

讲义

Demography

人口统计

Prematurely grey

过早衰老

Large parts of Asia are getting old before they get rich. They must start planning now

亚洲大部分地区未富先老。他们现在必须开始做规划了

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A **bulge** in a country's working-age population is a **blessing**. Lots of workers support relatively few children and retired people. So long as the labour market can absorb a surge of job-seekers, output per head will rise. That can boost savings and investment, leading to higher economic growth, more productivity gains and developmental **lift-off**. Yet for countries that fail to seize this opportunity, the results can be **grim**—as many developing countries may soon discover.

一个国家的劳动适龄人口激增是件好事。大量工人供养相对较少的儿童和退休人员。只要劳动力市场能够吸纳激增的求职者，人均产出就会上升。这可以促进储蓄和投资，带来更高的经济增长、更多的生产率提高和发展腾飞。然而，对于未能抓住这一机遇的国家来说，结果可能是严峻的——许多发展中国家可能很快就会发现这一点。

【词汇】

1. **prematurely** /,pri:mə'tʃʊrli/, /,pri:mə'tɔ:ri/ adv. too soon 过早地；为时过早地

例：Her hair became prematurely white.

她的头发过早地苍白了。

2. **bulge** /bʌldʒ/ n. GRE GMAT 专八 雅思 a sudden temporary increase in the amount of something 一时的激增；暴涨

3. **blessing** /'blesɪŋ/ n. 考研 专八 托福 something that is good or helpful 好事；有益之事

4. **lift-off** /'lɪft ɔ:f/ n. 四级 GRE 高考 考研 the act of a rocket or helicopter leaving the ground and rising into the air (航天器的) 发射, 起飞, 升空

5. **grim** /grɪm/ adj. 六级 GRE GMAT 考研 雅思 unpleasant and depressing 令人不快的; 令人沮丧的

例: We face the grim prospect of still higher unemployment.

我们面临着失业率进一步上升的暗淡前景。

Consider Thailand. It is rapidly greying. In 2021 the share of Thais aged 65 or over hit 14%, a **threshold** that is often used to define an aged society. Soon Thailand will, like Japan, South Korea and most Western countries, see a **dwindling** supply of workers and, without extraordinary measures, **flagging** productivity and growth. Yet unlike Japan and the rest, Thailand, with a GDP per person of just \$7,000 in 2021, is not a developed country. It has got old before it has got rich. When Japan had a similar portion of **oldies**, it was roughly five times richer than Thailand is today.

以泰国为例。泰国正在迅速老龄化。2021年, 65岁及以上的泰国人占比达到14%, 这是一个通常被用来定义老龄化社会的门槛。很快, 泰国就会像日本、韩国和大多数西方国家一样, 面临劳动力供应减少的问题, 如果不采取特别措施, 生产力和经济增长都将下滑。然而, 与日本等国家不同的是, 泰国在2021年人均国内生产总值仅为7000美元, 并非发达国家。泰国未富先老。当日本也有类似比例的老年人时, 其富裕程度大约是今天泰国的五倍。

【词汇】

1. **threshold** /'θreʃhəʊld/ n. 六级 GMAT 考研 雅思 the level at which something starts to happen or have an effect
阈; 界; 起始点

2. **dwindle** /'dwɪndl/ v. GRE GMAT 专八 雅思 托福 to become gradually less or smaller (逐渐) 减少, 变小, 缩小
例: The group's support dwindled into insignificance.

这个团体的支持减少到了微乎其微的地步。

3. **flag** /flæɡ/ v. 四级 GRE 高考 考研 to become tired, weaker or less enthusiastic 疲乏; 变弱; 热情衰减
例: Her confidence had never flagged.

她的信心从未减弱。

4. **oldie** /'əʊldi/ n. an old person or thing 老人; 旧事物

This is a big obstacle to Thailand's future development. To protect its ageing citizens, many of whom are poor, Thailand's government will have to spend more on health care and pensions. This will make it harder to invest in **productivity-boosting** skills and infrastructure. And where Thailand goes, many developing countries will follow. In Asia, where the problem is most advanced, Indonesia and the Philippines are also likely to become aged societies at lower income levels than was the case in the rich world. Sri Lanka, where the average income is a third lower than Thailand's, will become aged by 2028.

