



IELTS TASK 1

Types of graphs:

1. Synchronic graphs

In such graphs there are some variables compared at a fixed point in time.

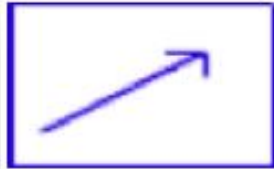
2. Diachronic graphs

Here one variable is illustrated across a period of time or in different points of time

3. Syncho-diachronic graphs

These graphs are a combination of both types.

VERBS



rise

go up

improve

pick up

climb

increase

boom

leap

rocket

shoot (up)

soar

surge



decline

go down

drop

fall (back)

decrease

reduce

plunge

slump

dive

plummet

go into a nosedive



oscillate

be erratic

vacillate

be unpredictable

fluctuate

stay constant

stay static

level off/out

maintain the same level

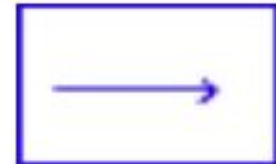
reach a plateau

plateau (v)

stabilize

hold steady

NOUNS



rise

decline

oscillation

stability

growth

reduction

vacillation

leveling out/off

increase

decrease

fluctuation

plateau

improvement

drop

surge

fall

upsurge

downturn

boom

dive

leap

jump



VERBS vs NOUNS

Try to show a good command of English grammar by using both noun and verb forms.

- London saw **a significant increase** in the cost of homes. (noun)
- The cost of homes in London **increased significantly**. (verb)

- There was **a rise** in house prices between 1990 and 1995. (noun)
- House prices **rose** between 1990 and 1995. (verb)

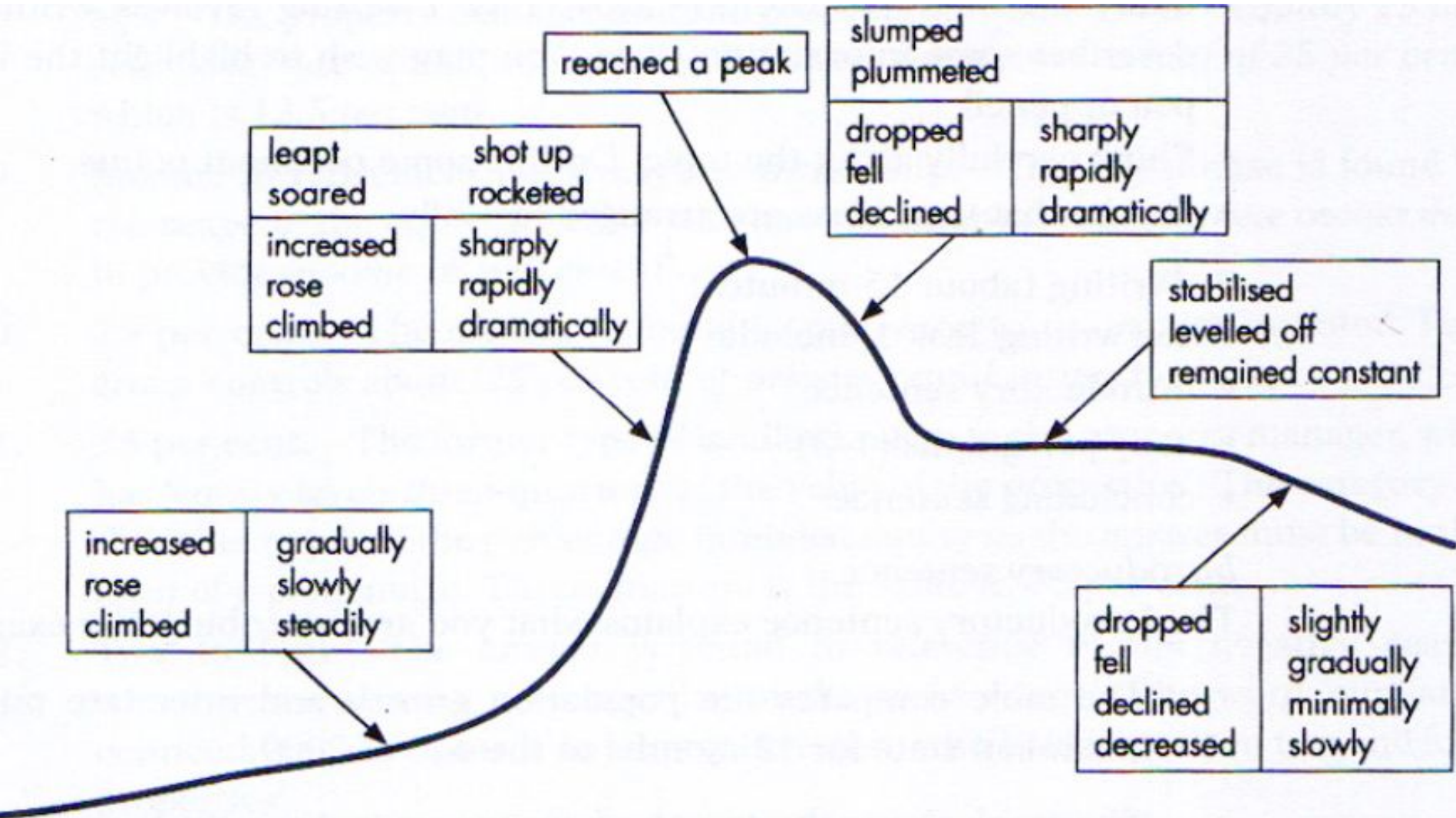
- There was **a 7% fall** in the average house price in Tokyo. (noun)
- The average Tokyo house price **fell** by 7%. (verb)



