

# BEST FIT EDU

## 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,<br>As can be seen,<br>As is observed,<br>As is presented,<br>As an overall trend,<br>At the first glance, it is clear | Generally speaking,<br>In common,<br>In general,<br>It can be clearly seen that<br>It is obvious that<br>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<br>equal to<br>exactly the same as<br>identical to<br>just the same as<br>precisely the same<br>the same as | about the same as<br>almost identical to<br>almost the same as<br>nearly the same as<br>practically the same<br>as | The reverse is the case...<br>It is quite the opposite/ reverse... |

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## 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><br/>doubled<br/>jump / a jump<br/>leap / a leap<br/>move upward<br/>rocket(ed)<br/>shot up<br/>skyrocket<br/>soar<br/>surge<br/>tripled<br/>upsurge</p> <p><b>Neutral</b><br/>Climb / a climb<br/>go up / an upward<br/>trend<br/>improve / an<br/>improvement<br/>increase / an increase<br/>in<br/>rise / a rise in</p> <p><b>Slow</b><br/>an upward trend<br/>an upward tendency</p> | <p><b>Fast</b><br/>Collapse / a collapse<br/>dive<br/>drop / a drop in<br/>go into free-fall halved<br/>plummet<br/>plunge<br/>take a nosedive</p> <p><b>Neutral</b><br/>decline / a decline in<br/>decrease/ a decrease in<br/>fall / a fall<br/>go down / a downward<br/>trend<br/>slide / a slide<br/>reduce / a reduction</p> <p><b>Slow</b><br/>dip<br/>slump<br/>a downward trend<br/>a downward tendency a<br/>descending trend</p> | <p>leveled out<br/>plateaued / plateau<br/>remained constant<br/>remained stable/ a<br/>stability<br/>remain static<br/>remained steady /<br/>steadiness<br/>remained the same<br/>was unchanged</p> |
|  |  | <p><b>Ups and Downs</b><br/>changes Intermittently<br/>change sporadically<br/>erratically -erratic<br/>fluctuate<br/>irregularly - irregular<br/>rise and fall</p>                                  |

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

| Low point   | High point  |
|---|---|
| <p>hit rock bottom<br/>the bottommost point<br/>the lowest point<br/>touch the lowest point / reached<br/>the nadir</p> | <p>culminated at<br/>culmination of<br/>hit the peak<br/>peak – the peak<br/>reached the peak<br/>reached the apex<br/>reached the vertex<br/>touched the highest point</p> |

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## Adverbs/Adjectives to describe changes on a graph

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

## Words and Phrases of approximation

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

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## 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<br>ten percent of<br>50% fifty percent of | One out of five,<br>One out of ten<br>One out of two | One fifth of<br>One tenth of<br>One half of |