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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/645/2021_2022__E7_BD_91_E6_A0_A1_E5_90_8D_E5_c91_645400.htm 综合类B级试卷押中
题目阅读理解：第二篇 Declining Interest in Developing Foreign
Language Skills Australia ' s foreign language skills are declining,
Voice of America¹ has reported. New figures show that only 13
percent of high school graduates can speak a foreign language. But
four decades ago, 40 percent had foreign language skills.来源：考试
大 Professor Elise Tipton, from the University of Sydney, says
increasingly students do not feel the need to learn another language
to boost their career. She believes that Australia ' s economic boom,
which is driven by red-hot demand for its minerals, is helping mask
serious deficiencies in its language skills. www.canet.com.cn
Australia does business very successfully in English with most of its
trading partners. But as the world ' s economic power shifts to
emerging regions such as Asia, its language gap could soon be
exposed. According to the new figures, less than 6.5 percent of high
school graduates are proficient in an Asian language. Academics
worry that this means Australia will increasingly be isolated from its
economically important Asian neighbors. Dilip Dutta, from the
economics and business faculty at Sydney University, says language
skills can enhance trading opportunities. If Australians want to trade
with Asian countries, it is very important for them to learn the
language that will help them to get closer to the culture. But students
have different opinions about Asian language learning. Pippa

McCowage, a 22-year-old Australian student, says many young Australians have a half-hearted approach to foreign languages³, and the language curriculum is often weak. "While we 're encouraged in high school to learn another language, it 's not really apparent to me as a realistic expectation that you will have to speak it," said McCowage. "For example, I learned Japanese in high school, when I went on an exchange in Year 10, I found that the Japanese students of my age had a much greater proficiency in English than I did in Japanese. So in that sense, it almost discourages you. At present, about 70 percent of Australia 's major exports go to Asia and the Australian government has been keen on developing closer economic and diplomatic ties with Asia. Academics say that, as Asia becomes one of the world 's economic powerhouses, Australia needs to improve its language skills if it is to take full advantage of the business opportunities on its doorstep. 36 What percentage of high school graduates were proficient in foreign languages forty years ago? A 70 percent. B 13 percent C 6.5 percent D 40 percent 37 What can be inferred from paragraph 2? A Australia is essentially a self-sufficient country. B Australia has rich deposits of minerals. C Australia has no intention to trade with Asian countries. D Australian students are not required to learn a foreign language. 38 What does Dilip Dutta think language skills can do? A Improve your relation with your partner. B Help settle international conflicts. C Increase trading opportunities. D Remove barriers in negotiations. 39 Why has the Australian government been keenly interested in strengthening ties with Asia? A Because Asia is where Australia 's

major exports go. B Because Asia is where Australia is located. C Because Asia is where Australians go and spend their holidays. D Because Asia is where Australia can play a big role in international affairs. 40 The word "faculty" in paragraph 3 could be best replaced by A office B building C department D university

来源：考试大 B building C department D university 编辑推荐：为帮助广大学员有效备考，我们特推出了职称英语2010年网络辅导课程，相信会让大家有耳目一新的视听感受。2009年职称英语通过率近100%，为答谢数十万用户厚爱，百考试题环球网校 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