



IELTS Preparation Mini-Course

Lecture 5

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Mastering the IELTS Writing Test

Task 1 (Academic)



Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

1. Identify the **main features** in charts/graphs.
2. Write an **overview** of a graph in 1–2 sentences.
3. Use **accurate language for trends** (increase, decrease, plateau, fluctuate...).
4. Write a **well-organized Task 1 report** (Introduction → Overview → Details).
5. Avoid common mistakes (comparing irrelevant data, describing every number, using opinion).

Lead-in

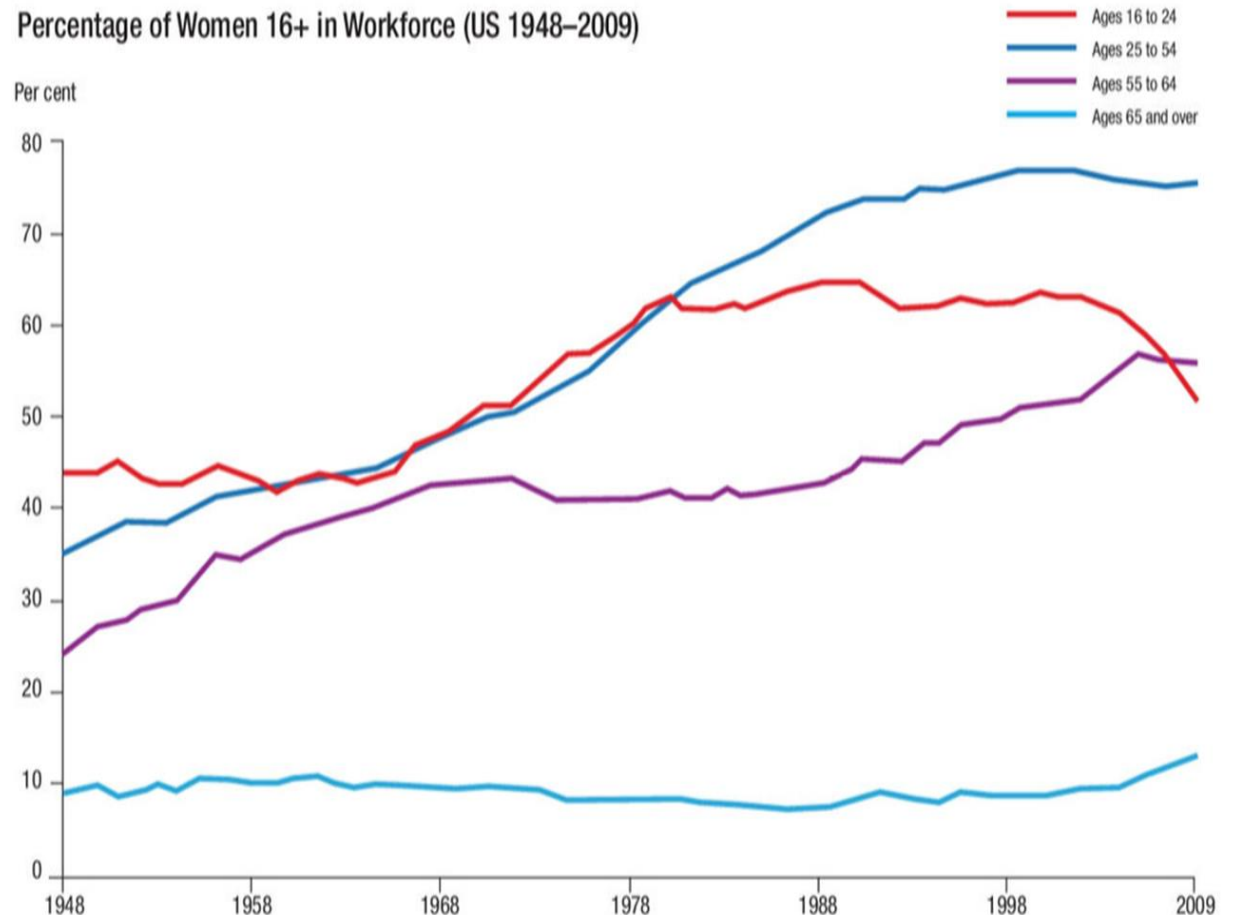
What do you notice?

Is the trend going up or down?

What words can we use to describe change?

Look at the graph below. What information does it compare?

Percentage of Women 16+ in Workforce (US 1948–2009)



BRITISH COUNCIL **idp** **CAMBRIDGE English**

IELTS Writing Answer Sheet - TASK 1

Candidate Name

Candidate No. Centre No.

Test Module ☐ Academic ☐ General Training Test Date Day Month Year

If you need more space to write your answer, use an additional sheet and write in the space provided to indicate how many sheets you are using: Sheet of

