-old lived in their parents' home.
- 40. Young adults with a college degree found it easier to live independently of their parents.
- 41. Young men are less likely to end up as single parents than young women.
- 42. More young adult women live with their parents than before due to delayed marriage.
- 43. The percentage of young men who live with their parents has grown due to their decreased pay in recent decades.
- 44. The rise in the number of college students made more young adults live with their parents.
- 45. One reason for young adults to live with their parents is that get married late or stay single all their lives.





36. Unemployed young men are more likely to live with their parents than the employed.

37.In 2014, the percentage of men aged 18 to 34 living with their parents was greater than that of their female counterparts.

36. H) In addition, trends in both employment status and wages have likely contributed to the growing share of young adults who are living in the home of their parent(s), and this is especially true of young men. Employed young men are much less likely to live at home than **young men without a job**, and employment among young men has fallen significantly in recent decades. The share of young men with jobs peaked around 1960 at 84%. In 2014, only 71% of 18-to-34-year-old men were employed. Similarly with earnings, young men's wages (after adjusting for inflation) have been on a downward trajectory (執迹) since 1970 and fell significantly from 2000 to 2010. As wages have fallen ,the share of young men living in the home of their parent(s) has risen.

37. E) Among young adults, living arrangements differ significantly by gender. For men ages 18 to 34, living at home with mom and/or dad has been the dominant living arrangement since 2009, In 2014, 28% of young men were living with a spouse of partner in their own home, while 35% were living in the home of their parent(s). Young women, however, are still more likely to be living with a spouse of romantic partner(35%) than they are to be living with their parent(s)(29%).





- 38. The percentage of young people who are married or live with a partner has greatly decreased in the past three decades or so.
- 39. Around the mid-20th century, only 20 percent of 18 to 34-year-old lived in their parents' home.
- 38. G) A variety of factors contribute to the long-run increase in the share of young. Adults living with the parents. The first in the postponement of, if not retreat from, marriage. The average age of first marriage has risen steadily for decades. In addition, a growing share of young adult may be avoiding marriage altogether. A previous Pew Research Center analysis projected that as many as one-in-four of today's young adult may never marry. While cohabitation (同居) has been on the rise, the overall share of young adults either married or living with an unmarried partner has substantially fallen since 1990.
- 39. B) This turn of events is fueled primarily by the dramatic drop in the share of young Americans who are choosing to settle down romantically before age 35. Dating back to 1880, the most common living arrangement among young adults has been living with a romantic partner, whether a spouse or a significant other. This type of arrangement peaked around 1960, when 62% of the nation's 18-to 34-year-olds were living with a spouse or partner in their own household, and only one-in-five were living with their parents.





- 40. Young adults with a college degree found it easier to live independently of their parents.
- 41. Young men are less likely to end up as single parents than young women.
- 40. K) Beyond gender, young adults, living arrangements differ considerably by education—which is tied to financial means. For young adults without a bachelor's degree, as of 2008 living at home with their parents was more prevalent than living with a romantic partner. By 2014, 36% of 18- to 34-year-olds who had not completed a bachelor's degree were living with their parent(s) while 27% were living with a spouse or partner. Among college graduates, in 2014 46% were married or living with a partner, and only 19% were living with their parents(s). Young adults with a college degree have fared much better in the labor market than their less-educated counterparts, which has in turn made it easier to establish their own households.
- 41. F) In 2014, more young women (16%) than young men (13%) were heading up a household without a spouse or partner. This is mainly because women are more likely than men to be single parents living with their children. For their part, young men (25%) are more likely than young women (19%) to be living in the home of another family member, a non-relative or in some type of group quarters





- 42. More young adult women live with their parents than before due to delayed marriage.
- 43. The percentage of young men who live with their parents has grown due to their decreased pay in recent decades.
- 42. I) Economic factors seem to explain less of why young adult women are increasingly likely to live at home. Generally, young women have had growing success in the paid labor market since 1960 and hence might increasingly be expected to be able to afford to live independently of their parents. For women, delayed marriage-which is related, in part, to labor market outcomes for men-may explain more of the increase in their living in the family home
- 43. H) In addition, trends in both employment status and wages have likely contributed to the growing share of young adults who are living in the home of their parent(s), and this is especially true of young men. Employed young men are much less likely to live at home than young men without a job, and employment among young men has fallen significantly in recent decades. The share of young men with jobs peaked around 1960 at 84%. In 2014, only 71% of 18-to-34-year-old men were employed. Similarly with earnings, young men's wages (after adjusting for inflation) have been on a downward trajectory (執迹) since 1970 and fell significantly from 2000 to 2010. As wages have fallen ,the share of young men living in the home of their parent(s) has risen.





- 44. The rise in the number of college students made more young adults live with their parents.
- 45. One reason for young adults to live with their parents is that get married late or stay single all their lives.
- 44. J) The Great Recession (and modest recovery) has also been associated with an increase in young adults living at home. Initially in the wake of the recession, college enrollments expanded, boosting the ranks of young adults living at home. And given the weak job opportunities facing young adults, living at home was part of the private safety net helping young adults to weather the economic storm.
- 45. G) A variety of factors contribute to the long-run increase in the share of young adults living with the parents. The first is the postponement of, if not retreat from, marriage. The average age of first marriage has risen steadily for decades. In addition, a growing share of young adults may be avoiding marriage altogether. A previous Pew Research Center analysis projected that as many as one-in-four of today's young adults may never marry. While cohabitation (同居) has been on the rise, the overall! share of young adults either married or living with an unmarried partner has substantially fallen since 1990.

