

IELTS Writing Task 1 Academic requires you to write **at least 150 words** in response to a graph, table, chart or process. You have 20 minutes to present the factual data of what it represents and reporting the main features.

# IELTS Writing Part 1 Tips

20 minutes is not a long time to do this task and most people find this to be the hardest, Try to write down everything you see, paragraphing and describing it. When you have done that then add to it.

## Describing what you can see

The first paragraph should explain what the chart etc is all about, mention the most important features: the dates, what it is measuring etc. Here is an example: The line graph **shows/illustrates** male and female gym membership over a thirty-year period. The red line represents the number of ..... and so on.

## Writing the second paragraph: Summary

In this paragraph you want to **state the obvious**, you don't want to go into too much detail about everything you can see.

Sometimes people will write 3-4 paragraphs in total. Usually in the third paragraph it will explain using words such as 'rise, fall' and percentages defining the other things you can see in the graph and making comparisons.

In paragraph 3, also try to use a linking word: **Meanwhile**, Manufacturing sees a further drop in its share, falling by a further 10 percent to around 5 percent.

## Writing the last paragraph: Conclusion

A clear conclusion of what is happening. It doesn't have to be long. Use words like '**Overall, or It is clear that ....**'.

- Try not to repeat the same words and descriptions
- Don't write less words. It's ok to go slightly over but not under.
- Proofreading your work is extremely essential because with this, you can yourself find a lot of mistakes in your writing.

# How to describe a chart or diagram

First of all, you need a note book and pen and write down the various ways of describing a chart or process. There are many great websites that will show you examples of how to describe a bar chart or graph. You need to use words such as:

Upwards expressions: rise, increase, incline, peak

Downwards expressions: fall, decrease, decline, dip, drop

Adding emphasis: A steady incline in, a dramatic fall in, a rapid increase in.

## Starting the sentences

In the body of the text use these words to start the sentence: In brief, In conclusion, overall, to sum up ...

In the final part of the text: Finally, In conclusion, To conclude, It is clear that, Overall ...

## Linking and connecting words

also, anyway, besides, furthermore, in addition, likewise, moreover, similarly, as a result ...

...**as a result** profits fell to almost half ....

Smoking declined during 1999; **moreover**, it continued to increase ...

I hope you found this blog useful, good luck with the IELTS.