

## 2022贵州高三上学期人教版高中英语期末考试

1.

In Japan, hikikomori is a word used to describe the young people who hide away. "They want to go out in the world, they want to make friends, but they can't," says Tamaki Saito, a doctor who has been studying the social problem since the early 1990s.

Although it's hard to tell the exact number of today's hikikomori, it actually remains very high. A 2010 study for the Japanese Cabinet Office reported it was 700,000. Since sufferers are always hidden away, Saito himself places the number higher, at around one million. And the age of hikikomori seems to have risen over the last twenty years. Before it was twenty-one---now it is thirty-two.

What first caused a boy to hide away from society might be slight---poor grades or a broken heart, for example---but it can also become a source of suffering. And powerful social forces can strongly keep him staying in his bedroom.

One such force is sekentei, a person's reputation in the neighborhood and the difficulty he or she has in impressing others. The longer hikikomori remain apart from society, the more they realize their social failure. They lose whatever confidence they had and the possibility of leaving home.

Andy Furlong, an expert at the University of Glasgow, connects the increase in the number of hikikomori with the rapid economic growth in the 1980s and the slowdown in the 1990s. It was at this point that the conveyor belt (传送带) of good school grades leading to good university places leading to jobs-for-life broke down. The Japanese youth at the time were faced with the reality of short-term and part-time work.

And it came with the loss of respect. Those who change their jobs frequently are called "freeters"---a mixture of the word "freelance" and the German word for "worker", arbeiter. In public discussion, freeters are often connected with "neets"--- a word made up from the first letters of "not in education, employment or training". Neets, freeters and hikikomori are often used to describe the good-for-nothing young people.

Needless to say, what matters most is how to get those who hide away to return to society. Tamaki Saito's approach is to begin with "reorganizing" the relationship between these patients and their parents.

21. What can we learn about hikikomori?

- A. They are very popular in Japan.
- B. Most young people are hikikomori.
- C. There are 700,000 hikikomori in Japan.
- D. They are cut off from the outside world.

22. What influence does sekentei have on hikikomori?

- A. It opens up a wider world for them.
- B. It stops them from leaving home.
- C. It offers them social knowledge.
- D. It helps them impress others.