这是泰国未来发展的一大障碍。为了保护老龄化的国民（其中许多是穷人），泰国政府将不得不在医疗保健和养老金方面投入更多。这样，它就更难将资金投入提高生产率技能和基础设施等方面。泰国走到哪里，许多发展中国家就会跟到哪里。在问题最严重的亚洲，印度尼西亚和菲律宾也有可能在收入水平低于富裕国家的情况下步入老龄化社会。斯里兰卡的平均收入比泰国低三分之一，到2028年也将进入老龄化社会。

【词汇】

1. **productivity-boosting** : that increase efficiency, output, or productivity 提高生产力的

例：The company introduced a productivity-boosting software.

公司引入了一款提高生产力的软件。

【长难句】

In Asia, where the problem is most advanced, Indonesia and the Philippines are also likely to become aged societies at lower income levels than was the case in the rich world.

句子主干部分为 Indonesia and the Philippines are also likely to become aged societies，意为：印度尼西亚和菲律宾也有可能步入老龄化社会

In Asia 是状语，意为：在亚洲

an American author who lives in Jerusalem 为同位语，解释说明 Nathan Thrall，意为：居住在耶路撒冷的美国作家

where the problem is most advanced 为非限制性定语从句，附加说明 Asia，意为：（亚洲）问题最严重

at lower income levels than was the case in the rich world 为状语，意为：在收入水平低于富裕国家的情况下

Countries that age before growing rich have failed to seize their demographic opportunity, or aged out of it too rapidly, or suffered both problems. Between 1960 and

未富先老的国家要么没能抓住人口机遇，要么老龄化过快，要么同时存在这两个问题。1960年至1996年（亚洲金融

1996 (just before the Asian financial crisis), Thailand's economy grew at an average annual rate of 7.5%. That was impressive, but below Japan's double-digit clip in its boom years. Meanwhile, thanks to improving life expectancy and other factors, Thailand has aged fast. The share of oldsters in its population doubled, from 7% to 14%, in two decades. It took Japan 24 years to undergo the same change, America 72, and much of western Europe over a century.

危机爆发前夕)，泰国经济以年均 7.5% 的速度增长。这一数字令人印象深刻，但低于日本经济繁荣时期两位数的增长率。与此同时，由于预期寿命的提高和其他因素，泰国老龄化速度很快。泰国老年人口的比例在 20 年内翻了一番，从 7% 增至 14%。日本用了 24 年才经历了同样的变化，美国用了 72 年，西欧大部分国家用了一个世纪。

【词汇】

1. **double-digit** /ˌdʌbl 'dɪdʒɪt/ adj. not less than 10 and not more than 99 两位数

例：Australia had 15 years of double-digit inflation.

澳大利亚有 15 年通货膨胀率维持在两位数。

2. **clip** /kɪp/ n. 六级 考研 雅思 the pace, speed, or rate at which something is happening or has happened 速度；速率

例：Despite the challenges of the past year, the company has managed to grow at a decent clip, thanks to its innovative products and strong customer base.

尽管过去一年面临了许多挑战，但由于其创新产品和强大的客户基础，该公司已成功以可观的速度增长。

3. **oldster** /'əʊldstər/ n. an old person 老人；老者

4. **undergo** /ˌʌndər'gəʊ/ v. 四级 GMAT 考研 to experience something, especially a change or something unpleasant 经历，经受（变化、不快的事等）

例：At the same time, the city underwent dramatic demographic shifts.

与此同时，这座城市也经历了巨大的人口变化。

【特殊名称】

1. **the Asian financial crisis** : The Asian financial crisis was a period of financial crisis that gripped much of East Asia beginning in July 1997 and raised fears of a worldwide economic meltdown due to financial contagion. 亚洲金融危机
亚洲金融危机是自 1997 年 7 月开始席卷东亚大部分地区的一段金融危机时期，引发了人们对金融传染导致全球经济崩溃的担忧。

Rapid ageing and slower growth are **widespread** in the developing world. Vietnamese are about half as rich as Thais and ageing even faster. India's economy has been one of the world's fastest-growing, yet not as fast as Thailand's during its boom. In the decade to 2020 India grew at an average annual rate of 6.6%.

快速老龄化和增长放缓在发展中国家普遍存在。越南人的富裕程度约为泰国人的一半，而且老龄化速度更快。印度一直是世界上经济增长最快的国家之一，但还没有泰国繁荣时期的增长速度快。在2020年之前的十年时间里，印度的年均增长率为6.6%。

【词汇】

1. **widespread** /'wɪdspreɪd/ adj. 四级 高考 考研 existing or happening over a large area or among many people 分布广的；普遍的；广泛的

例：The plan received widespread support throughout the country.