| | | | | |
|---------|-----------|-----------|---------------|------------|
| surge | breakdown | fluctuate | remain steady | trend |
| decline | plummet | downward | show | noticeable |

- 1 The most feature of the chart was the sharp fall in theater attendances.
- 2 The graph the increase in the market share of Modern TEC compared to the other two sites.
- 3 Shopper numbers over most of the year , but the last three months were less erratic.
- 4 There was a in visitors to the site during the holiday period with numbers almost doubling.
- 5 The amount of energy used throughout the first nine months and then it began to increase.
- 6 Sales in September, hitting a low for the year.
- 7 There was a gradual in profits over last year.
- 8 The trend for two of the sites was upward, with the other being clearly
- 9 There was very little difference between in sales for all five companies, with the exception of Iran Khodro.
- 10 The chart provides a of the number of passenger miles travelled according to different modes of transportation.

TRENDS



Peaks and bottoms

 Vocabulary to represent highest and lowest points in graphs:

| Type | Verb | Noun |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Highest Point | peaked / culminated / climaxed / reach the peak / hit the peak / touch the highest point / reach the vertex/ reach the apex | a (/the) peak / a (/the) pinnacle / a (/the) vertex / the highest point/ an (/the) apex / a (/the) summit, a (/the) top, a (/the) pinnacle, a (/the) acme, a (/the) zenith, |
| Lowest Point | touch the lowest point / get the lowest point / reached the nadir | the lowest point / the lowest mark / bottommost point / rock bottom point/ bottommost mark / nadir/ the all-time low/ the lowest level/ the bottom/ rock-bottom |



Peaks and bottoms

X reached an all time high of...(amount)... in/at/on ...(time)...

X reached a peak at ...(amount)... in /at/on ...(time)...

X peaked at ...(amount)... in /at/on ...(time)...

e.g. Visitor numbers reached an all time high of 20,000 in the summer months.

e.g. Sales peaked at 2,000,000 dollars in the first half of the year.

X reached an all time low of ...(amount)... in /at/on ...(time)...

X bottomed out at ...(amount)... in /at/on ...(time)...

X hit a low of ...(amount)... in /at/on ...(time)...

e.g. The temperature bottomed out at minus three degrees on July 4.

NB The expression **X dipped at ...(amount)... in ...(time)...** means that the value of something has dropped down and then rose to its former position again.

CHANGES

 **Vocabulary to show fluctuations/ups and downs/ rise and fall in Verb forms:**

- **Be erratic**
- **Rise and fall erratically**
- **Changes sporadically**
- **Rise and fall irregularly**
- **Changes Intermittently**
- **Halved**
- **Equalled**
- **Doubled**
- **Trebled / tripled**
- **Quadrupled** (*fourfold /four times*)
- **Pentadrupled** (*fivefold /five times*)
- **Hexadrupled** (*sixfold /six times*)
- **Septupled** (*sevenfold /seven times*)
- **Octupled** (*Eightfold/eight times*)
- **Nonupled** (*Ninefold/ nine times*)
-
- **Centupled** (*hundredfold/ hundred times*)

FIGURES

 **Date, month & year related Vocabulary and Grammatical rules:**

- **Between** ...(year/ month)... and ...(year/ month)...
 - **From** ...(year/ month/ day/date)... to ...(year/ month/day/date)...
 - **In** ...(year/ month)...
 - **On** ...(day/ day of the week/ a date)...
 - **At**, **In**, **By**
 - **During** ... (year)...
 - **Over the period/ over the century/ later half of the year/ the year...**
- % = In proportion.** (two out of five, every student out of three etc.)³...
- % = In fraction.** (one-third, two-fifth, a quarter etc.)



