

## IELTS Task 1 Academic Writing: Language Use

### 1) Introduce the Graph

You need to begin with one or two sentences that state what the IELTS writing task 1 shows. To do this, paraphrase the title of the graph, making sure you put in a time frame if there is one.

#### Language for the introduction:

Ex: The given diagram shows...

Introductory words	Type of visual		Verb
The given	bar graph	picture	compares
The supplied	chart	pie chart	delineates
The presented	column	presentation	depicts
The shown	data	process table	describes
The provided	diagram	table data	enumerates
	diagram		expresses
	map	pie chart and	gives
	figure	table	gives data on
	flow chart		gives information on
	graph	bar graph and	illustrates
	illustration	pie chart	indicates
	information		outlines
	line graph		shows
			shows data about
			presents
			presents information about
			provides
			represents
			summarizes

## 2) Give an Overview

You also need to state what the main trend or trends in the graph are. Don't give detail such as data here – you are just looking for something that describes what is happening overall.

### Language for the Overview

Ex. Overall, the consumption of fish and chips declined over the period, whereas the amount of pizza and hamburgers that were eaten increased.

Overview Language	
As a general trend, As can be seen, As is observed, As is presented, As an overall trend, At the first glance, it is clear	Generally speaking, In common, In general, It can be clearly seen that It is obvious that Overall

## 3) Give the Detail

- You can now give more specific detail in the body paragraphs.
- When you give the detail in your body paragraphs in your IELTS writing task 1, you must make reference to the data.
- The key to organizing your body paragraphs for an IELTS writing task 1 is to **group data** together where there are **patterns**.
- To do this you need to identify any **similarities** and **differences**.
- Look at the graph – what things are similar and what things are different?

### Language to Similarities / differences

Exactly the same	Almost the Same	Not the same
absolutely the same as equal to exactly the same as identical to just the same as precisely the same the same as	about the same as almost identical to almost the same as nearly the same as practically the same as	The reverse is the case... It is quite the opposite/ reverse...

## Language to describe changes on a graph

Ex: Pizza consumption increased gradually until it overtook the consumption of fish and chips in 1990. It then levelled off from 1995 to 2000

Increase	Decrease	No change
<p><b>Fast</b>  doubled  jump / a jump  leap / a leap  move upward  rocket(ed)  shot up  skyrocket  soar  surge  tripled  upsurge</p> <p><b>Neutral</b>  Climb / a climb  go up / an upward  trend  improve / an  improvement  increase / an increase  in  rise / a rise in</p> <p><b>Slow</b>  an upward trend  an upward tendency</p>	<p><b>Fast</b>  Collapse / a collapse  dive  drop / a drop in  go into free-fall halved  plummet  plunge  take a nosedive</p> <p><b>Neutral</b>  decline / a decline in  decrease/ a decrease in  fall / a fall  go down / a downward  trend  slide / a slide  reduce / a reduction</p> <p><b>Slow</b>  dip  slump  a downward trend  a downward tendency a  descending trend</p>	<p>leveled out  plateaued / plateau  remained constant  remained stable/ a  stability  remain static  remained steady /  steadiness  remained the same  was unchanged</p>
		<p><b>Ups and Downs</b>  changes Intermittently  change sporadically  erratically -erratic  fluctuate  irregularly - irregular  rise and fall</p>

## Language to describe low and high points on a graph

Low point	High point
hit rock bottom the bottommost point the lowest point touch the lowest point / reached the nadir	culminated at culmination of hit the peak peak – the peak reached the peak reached the apex reached the vertex touched the highest point

## Adverbs/Adjectives to describe changes on a graph

Rapid/Huge	Moderate	Steady	Slight
considerably-considerable dramatically-dramatic enormous-enormously hurriedly-hurried noticeably-noticeable overwhelmingly- overwhelming quickly-quick rapidly-rapid sharply-sharp significantly-significant speedily-speedy substantially-substantial swiftly-swift	moderately- moderate gradually-gradual progressively- progressive sequentially- sequential	steadily-steady ceaselessly-ceaseless	fractionally- fractional mildly-mild slightly-slight slowly-slow tediously-tedious

## Words and Phrases of approximation

Language of approximation	
about almost approximately around just about just below just over just under	a little more than a little less than more or less nearly practically the same roughly roughly the same well above well below

## Words and Phrases to show time

1. Between ... (year/ month) ... and ... (year/ month) ...
2. From ... (year/ month/ day/date) ...to ... (year/month/day /date) ...
3. In... (year/ month) ...
4. On ... (day/ day of the week/ a date) ...
5. At ....., In ....., By .....
6. During ... (year)...
7. Over the period/ over the century/ later half of the year/ the year...
8. Over the next/past/previous days/weeks/months/years/ decades ...

### Language for presenting percentages

You can present a percentage data in one of the three different ways. It is suggested that you use all these formats in your report writing instead of repeating the same style to show percentages in your writing.

<b>% = In percentage / in %.</b>	<b>% = In proportion</b>	<b>% = In fraction</b>
20% of ten percent of 50% fifty percent of	One out of five, One out of ten One out of two	One fifth of One tenth of One half of