这项计划得到了全国的普遍支持。

One conclusion is that countries with a working-age bulge need to **wring** more growth **out of** it. India may never have a better chance than the present. Under Narendra Modi it has a strong, pro-business government, which is likely to win **re-election** next year. There is a **consensus** on the measures, including **privatisation** and looser foreign-investment rules, that could raise its growth rate.

一个结论是，劳动年龄人口激增的国家需从中挤出更多的增长。印度可能永远不会有比现在更好的机会了。在纳伦德拉·莫迪（Narendra Modi）的领导下，印度拥有一个强大、亲商的政府，该政府有可能在明年赢得连任。各方对提高增长率的措施已达成共识，包括私有化和放宽外商投资规则。

【词汇】

1. **re-election** /,ri:ɪ'lekʃn/ n. the process of electing somebody again to the same position 改选，重选；再次竞选
2. **consensus** /kən'sensəs/ n. GMAT 高考 考研 an opinion that all members of a group agree with 一致意见；共识
3. **privatisation** /,praɪvətə'zeɪʃn/ n. the act of selling a business or an industry so that it is no longer owned by the government 私有化；私营化

【词组】

1. **wring ... out of** : to obtain something from somebody with difficulty, especially by putting pressure on them 从...处费力弄到；从...压榨出

例：Buyers use different ruses to wring free credit out of their suppliers.

买主们想方设法从他们那些供应商那里获取无息赊购。

Another conclusion is that developing countries need to start planning for old age earlier. They should reform their pension systems, including by raising retirement ages. They should **nurture** financial markets, providing options for long-term saving and health insurance. They should create conditions for well-regulated private social care. And they should try harder to increase female participation in the labour force; in India it is a **wretched** 24%, half the global average. Getting more women into jobs would extend the demographic **dividend** and help deal with the fact that women live longer than men, but tend to have more **meagre** savings and pensions, and so are vulnerable in old age.

另一个结论是，发展中国家需要更早地开始为老龄化做计划。他们应改革养老金制度，包括提高退休年龄。他们应扶持金融市场，为长期储蓄和医疗保险提供选择。他们应为监管良好的私人社会福利创造条件。他们还应更努力地提高女性的劳动力参与度；在印度，女性的劳动力参与率仅为可怜的24%，是全球平均水平的一半。让更多的女性就业将扩大人口红利，并有助于解决这样一个事实：女性比男性寿命更长，但是在储蓄和养老金方面往往更为贫乏，因此在老年时很脆弱。

【词汇】

1. **nurture** /'nɜːrtʃər/ v. 考研 专八 雅思 托福 to help somebody/something to develop and be successful 扶持；帮助；支持

例：Instead of nurturing a dwindling trade, this could have the opposite effect.

比起扶持一个萎缩的贸易，这更可能会产生反作用。

2. **wretched** /'retʃɪd/ adj. 六级 雅思 making you feel sympathy or making you sad 可怜的；悲惨的

例：She finally agreed to have the wretched animal put down.

她最后同意用药结束这个可怜的动物生命。

3. **dividend** /'dɪvɪdend/ n. GRE GMAT 考研 专八 雅思 an amount of the profits that a company pays to people who own shares in the company 红利；股息；股利

4. **meagre** /'miːgər/ adj. 专八 雅思 small in quantity and poor in quality 少量且劣质的

例：She supplements her meagre income by cleaning at night.

她靠做夜间清洁工来补贴其微薄的收入。

【长难句】

Getting more women into jobs would extend the demographic dividend and help deal with the fact that women live longer than men, but tend to have more meagre savings and pensions, and so are vulnerable in old age.

句子主干部分为 Getting more women into jobs would extend the demographic dividend and help deal with the fact,

意为：让更多的女性就业将扩大人口红利，并有助于解决这样一个事实

其中，Getting more women into jobs 为动名词作主语，意为：让更多的女性就业

that women live longer than men, but tend to have more meagre savings and pensions, and so are vulnerable in old age 为同位语从句，解释说明 the fact，意为：女性比男性寿命更长，但是在储蓄和养老金方面往往更为贫乏，因此在老年时很脆弱（的事实）

Finally, developing countries should learn from the errors of rich ones by taking a pragmatic view of immigration. Hard as this can be politically, it is often the easiest way to extend the transition. Building sites in Bangkok already throng with illegal Burmese immigrants. By formalising them, Thai politicians could usher them into more productive roles.

