

Dear Sir,

I am concerned about the apparent reduction in the competence of some of the teachers in our schools, particularly in the areas of mathematics and English language

As a retired university lecturer of 20 years experience, I witnessed the dropping of math. and English language testing as a prerequisite to graduation in the Education degree at my university.

When Australia accepts migrant teachers from non English speaking countries, the migrants must pass the IELTS tests with a level 7 pass in each of the 4 tests. After observing some migrants attempting to pass this test I came to the conclusion the some graduates from Australian universities would probably not pass.

To be fair (non discriminatory) to the migrant teachers and to encourage universities to give more emphasis to competence in the language, maybe the lowest 10% of Education graduates from our universities should be required to sit the IELTS test before graduation. I know of no equivalent test of numerical literacy.

Regards, Tom Bradbury

29 Pearson Street

Rockhampton Qld 4700