Writing Task 1 Writing Task 1 Writing Task 1 Writing Task 1

Sample Answer Sheet

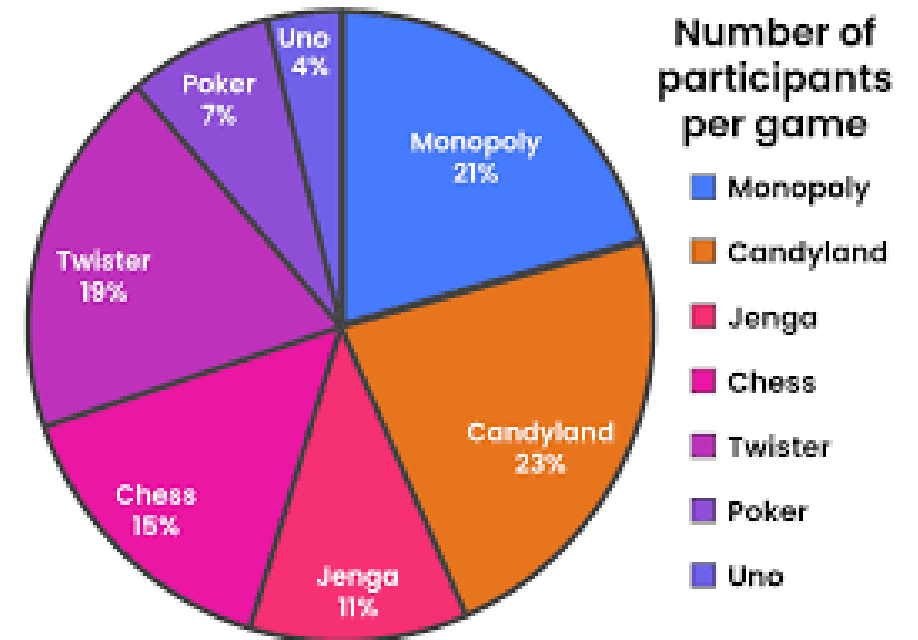
Do not write below this line

IELTS Writing Answer Sheet

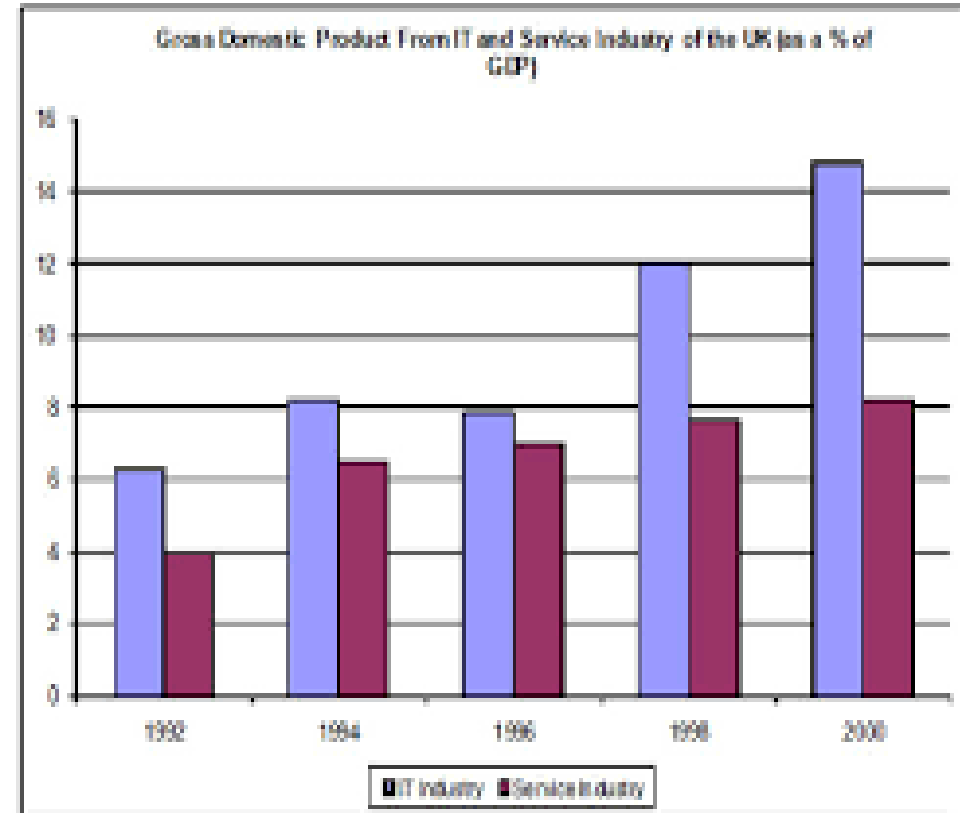
Task 1 Requirements

- ✓ Length: at least 150 words
- ✓ Time: 20 minutes
- ✓ Objective: Describe the data factually, objectively
- ✗ No opinion
- ✗ No personal examples