最后，发展中国家应从富裕国家的错误中吸取教训，以对移民采取务实的态度。尽管这在政治上可能很困难，但这往往是延长转型期的最简单方法。曼谷的建筑工地已经挤满了缅甸非法移民。通过给予他们合法地位，泰国的政治家们可以引导他们发挥更有成效的作用。

【词汇】

1. **pragmatic** /præg'mætɪk/ adj. GRE GMAT 专八 雅思 solving problems in a practical and sensible way rather than by having fixed ideas or theories 实用的；讲求实效的；务实的

例：They're pragmatic about the spending cuts.

他们在削减开支方面很务实。

2. **formalise** /'fɔ:rməlaɪz/ v. to make an arrangement, a plan or a relationship official 使正式化；确定

例：Camps in the border areas should be formalized for those refugees who have some hope of returning to Myanmar. 边境地区那些供给短期内有望返回缅甸的难民的收容所也应该正规化。

3. **usher** /'ʌʃər/ v. GRE 专八 to take or show somebody where they should go 把...引往；引导；引领

例：The secretary ushered me into his office.

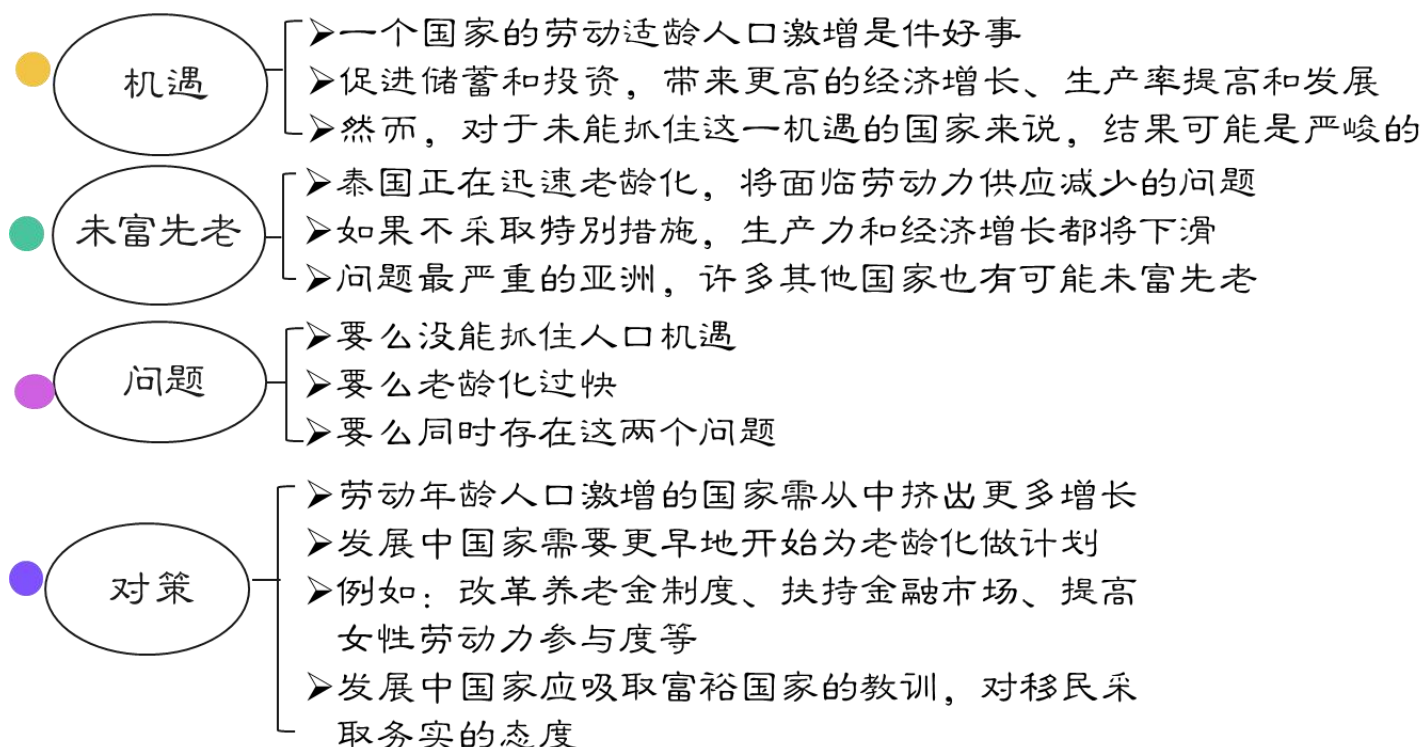
秘书把我领进他的办公室。

【特殊名称】

1. **Burmese** /bɜːrˈmiːz/ adj. (a person) from Burma/Myanmar 缅甸人；缅甸的；缅甸人的

总结

1) 文章架构



2) 同义替换

✓ 激增

bulge

A bulge in a country's working-age population is a blessing.