NUMBER OF TIMES

- **Exactly the same.**
- **Roughly the same**
- **Practically the same**
- **Twice**
- **Thrice**
- **Four times**
- **Five times**
- **.....**
- **Ten times**
- **.....**
- **Hundred times.**

COMPARISON

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Similar | about / almost / nearly / roughly / approximately / around / just about / very nearly / |
| Just over | just above / just over / just bigger / just beyond / just across |
| Just short | just below / just beneath / just sort / just under / just a little |
| Much more | well above / well above / well beyond / well across / well over |
| Much less | well below / well under / well short / well beneath |



APPROXIMATION

In order to show approximate numbers we can use the following expressions:

- X is **just under**
- X is **just over**
- X is **well under**
- X is **well over**
- X is **approximately**
- X is **roughly** ...
- X is **about**

Now put the expressions above in this table

- (less)

+/- (about the same)

+ (more)



APPROXIMATION

Rewrite the sentences replacing the exact numbers with approximate ones using *just/well over* and *just/well under*.

1 Last year we sold 90,083 mobile phones in Italy.

2 14.8% of the people asked said they were unhappy with the new design.

3 We will be spending € 1.98 m on this technology.

4 Our laboratory says that the ideal temperature is 18.1°C.

5 It will cost \$3.97 to produce this item.

6 The new office is 389 m².



COMPARISON

while

While there are 4 million miles of train lines in the UK, there are only 3 million in France.

whereas

Whereas the majority of the French prefer to travel to work by train, only a small minority of the British do.

although

Although 15% of the French read novels, only 5% of the British do.

but

Almost 25% of French females study maths with a private tutor, but nearly 60% study English with one.



FOCUS ON THE NEXT ITEM

With regards to

In the case of

As for

Turning to

When it comes to it/ they

Where ... is/are concerned,.....

Regarding



EXPRESSIONS OF TIME

From January to July
In 1987/2000/2040
In the winter months
In the first quarter of the year (3 months)
In the first/second half of the year
In years to come
In the future

Expressions of time can come either at the beginning or the end of the sentence.

- ❖ **In 2000**, 40 percent of parents were able to afford extracurricular activities for their children.
- ❖ 40 percent of parents were able to afford extracurricular activities for their children **in 2000**.

NB we can use the verb “**see**” to talk about a particular year, month, etc.

- ❖ 2000 **saw** a drop in the number of visitors to the art museum.
- ❖ Britain **saw** a dramatic increase in CD sales in the 1980s.
- ❖ The 1980s **saw** a dramatic increase in CD sales in Britain.
- ❖ British shops **saw** CD sales increase dramatically in the 1980s.

In 2002, the cost of an average house in the UK was around £130,000. By 2007, the average house price had risen to almost £190,000, but it fell back to just under £150,000 in 2008.



PREPOSITIONS

- » It started **at**..., The sale started **at** \$20..., It peaked **at**...
- » It reached **at/to**..., It reached the lowest point /nadir **at**...
- » It increased **to** 80 **from** 58. It decreased **from** 10 **to** 3.
- » There was a drop **of** six units. It dropped **by** 3 units.
- » It declined **by** 15%. There was a 10% drop **in** the next three years.

- » Papers are sold **by** the ream.
- » Oranges are purchased and sold **by** the dozen.
- » Students enrollment in the University has increased **by** 2% this year.
- » Eggs are counted **in** dozens.
- » Rice is measured **in** kg.
- » He is junior to me **by** 4 years.
- » The employees are paid **per** week **in** this factory.
- » All these products are made of glasses.

Use the following vocabularies if both subjects are the same/ identical:

- ... Identical to/ Identical with ...
- ... Equal to with ...
- ... Exactly the same ...
- ... The same as ...
- ... Precisely the same ...
- ... Absolutely the same ...
- ... jus the same as ...

Use the following vocabularies if both subjects are not identical but similar:

- ... Almost the same as ...
- ... Nearly the same as ...
- ... Practically the same as ...
- ... Almost identical/ similar ...
- ... About the same as ...