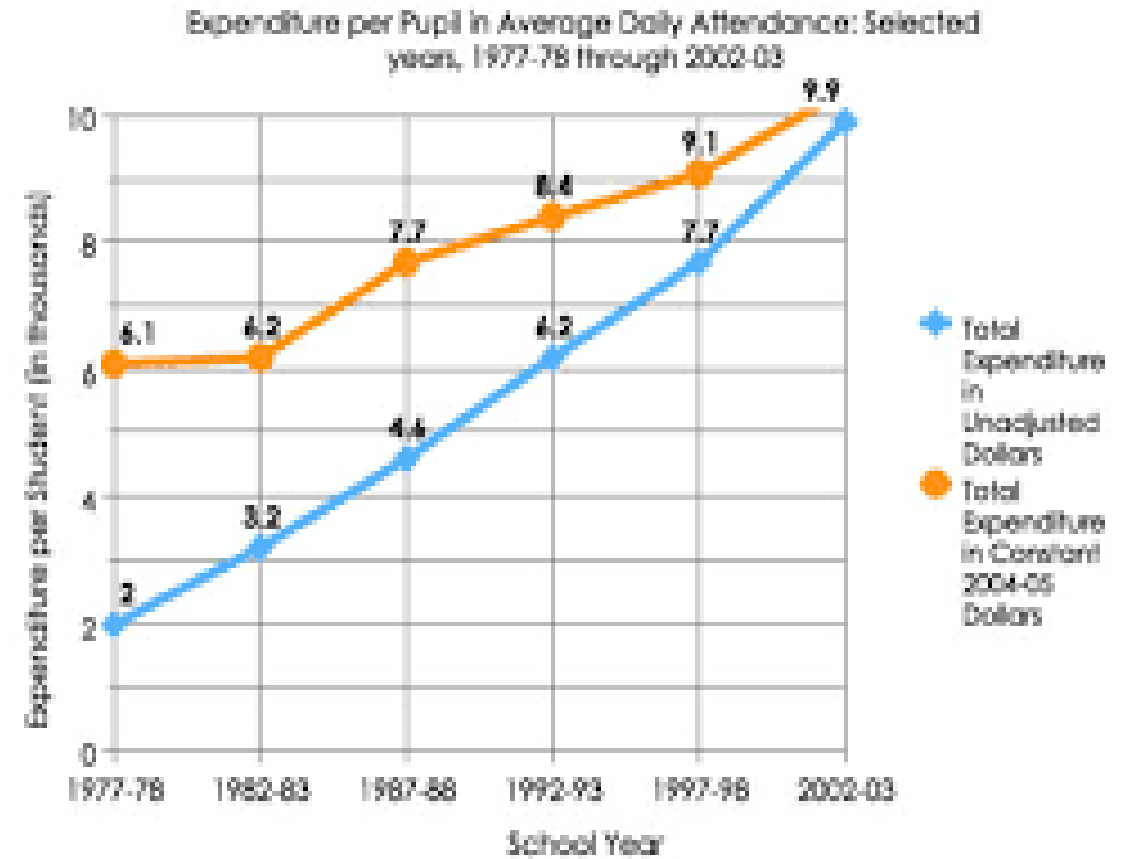
Types of diagrams



Pie chart

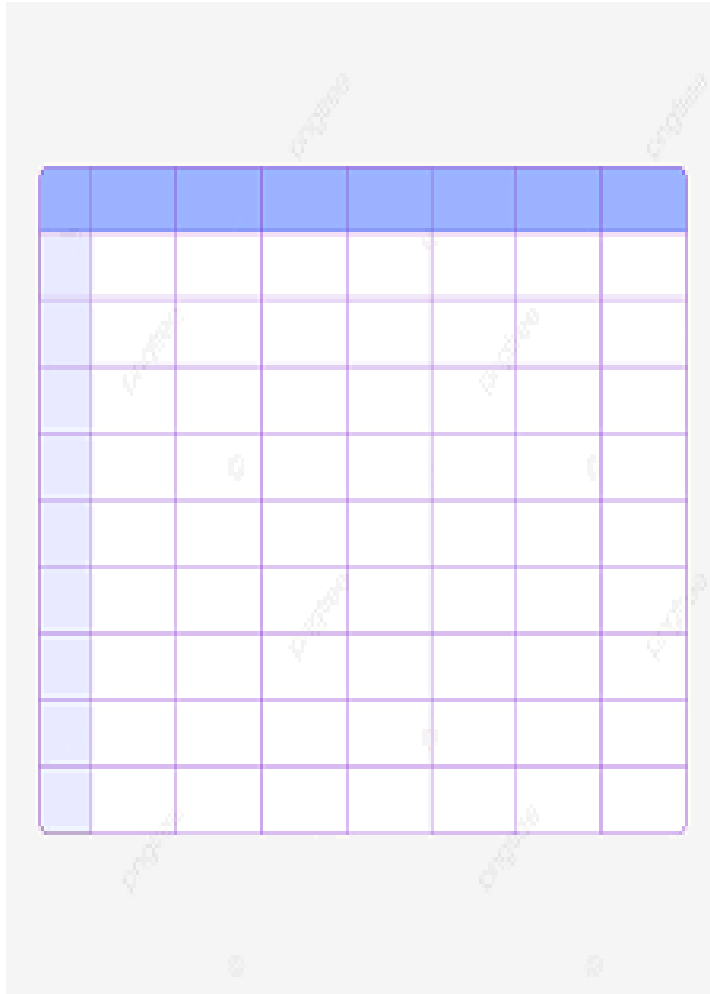


bar chart



The NCES Common Core of Data (CCD) 2004-2005

Line chart

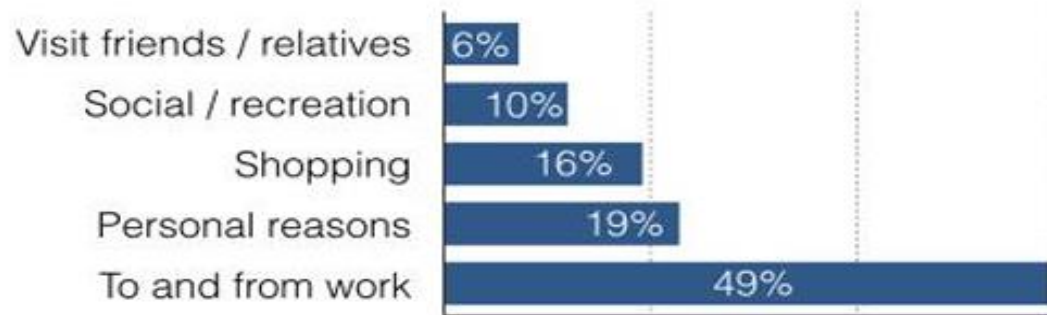


	Food and drink	Housing	Clothing	Entertainment
France	25%	31%	7%	13%
Germany	22%	33%	15%	19%
UK	27%	37%	11%	11%
Turkey	36%	20%	12%	10%
Spain	31%	18%	8%	15%

