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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/647/2021_2022_2010_E8_80_83_E7_A0_94_c73_647789.htm [A]The first and more important is

the consumer ' s growing preference for eating out: the consumption of food and drink in places other than hours has risen from about 32 percent of total consumption on 1995 to 35% in 2000 and is expected to approach 38% by 2005. This development is boosting wholesale demand from the food service segment by 4 to 5% a year as the recession is looming large, people are getting anxious. They tend keep a tighter hold on their purse and consider eating at home a realistic alternation。 [B] Retail, sales of food and drink in Europe ' s largest markets are at a standstill, leaving European grocery retailers hungry for opportunities to grow. Most leading retails have already tried e-commerce, with limited success, and expansion aboard. But almost all have ignored the big profitable opportunity in their own back yard: the wholesale food and drink trade, which appears to be just the kind of market retailers need。

[C] Will such variations bring about a change in overall structure of the food and drink market? Definitely not. The functioning of the market is base on flexible trends dominated by potential buyers. In other words, it is up to the buyer, rather than the seller, to decide.

What to buy. At any rate, this change and international consumers, regardless of how long the current consumer pattern will take hold。

[D] All in all, this clearly seems to be a market in which big retailers could profitably apply their gigantic scale, existing infrastructure, and

proven skills in the management of product ranges, logistics, and marketing intelligence. Retailers that master the intricacies of wholesaling in Europe may well expect to rank in substantial profits thereby. At last, that is how it looks as a whole. Closer inspection reveals important differences among the biggest nation market especially in their customer segment and wholesale structures, as well as the competitive dynamics. [E] Despite variations in detail, wholesale markets in the countries that have been closely examined---France, Germany are made out of the same building block. Demand mainly from two sources: independent mom and pop grocery stores which, unlike large retail chains, are too small to buy straight when they don't eat at home. Such food service operators, but most of these businesses are known in the trade as "horeca": hotels, restaurants and cafes. Overall, Europe's wholesale market for food and drink is growing at the same sluggish pace as the retail market, but the figure when added together, masks too opposing trends. [F] For example, wholesale food and drink sales came to \$268 billion in France, Germany, Spain, America in 2000 --- more than 40 percent of retail sales. Moreover, average overall margins are higher in wholesale than in retail. Wholesale demand from the food service sector is growing quickly as more Europeans eat out more often. and in the competitive dynamics of this fragmented industry are at last made feasible for wholesalers to consolidate. [G] However, none of these requirements should deter large retailers and even some large food producers and existing wholesalers, from trying their hand, for those that master the

intricacies of wholesaling in Europe stand to reap considerable gains
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