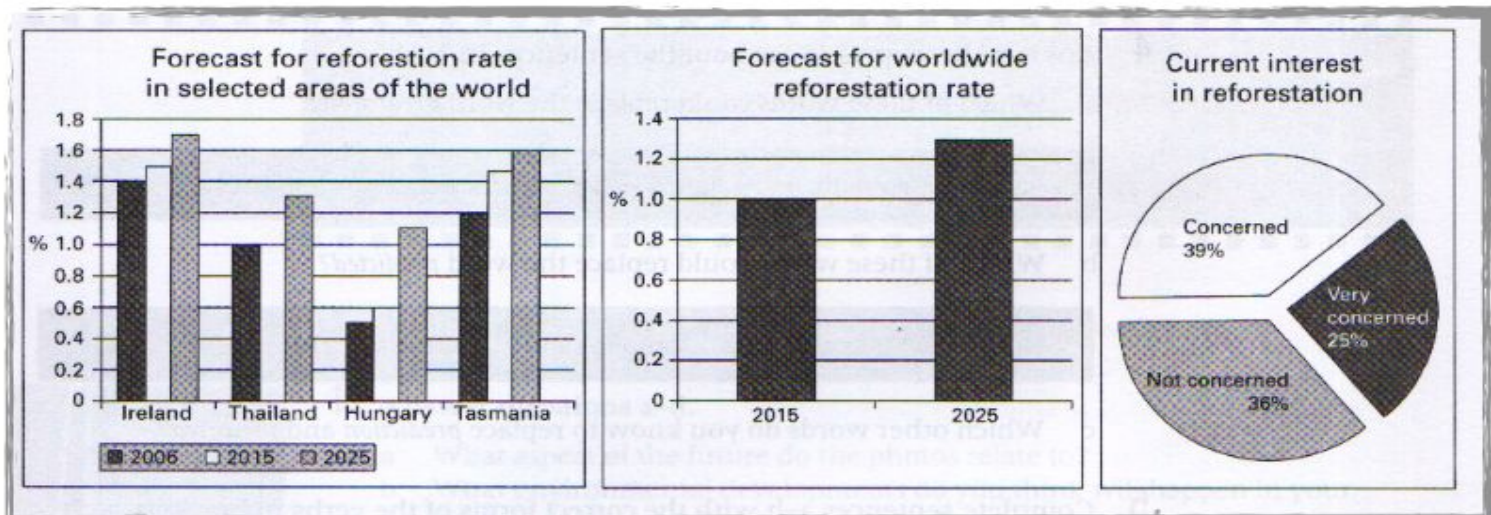
EXAMPLES

1. The fast food items in uptown restaurants were comparatively cheaper than that of city restaurants.
2. The largest proportion of water was used in the agriculture sector in most of the Asian countries while the European countries used the highest percentage of water for industrial purposes.
3. The price of the book in store A is cheaper than the price of store B.
4. The temperature decreased further and that made the weather condition worse.
5. The temperature was better in the mid-April but in mid-July, it became worse.



Example:

1. The price of the oil reached a peak amounting \$20 in February and again touched the lowest point amounting only \$10 in July.
 2. Student enrollment in foreign Universities and Colleges increased dramatically hitting a peak of over 20 thousand in 2004.
 3. The highest number of books was sold in July while it was lowest in December.
 4. The oil price reached a pick in 2003 while it was lowest in 2006.
 5. The selling volume of the DVD hit a pick with 2 million copies sold in a month but after just three months it reached the bottom with only 20 thousand sold in a month.
-
1. The number of high-level women executives is well beneath than the number of male executives in this organisation, where approximately 2000 people work in executive levels.
 2. About 1000 people died in the highway car accident in 2003 which is well above than the statistics of all other years.
 3. The number of domestic-violence cases was just below 500 in March which is just a little over than the previous months.
 4. The average rainfall in London in 2014 was just above than the average of other two cities.
 5. The salaries of male executives in three out of four companies were well above than the salaries of female executives in 1998.



The charts show forecast for the annual reforestation rate in selected regions and worldwide, together with the current attitude towards concern for tree loss.

Generally, it is forecast that the reforestation rate in the four regions will grow until, though at varying rates. It is projected that Ireland will have the highest rate in 2025 at percent followed closely by Tasmania. The forecast for both regions is the same at in 2015. Hungary, by contrast, with the lowest projected rate throughout the period, will experience the greatest overall increase. It is anticipated that the figure will climb from percent in

2006 to percent and then rise more sharply to 1.1 percent.

It is also worth noting that the reforestation rate in Thailand is anticipated to be exactly in line with the worldwide average for both 2015 and, 1 percent and 1.3 percent respectively. Meanwhile Hungary will be below the international rates, while both Ireland and Tasmania will exceed them.

From the pie chart, it can be seen that there is some obvious concern about the need for planting trees ('concerned' percent, and 'very concerned' percent), while at the same time there is a sizable proportion of people who are not concerned.