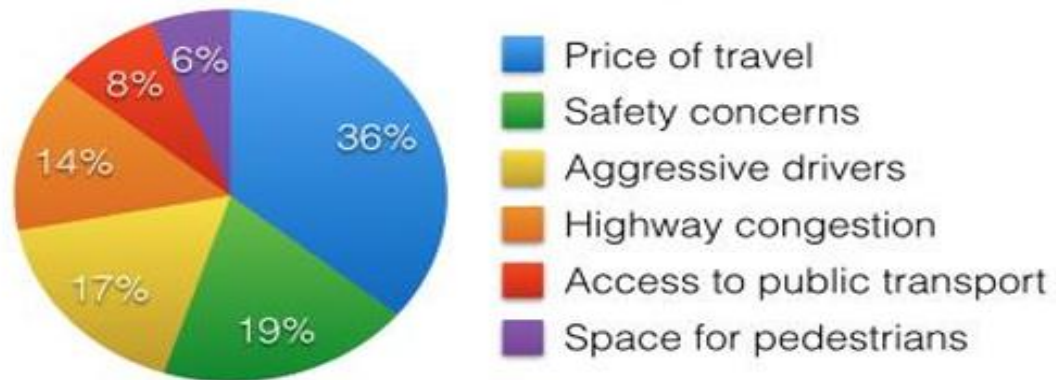
Table

The charts below show reasons for travel and the main issues for the travelling public in the US in 2009.

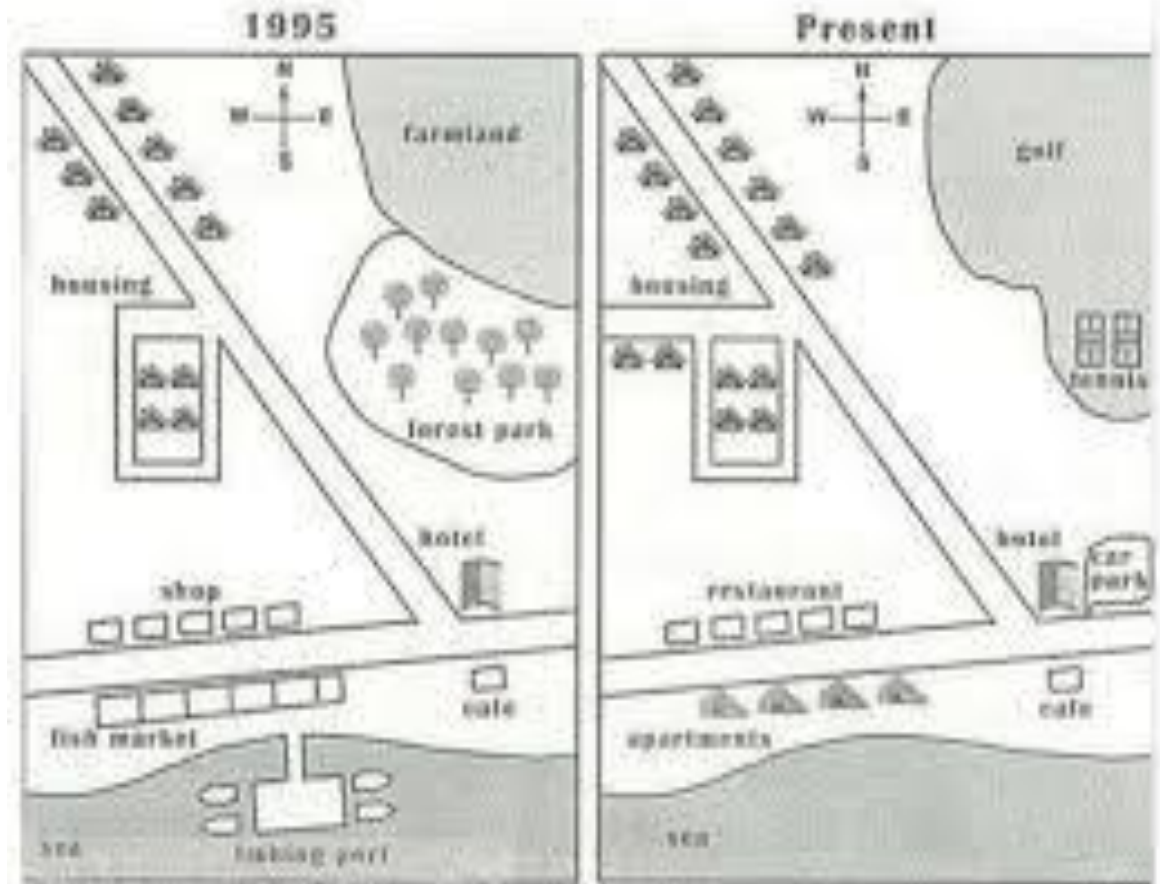
Reasons for travel



Main issues for the travelling public



Multiple Charts



Map

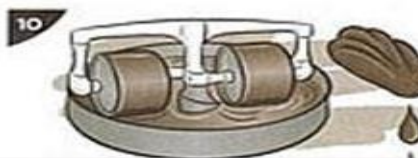
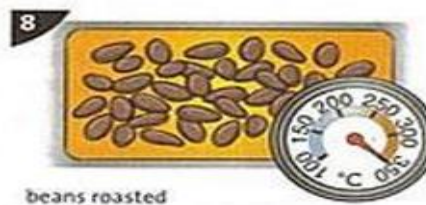
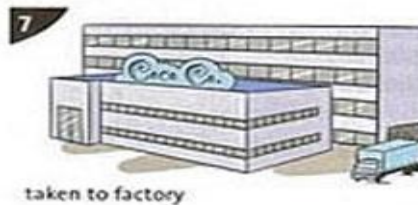
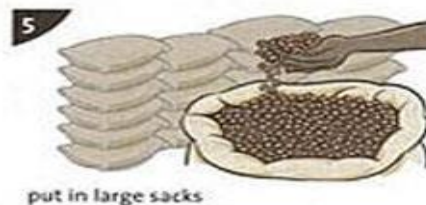
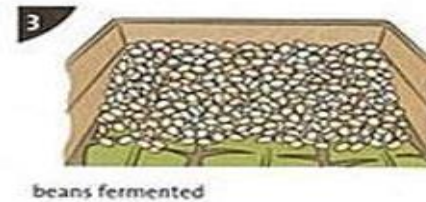
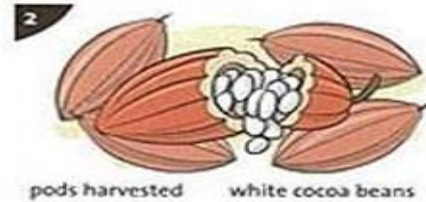
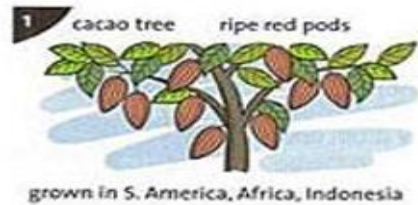
IELTS Process - Chocolate Production

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The illustrations show how chocolate is produced.

Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Process

Structure of a Band 7+ Answer

1. Introduction

Rewrite the question using synonyms.

Template:

The chart illustrates...

The table compares...

The graph provides information about...

2. Overview (MOST IMPORTANT)

Write 1–2 sentences summarizing the **main trends**.

Templates:

• *Overall, it is clear that...*

• *It can be seen that...*

• *In general,...*

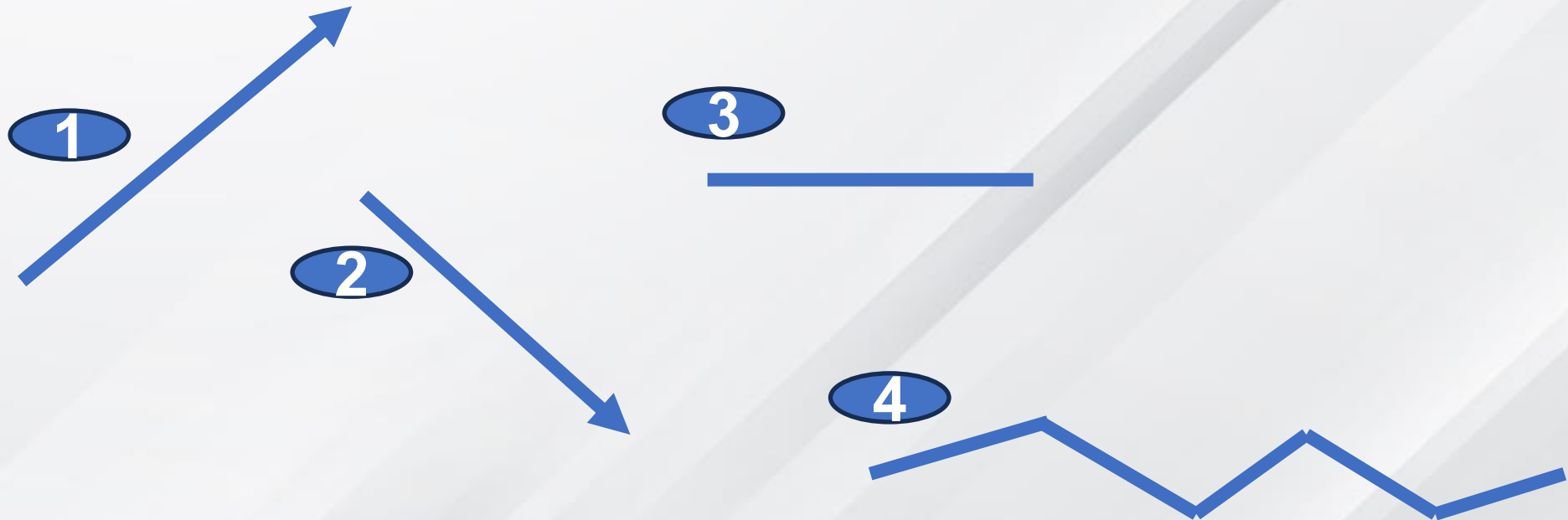
3. Body Paragraph 1 & 2 (Details / Analysis)

Group data logically:

- highest vs lowest
- similarities
- time periods
- categories

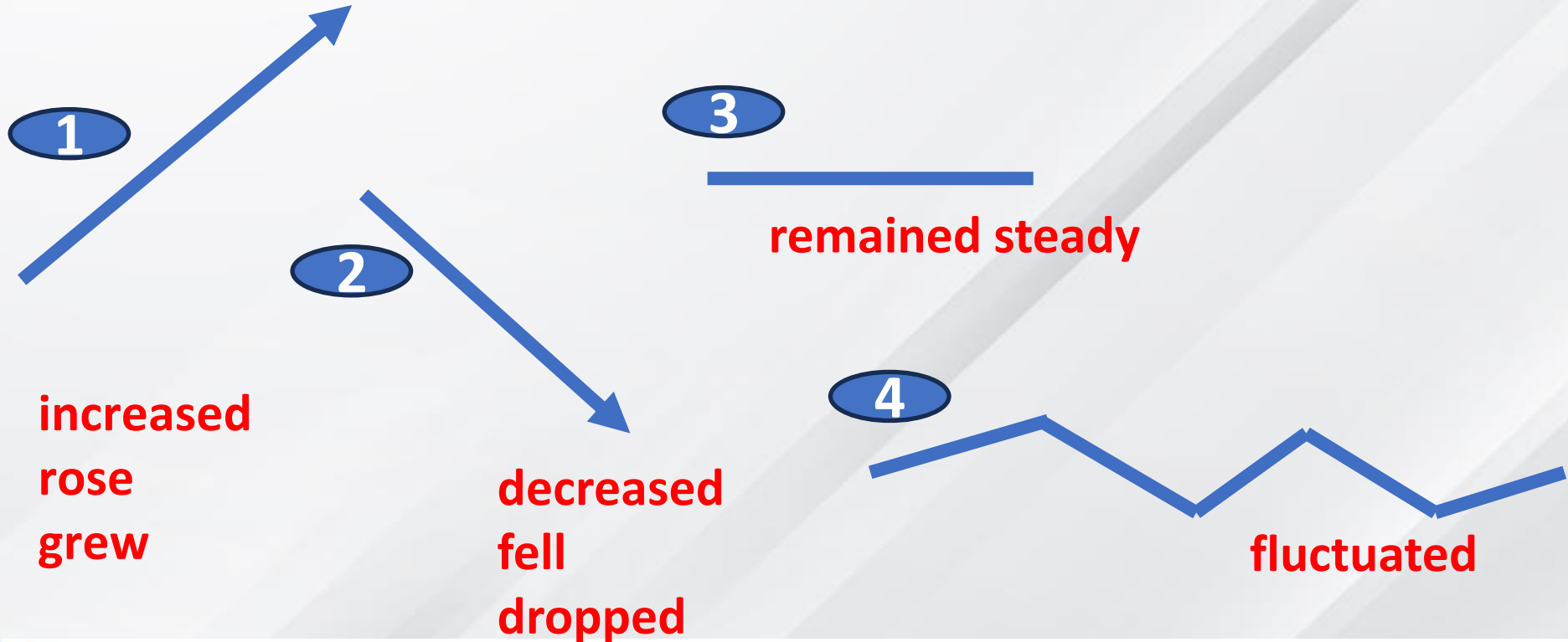
Use **comparisons** and **trend language**.

