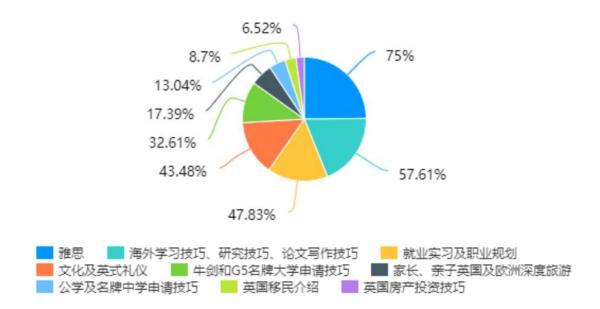
23th May

Please find below the update 21 from HOPE.

### **News from HOPE**

1) A recent survey on online training demand among HOPE's over 300 hundred clients shows IELTS and A level Economics still top the general training and A level subject training category respectively.

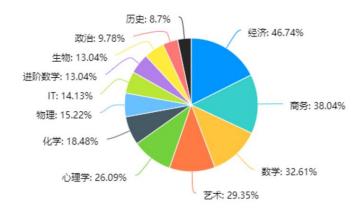
In general training category, IELTS (75%), Study/research/essay writing Skill(57.61%), Career planning/internship and job applying (47.83%), British culture and etiquette (43.48%) and Oxbridge and G5 university application (32.61%) are overwhelmingly popular among the voters.



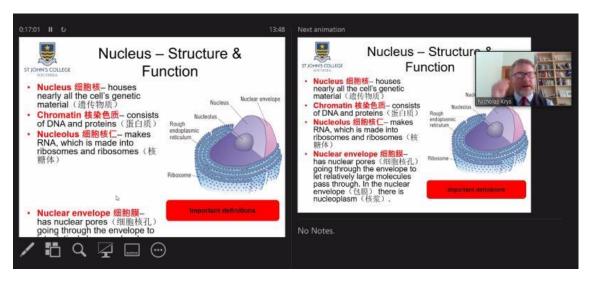
For A level subjects category, Economics (46.74%), Business (38.04%), Maths (32.61%), Arts (29.35%), psychology (26.09%), Chemistry(18.48%), Physics (15.23%), IT (14.13%), Further maths (13.04%), Biology(13.04%), Politics (9.78%), History (8.7%) are most favored.



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2) HOPE's online tuition platform, HOPE Academy, has been working with quite a few of our partner institutions to organize demo classes for our students. We hope that these demo classes can showcase the strength of our partners' teaching staff as well as how the classes are different from those in China so that we can further promote your institutions and even help to sell your online programme. We are particularly grateful to the following institutions who have been actively support our strategy: John Leggott College, St. John's College Southsea, TASIS, Living Learning English, Brooke House College, Brockenhurst College, Loughborough University and University of Exeter!



Nicholas Krys, Head of Biology, St John's College southsea offers an online demon on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> May.



Letitia Thompson, art teacher from JLC is giving a online demo on Wednesday 20 May.

Kind regards

Daniel Zheng

Daniel Zheng
Managing Director
HOPE Study Abroad Service/HOPE International Education

### News on local media

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# National security legislation for HKSAR protects interests of residents, foreign investors: Carrie Lam



HKSAR Chief Executive Carrie Lam (center) speaks at a press conference in Hong Kong on May 22, 2020.

Carrie Lam said on Friday night.

Introducing the national security legislation for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region helps protect the legitimate interests of both Hong Kong residents and foreign investors, Chief Executive of the HKSAR

Business confidence in Hong Kong will improve as the place will be safer after its legal system and enforcement mechanisms to safeguard national security are established and improved, Lam said, stressing the interests of foreign investors will not be damaged.

Lam made the remarks at a press conference that was also attended by multiple other government officials and members of the Executive Council.

A draft decision on establishing and improving the legal system and enforcement mechanisms for the HKSAR to safeguard national security was submitted to the third session of the 13th National People's Congress for deliberation on Friday.

National security is the top priority of every country and region, which is the foundation for residents' well-being, Lam said. Over the past year, Hong Kong has seen rising risks of endangering national security and the alarm of terrorist activities in Hong Kong has

been raised, she said.

Given the increasingly serious situation in the HKSAR, the executive and

legislative authorities of the HKSAR have difficulties in completing on their

own legislation for safeguarding national security in the foreseeable future,

Lam said.

The HKSAR government supports the NPC's deliberation of the draft

decision to establish and improve at the state-level the legal system and

enforcement mechanisms for the HKSAR to safeguard national security,

Lam said.

