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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/148/2021_2022__E5_85_B6_E4_BB_96_E8_AF_AD_E7_c105_148504.htm Persian is one of the worlds oldest languages, a standard and well-recognized tongue as early as the 6th century B.C. It is one of the Iranian languages which form a branch of the Indo-European family. To native speakers Persian is known as Farsi. Old Persian was the language of the great Persian Empire which at one time extended from the Mediterranean to the Indus River in India. The language was written in Cuneiform, the wedge-shaped characters used throughout much of the ancient world. In the 2nd century B.C. the Persians created their own alphabet, known as Pahlavi, which remained in use until the Islamic conquest of the 7th century. Since that time Persian has been written in the Arabic script with a number of additional characters to accommodate special sounds. Modern Persian is spoken by over 40 million people in Iran and another 5 million in Afghanistan. In Iran it is generally referred to as Farsi, in Afghanistan as Dari. A variety of Persian called Tajik is spoken in the Tajikistan, but there it is written in the Cyrillic alphabet. English words of Persian origin include shawl, pajama, taffeta, khaki, kiosk, divan, lilac, jasmine, julep, jackal, caravan, bazaar, checkmate, dervish, and satrap. Shams ud-Din Mohammed, or Hafiz, who lived in the 14th century, is considered Persias greatest lyric poet. 100Test 下载频道开通，各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com