Match the word/ words to the right line:



increased decreased rose fell grew dropped remained steady fluctuated

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increased decreased rose fell grew dropped remained steady fluctuated

Grammar check

Adjectives describe nouns – *a dramatic increase / a steady fall*.

Adverbs modify adjectives – *rose sharply / decreased noticeably*.

Notice these spelling rules for adverbs: *sharp – sharply / noticeable – noticeably / dramatic – dramatically*.

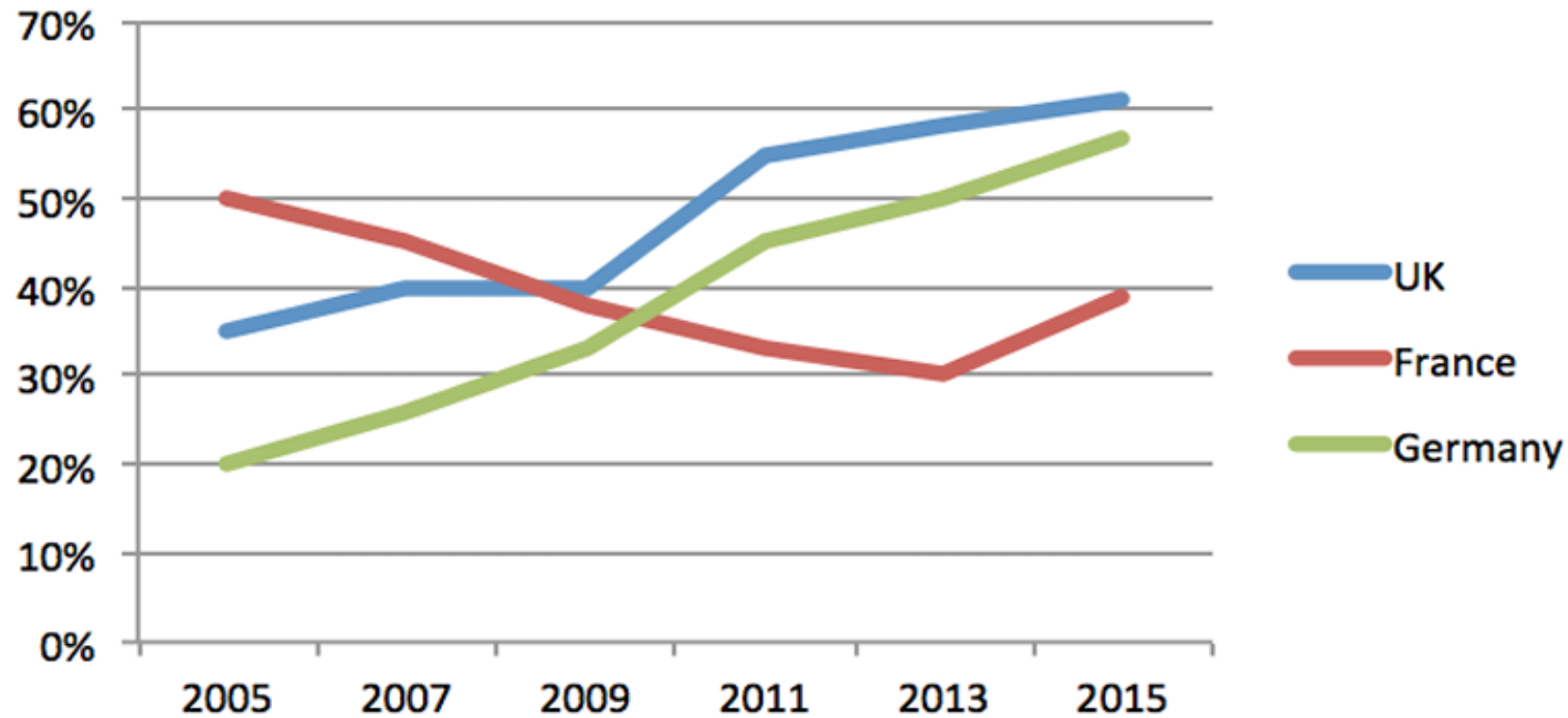
Rewrite the noun phrases 1–5 as verb phrases and the verb phrases 6–10 as noun phrases.