Source:Xinhua Editor:Wang Qingchu

Epidemic impact on China's economy significant, but

temporary: official

The impact of the COVID-19 epidemic on China's economy is significant

but will be short-term and temporary, a senior official with the country's top

economic planning body said Friday.

He Lifeng, head of the National Development and Reform Commission,

spoke to journalists on the sidelines of the third session of the 13th

National People's Congress, China's national legislature, which opened

Friday.

"Judging from the fundamentals of China's economy, the positive

development trend has not changed," said He. "The agricultural industry

continued to maintain a good development trend. Emerging industries

enjoy a good growth momentum, while traditional industries are recovering

well."

The consumption sectors in the tertiary industry, which bore the brunt of

the epidemic, were also rebounding in a strong and orderly manner,

according to He.

China is able and determined to continue to promote the steady, sound,

and sustainable development of the economy, he said.

According to a government work report submitted to the national

legislature for deliberation on Friday, China sets no specific economic

growth target for 2020 as the country faces some factors that are difficult

to predict in its development due to the great uncertainty regarding the

COVID-19 pandemic and the world economic and trade environment.

"As the COVID-19 epidemic continues to spread around the world, its

impact on the virus-hit countries' economy remains to be seen," said He.

"Setting no specific target for economic growth will enable us to focus on

continuously expanding domestic demand and ensuring stability on the six

fronts and security in the six areas," he said.

The six fronts refer to employment, the financial sector, foreign trade,

foreign investment, domestic investment, and expectations. The six areas

refer to job security, basic living needs, operations of market entities, food

and energy security, stable industrial and supply chains, and the normal

functioning of primary-level governments.

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"It will also enable us to concentrate on vigorously advancing the supply-side structural reform, high-quality economic development, creating and tapping new demands, and forming a strong domestic market," said He.

China will give priority to stabilizing employment, ensuring livelihood, winning the battle against poverty, and accomplishing the goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, he said.

## Couples clamor to get married on 'once-in-a-lifetime' date



Shanghai resident Li Ying and her husband Ye lingsheng show their love at the Huangpu District Marriage Registration Center on Wednesday.

Shanghai lovebirds flocked to marriage registration centers across town on Wednesday, as the date May 20, 2020, sounds similar to *ai ni ai ni wo ai ni*, or "love you, love you, I love you," in Chinese.

A total of 2,567 couples tied the knot in the city on Wednesday, compared with the normal daily 300 to 400.

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Li Ying, a 26-year-old Shanghai resident living in Huangpu District, arrived

at the district's marriage registration office at 11:30pm on Tuesday.

She held a bouquet of flowers from her soon-to-be husband.

"My boyfriend and I were closely checking for reservations since March but

unfortunately found all slots were fully booked by April 19, just one day

after reservations for May 20 opened," Li told Shanghai Daily. "It's a very

popular date for marriage."

Though reservations are recommended, they are not mandatory to draw

marriage certificates. To seal their love on this special day, the couple

made sure to grab an early spot in line.

"We decided to wait here overnight because it's a very rare date," she told

Shanghai Daily.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime date, and we don't want to miss it," Li's sweetheart

added.

"We picked the date one and a half years ago when we booked our

wedding banquet, which will be held next month," he said.

Add: Room 411 Pole Tower, 425 Yishan Road, 200235, China

The couple brought two stools and waited overnight outside the center.

They drew their marriage certificates at around 9:40am.

The couple met at a party three and a half years ago.

"This is a big, sweet moment in our life and we will have a banquet with our parents in celebration," said Li.



Lovebirds wait at the Huangpu District Marriage Registration Center on Wednesday.

Jack Ni presented flowers to his wife at the center for the momentous occasion.

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The couple arrived at 5am after also failing to make a reservation.

"We wanted to try our luck because it's a good date," he said.

The lovebirds met each other in 2015.

"We ordered breakfast via a delivery platform this morning, but will have a

sumptuous lunch as a celebration," he told Shanghai Daily.

Yu Jiani, another bride, made a marriage reservation one month ago.

She still waited more than one hour at the center due to the large volume

of lovebirds waiting for certificates of their own.

"It's a sweet day and all the waiting is worth it," she said with a smile.

An official with the center surnamed Zhang said it had made preparations

for the expected avalanche of demand on what is believed to be an

auspicious date.

"The 100 reservation slots for today were snatched quickly," she told

Shanghai Daily.

"We opened half an hour earlier today for lovebirds and will grant marriage certificates for everyone who comes, even if they failed to make a reservation," said Zhang.



A couple pose at the Huangpu District Marriage Registration Center on Wednesday.

At other marriage centers, the scenes were similar.

May 21, which also sounds similar to "I love you" in Chinese, has proved popular for exchanging vows as well.