一个国家的劳动适龄人口激增是件好事。

surge

So long as the labour market can absorb a surge of job-seekers

只要劳动力市场能够吸纳激增的求职者

其他： explosion/boom/spurt

例：I believe we will see an explosion in lawsuits of this kind.

我相信，我们将会看到此类诉讼的激增。

✓ 老年人

oldie

When Japan had a similar portion of oldies When Japan had a similar portion of oldies

当日本也有类似比例的老年人时

oldster

The share of oldsters in its population doubled, from 7% to 14%, in two decades.

泰国老年人口的比例在 20 年内翻了一番，从 7% 增至 14%。

其他：elder/graybeard/senior citizen/the aged

例：The American Society on Aging provides resource services to those dealing with the aged.

美国老年协会为那些处理老年人问题的人提供资源服务。

3) 一词多义

✓ **grim**

- ✓ 文章原句：Yet for countries that fail to seize this opportunity, the results can be grim 然而，对于未能抓住这一机遇的国家来说，结果可能是严峻的

✓ 释义：

① **unpleasant and depressing** 令人不快的；令人沮丧的

We face the grim prospect of still higher unemployment.

我们面临着失业率进一步上升的暗淡前景。

② **looking or sounding very serious** 严肃的；坚定的；阴冷的

There was a grim smile on her face as she approached.

她走近时，脸上露出冷酷的微笑。

③ **not attractive; depressing** 无吸引力的；阴森的；凄凉的

The house looked grim and dreary in the rain.

这房子在雨中显得阴郁凄凉。

④ ill 生病的；不舒服的

I feel grim this morning.

我今天早上感到不舒服。

✓ clip

✓ 文章原句：That was impressive, but below Japan's double-digit clip in its boom years. 这一数字令人印象深刻，但低于日本经济繁荣时期两位数的增长率。

✓ 释义：

① the pace, speed, or rate at which something is happening or has happened 速度；速率

Despite the challenges of the past year, the company has managed to grow at a decent clip, thanks to its innovative products and strong customer base.

尽管过去一年面临了许多挑战，但由于其创新产品和强大的客户基础，该公司已成功以可观的速度增长。

② a short part of a film that is shown separately 电影片段

The documentary began with a clip from the President's inauguration speech.

纪录片以总统就职演说的片段开头。

③ small metal or plastic object used for holding things together or in place (金属或塑料的) 夹子，回形针

Sort out these papers and fasten them together with a clip, please.

请把这些文件整理一下，用夹子夹在一起。

④ the act of cutting something to make it shorter 剪短；修剪

He gave the hedge a clip.

他把树篱修剪了一下。

⑤ a quick hit with your hand (用手) 猛击，抽打

She gave him a clip round the ear for being cheeky.

她因他放肆给了他一记耳光。

4) 仿写训练

✓ 描述问题所在

✓ 文章原句：

Countries that age before growing rich have failed to seize their demographic opportunity, or aged out of it too rapidly, or suffered both problems.

✓ 句型：

… have failed to … …要么没能…

or… 要么…

or suffered both problems. 要么同时存在这两个问题

✓ 仿写示例：

Some education systems in areas of educational inequity have failed to provide adequate resources to under-resourced communities, or have inequitable education policies or systems, or suffered both problems.

✓ 仿写作业——描述农村地区医疗服务的问题所在

一些农村地区仍然无法获得足够的医疗服务，要么没能拥有医疗基础设施，要么医疗服务提供者短缺，要么同时存在这两个问题。

5) 主题词总结

今日主题——人口	
1. demography	人口统计
2. working-age population	劳动适龄人口
3. aged society	老龄化社会
4. expectancy	预期寿命
5. retirement age	退休年龄
6. pension system	养老金制度
7. labour force	劳动力
8. immigration	移民