

Many preen resumes with English scores

By LUO WANGSHU
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Unlike many new college graduates struggling in the job market, Chen Chaoyi already has a second job offer — from the Ministry of Commerce — one of the dream employers among Chinese youth.

His first offer was also enviable: for an editor position at China Central Television.

Chen, 21, credits part of his job-hunting success to his resume.

An English major, Chen lists not only his grade point average and domestic English test grades on his resume, but also his Graduate Record Exam and Test of English as a Foreign Language scores.

"It might be a plus, I guess," he said.

Chen is one of the many job seekers who listed their scores on overseas English exams on their resumes to increase their chances.

"Compared with previous years, I've seen more resumes with the scores of overseas English examinations, such as GRE, TOEFL and IELTS (International English Language Testing System)," said Deng Shijia, vice-president of sales at Tianji, a social networking service website.

"About 30 to 40 percent of job seekers put the scores on their resumes, and many of them target Internet industries and the education field," Deng said, adding that these job seekers are young and most

aim for entry-level positions.

"Chinese people are getting more access to these tests, which might be the reason for the increase," Deng said.

Zhu Zeying, team leader of the healthcare department at Antal International China, an executive recruitment company, said: "Job seekers show their English skills through the overseas English test."

She said a high score on the resume gives a plus during the resume screening.

Overseas exams "focus more on listening and speaking, which have more practical value in daily work," Zhu said. "It also might be a cultural difference. Chinese job-seekers, especially at entry level, like to put everything on their resumes."

However, job seekers on the other side of the Pacific Ocean behave similarly. "Thirty-eight percent of GRE test takers put their scores on their resumes in North America," said David Payne, vice-president and chief operating officer of higher education at the Educational Testing Service, a private, nonprofit educational testing and assessment organization.

The overseas English tests remain very popular with Chinese learners. Many take them to prove their English skills, rather than because they are needed to apply for admission to overseas schools.

Payne said that China has the largest GRE test-taking population, estimated to be 30,000 to 40,000.



THAT'S ONE HOT SHOW

PHOTO BY LIAO FUAN / FOR CHINA DAILY

Two officers of the Anhui provincial brigade of the Chinese People's Armed Police Force show their courage during a drill in Anhui's Chuzhou city on Wednesday. The brigade held the drill to mark the coming People's Liberation Army Day that falls on Aug 1.

China's Three Tenors usher in London Olympics

By MU QIAN in London
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You and Me, the theme song for the 2008 Beijing Olympics, was performed by three of China's most renowned tenors at the Barbican Centre of London on Wednesday, two days before the 2012 Olympic Games kick off.

The song punctuated the "Best Wishes from Beijing" concert performed by Dai Yuqiang, Wei Song and Warren Mok with the UK's Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra.

"Beijing was the host city of the 2008 Olympic Games, and we selected *You and Me* especially to express our best wishes for the 2012 Olympic Games," Dai says.

A video played during the concert showed then Beijing Mayor Guo Jinlong handing over the Olympic flag to London Mayor Boris Johnson at the closing ceremony of the 2008 Games.

Opening with British composer Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Greensleeves* by the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra, the concert presented a blend of Western and Chinese compositions, including classic opera arias like *La donna e mobile* from Giuseppe Verdi's *Rigoletto* and *La fleur que tu m'avais jetée* from Georges Bizet's *Carmen*; Chinese art songs such as *That's Me* and *The Big River of No Return*; as well as Chinese folk songs such as *Kangding Love Song* and *The Small Stream Flows*.

"The China's Three Tenors

concerts are dialogues between Chinese and Western cultures," said Zhang Shurong, the concert's general director. "Chinese vocalists have made remarkable achievements in the world, and they are contributing much to the promotion of Chinese culture."

Formed in 2011, the trio of Dai, Wei and Mok are China's answer to world famous tenors Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras, who performed in Beijing in 2001.

"Pavarotti, Domingo and Pavarotti are our idols. They have made *bel canto* easier to appreciate for common people. What we try to do is make Chinese culture more accessible through our performances in a way that is familiar to audiences," Mok said.

The trio premiered in Beijing last year and has since toured more than 10 Chinese cities, including Shenzhen, Chengdu and Hong Kong. They also performed at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York in January. They will tour Germany and Italy later this year.

China's Three Tenors London concert is part of the Beijing Culture Week in London, organized by the Beijing Performance and Arts Group from July 24-31. The Beijing Culture Week in London also includes performances by the Northern Kunqu Opera Theatre and the Beijing Symphony Orchestra, "Colourful Beijing" Culture and Arts Exhibition, and the Beijing Olympic City Development Forum.

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