1. a sharp increase increased sharply
2. a steady decrease decreased steadily
3. a noticeable rise rose noticeably
4. a dramatic fall fell dramatically
5. a slight drop dropped slightly

6. decreased gradually a gradual decrease
7. increased sharply a sharp increase
8. rose slightly a slight rise
9. fell steadily a steady fall
10. dropped dramatically a dramatic drop

The line graph below shows the household recycling rates in three different countries between 2005 and 2015.

Regional household recycling rates



Task A: Identify the following

1. Highest country
2. Lowest country
3. General trends

Task B: Write an Overview

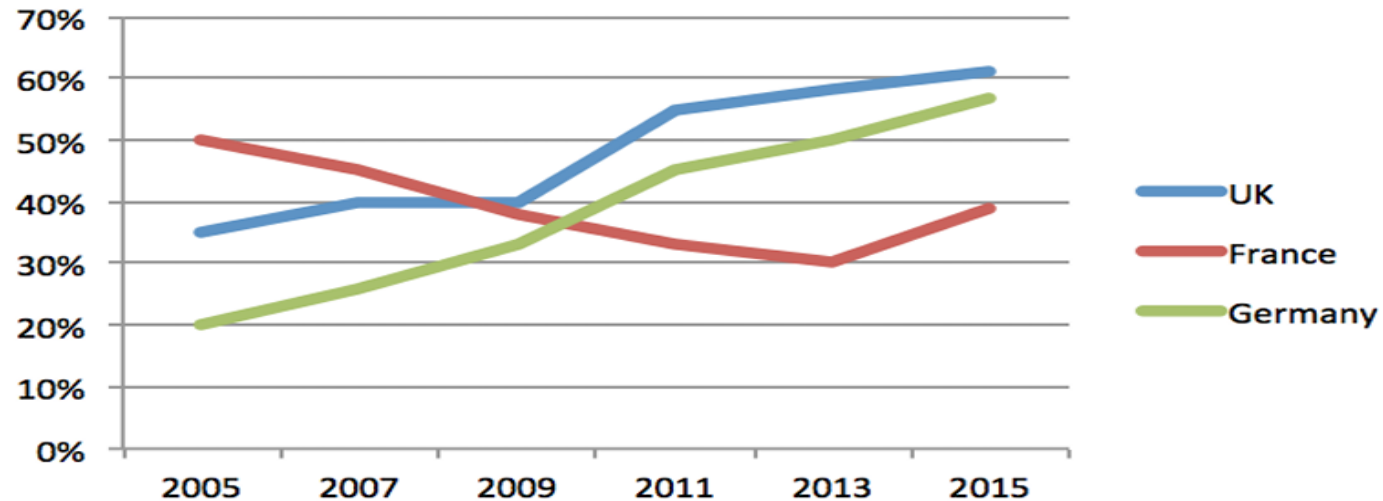
The provided line graph illustrates the rates of household recycling in the UK, France, and Germany for a span of 10 years between 2005 till 2015.

Overall, after an analysis of this chart, it can be witnessed that recycling rates in France had diminished by 2015 after being the highest; whereas in the UK and Germany, it had gone up to reach levels higher than the start of France.

Over a span of 5 years, from 2004 to 2009, the recycling rate in France had a rapid decline reaching slightly less than 40% in 2009, whereas the UK and Germany rates had a moderate climb scoring 40% and around 32%, respectively.

As for the remaining 6 years, both the UK and Germany rates a gentle rise to overtake 50% by 2015, while France experienced a decrease to score 30% in 2013 before hitting a sharp climb to 40% in 2015.

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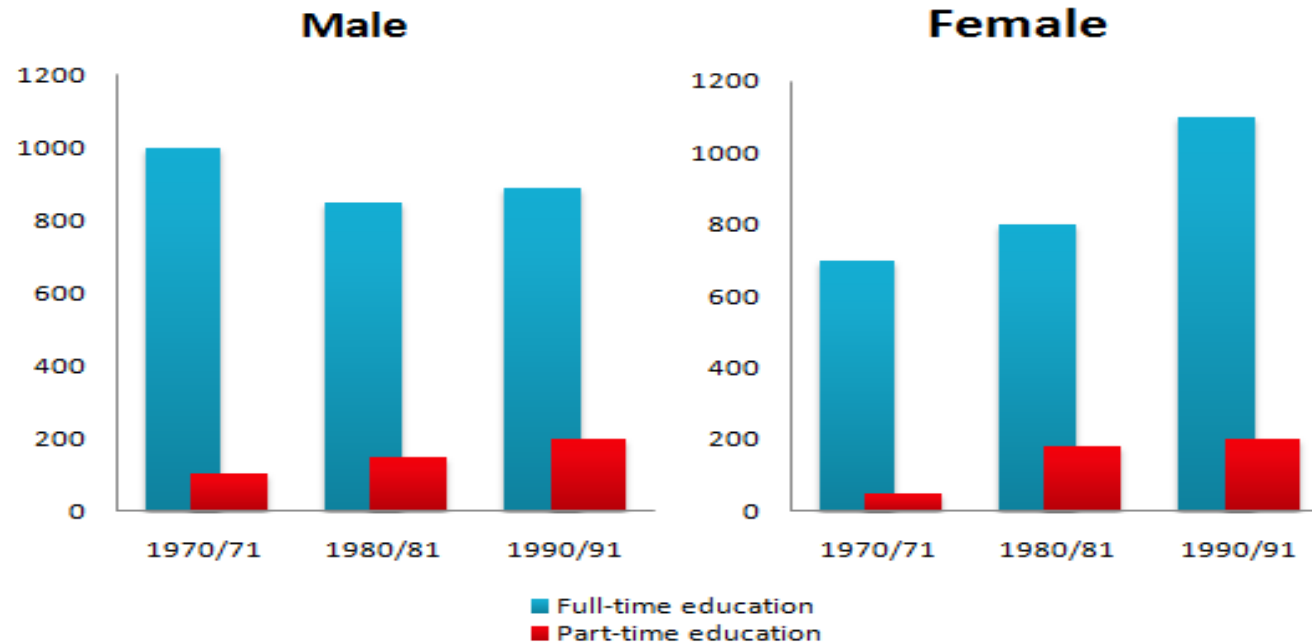
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The chart below shows the number of men and women in further education in Britain in three periods and whether they were studying fulltime or part-time.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



The bar chart compares the enrolment of men and women in full-time and part-time British further education programs in the 1970, 1980, and 1990 school years.