In districts such as Huangpu, Changning, Xuhui, Jing'an, Putuo, Baoshan and Jiading as well as the Pudong New Area, ceremonies are fully booked.

It is a long-standing tradition in Chinese culture to get married on an auspicious date.

A total of 2,697 couples said "I do" at centers across the city on May 20 last year, even surpassing the figure of 2,273 on Valentine's Day.

A total of 731 couples drew their marriage certificates on the Qixi Festival, also known as Chinese Valentine's Day, last year, which fell on August 7.

That total was about double the daily average.

On January 4, 2013, nearly 7,300 couples said "I do" because the date sounded like "forever love" in Chinese.

On another auspicious date, October 10, 2010, local authorities registered marriages of 10,150 couples, a record high.

In Chinese tradition, the number 10-10-10 symbolizes perfection.



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More than 98,000 couples tied the knot in Shanghai last year, a decrease of 6 percent from a year earlier.



A view of the Huangpu District Marriage Registration Center on Wednesday.

## Online learning the new normal and a sign of the future



Wang Anqi / Ti Gong A PE lesson is recorded for primary school students throughout Shanghai by Shanghai Jiading Education College Affiliated School and Jiading convergence media center.

The novel coronavirus outbreak forced students and teachers to move online. Nearly 85,000 primary and secondary school students in Jiading have now become accustomed to the "new normal," which could represent the development for the next decade.

After the opening of online classes, teachers and parents helped students work out their own schedule and inspired their interests in learning while

ensuring the quality of teaching.

On a recent Friday afternoon, a grade-8 student Zhang Xiaoyu at

Shanghai Jiayi Joint High School in Jiading finished the class of the day at

home. After a short break, she started doing the homework.

Affected by the COVID-19 outbreak, the progress of this semester is

slower than previous years. However, the examinations will not be

postponed.

The fast pace was the first feeling Zhang got from the online class. The

original 40-minute course is compressed to half an hour, which means

students need to be highly focused.

Not only students, but also teachers needed to gradually adapt to the

rhythm of online teaching.

Lin Yajuan, a psychology teacher at Anting High School, once gave a

speech to students in a live class.

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"The online class is not to simply move the classroom online. The change

of learning mode will not replace the original meaning of learning, and

more importantly, learning to use the Internet means developing good

learning habits, so as to develop a strong mindset," said Lin.

Zhang's father agreed. When the online class began, he made a schedule

for Zhang, which listed the daily learning tasks in detail.

In addition to the homework, there were "extra meals" — including

practicing English listening, reciting classical Chinese poems and the

online classes from other institutions.

He said that the online class just moved from offline to online so the nature

of learning has not changed, but brings more opportunities for children to

learn and arrange their time.

Whether online or offline, the health of students is never ignored. In every

day's schedule, there will be physical or eye exercises between classes.

The schedule of each grade also fully considers the physical and mental

development and learning customs of students of different ages.

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Some schools have also added videos recorded by full-time psychological teachers to push a psychological class every week to help students deal

with various emotions generated during the epidemic.

For physical education, which focuses on interaction and practice,

teachers prepared lessons carefully.

"How to develop home-based exercise and combine them with curriculum

standards and teaching requirements is the major task for us," said Li

Wenfeng, a physical education teacher of Shanghai Jiading Education

College Affiliated School.

Online physical education also has to take students' interests into account.

Zhao Jiangyan, a physical education teacher at Fangtai Primary School,

teaches students "how to make a shuttlecock" in a course on kicking

shuttlecock.

Information technology provides a new way for teaching. Many teachers

use animation clips and short videos.

"It is important to inspire their interests in learning," Zhao said.

In order to deal with the inconvenience caused by the epidemic, the introduction of online classes has undoubtedly pushed the "fast forward" button for online education. For this reason, Jiading's education

department has also made sufficient preparations.

As early as the first day of the Spring Festival, the district education

bureau realized that it was a "battle to overcome difficulties" and the

beginning of the new semester was undoubtedly to be delayed.

Hence, the education bureau produced two-week online classes to help

students consolidate and maintain a good learning state over the long

winter vacation. More than 500 teachers in Jiading participated in the

project.

"Although it is a special way of teaching during the epidemic, online

education is definitely a future direction of development."

Zhu Yu, deputy director of Jiading education bureau, said the online

courses are particularly good for the growth and promotion of young

teachers.

"Teachers who participated in online teaching are constantly improving their teaching in the course of repeated grinding, which will drive the improvement of the overall teaching level in the district," Zhu said.



Wang Anqi / Ti Gong. Mao Weicheng, a grade-4 pupil at Jiading Shanghai Luwan No. 1 Central Experimental Primary School, is doing homework under the guidance of his mom after taking the online courses.