雅思口语话题的第一个特征就是:广博。"传统"的广博性既体现在一些较为学术的考题中,也体现在许多生活类的题目里面。请看下面一道关于人们阅读习惯的问题:

【真题实例】 Do you think people's reading habits have changed in recent years?

【答题思路】 此题考的是人们阅读习惯有否变化。如果说不变,一定会演变成一个不知趣的回答;只有说变,才能正中考官的下怀!那么"传统"在这里的作用是什么呢?我们可以同样考虑把传统的阅读习惯(比如读书、看报)和现代的阅读方式(比如浏览网络新闻、看网络小说)做一个今昔对比。

【参考答案】 You bet they are! From my point of view, the most significant change is in the way people read. Thirty years ago, most people used to read newspapers and magazines and books as a lifetime habit because they didn't have a TV or computer. But nowadays, few of us are doing this. Instead, we have got used to surfing the Internet for quick news and downloading mini-novels to our cell phones or iPods. In short, traditional reading habits are being replaced by modern ones that focus on speed and quantity rather than quality.

为了阐明人们阅读方式的改变,我们把 30 年前的读书、看报、看杂志和如今的网上新闻及手机迷你小说进行了鲜明的对比。(请大家特别关注其中 used to 和 get used to 的用法。)最后一句画龙点睛式地指出传统的阅读习惯正在被取代,并一针见血批判了现代人只重速度和数量、而不重质量的阅读习惯。类似的批判风格及批判话语可以用于很多其它考题,比如 education,shopping,friendship等等。