Overall, part-time education was several times more popular than full-time education throughout the entire period. In addition, while men had larger initial enrolment numbers in both part-time and full-time programs than women, by the end of the period women had surpassed men in part-time study and matched them in full-time.

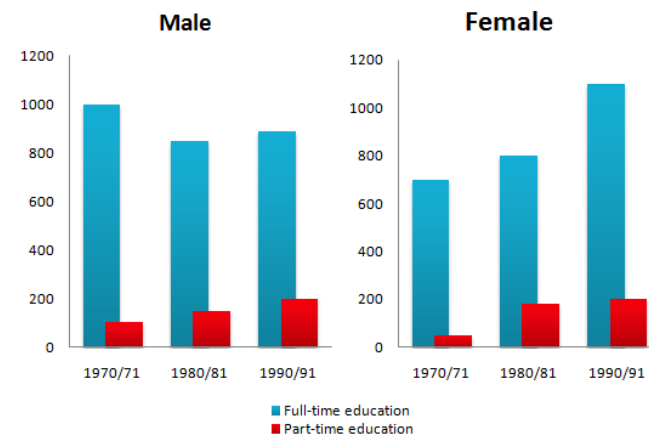
In regards to part-time education, male enrolment started in the 1970 school year at one million before dipping by about 150, 000 in the 1980 school year and then making a slight recovery to around 900 thousand students in 1990/91. In contrast, females started lower at about 775 thousand and rose steadily, finally surpassing males in the 1990 school year for a total of approximately 1, 100, 000.

The trend for full-time education was only slightly different. Female numbers again started lower in the 1970 school year at under 100, 000 students but had already surpassed male totals by 1980. While male enrolments grew faster in the subsequent period, the final totals for both males and females in full-time education was more or less identical at around 220 thousand students in the 1990-91 school year.

The chart below shows the number of men and women in further education in Britain in three periods and whether they were studying fulltime or part-time.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Assessment Criteria (Band Descriptors Summary)

Task Achievement

- Overview included
- Key trends highlighted
- Accurate data selection

Coherence & Cohesion

- Logical organization
- Clear paragraphs
- Linking words (however, meanwhile, in contrast)

Lexical Resource

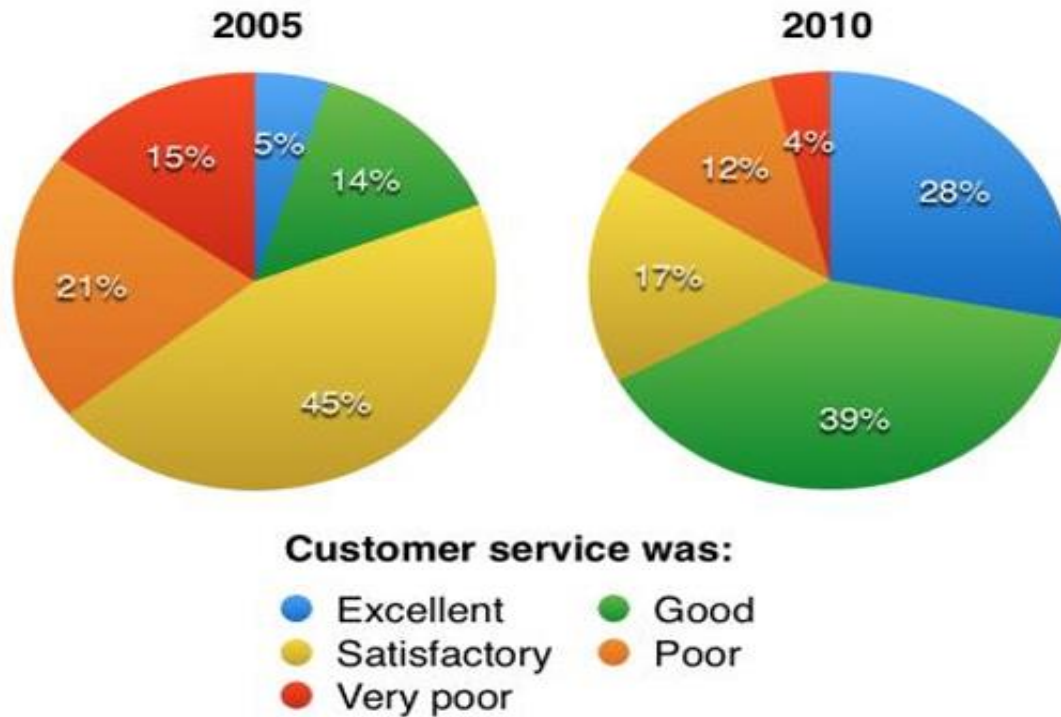
- Appropriate academic vocabulary
- Paraphrasing

Grammar Range & Accuracy

- Complex sentences
- Accurate tenses
- Few grammatical errors

Assignment

The charts below show the results of a questionnaire that asked visitors to the Parkway Hotel how they rated the hotel's customer service. The same questionnaire was given to 100 guests in the years 2005 and 2010.





Thank You

