# Task 1 Academic: Questions and Model Answers

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## Contents

## How to use this eBook to improve your writing

1. Look at a task and make a plan [only look at my sample planning after you have done this as planning is crucial!]

2. Write your answer. You can send me a typed version or a photo of a handwritten version.

3. Send your model answer to me for correction.

4. Receive your corrected task back from me.

5. Review your task and ask questions if anything is unclear.

6. View my model answer, in this document, to get ideas about how to improve your answer to this task.

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1. Make a payment:

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2. Type your task or send me a CLEAR photo of your handwriting

3. Send to my email: examiner@ielts answers.com

4. I will usually respond in 12-24 hours.

5. When you get your task back you are welcome to ask questions. Please make sure your questions are clear and specific.

More about writing correction here:

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## Single Time (Static)

**The table below gives information on consumer spending on different items in five different countries in 2002.**

| | Food/Drink/Tobacco | Clothing/Footwear | Leisure/Education |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Ireland** | 28.91% | 6.43% | 2.21% |
| **Italy** | 16.36% | 9.00% | 3.20% |
| **Spain** | 18.80% | 6.51% | 1.98% |
| **Sweden** | 15. 77% | 5.40% | 3.22% |
| **Turkey** | 32.14% | 6.63% | 4.35% |

### Task Analysis:

Time: **static**

Fewest category: **spending type**

Amount of data: **15**

### Notes:

1. You should not use symbols; therefore, you should not use slashes [/] in your reports. For example, Clothing/Footwear = clothing and footwear.

2. You should not capitalise the categories as they are not proper nouns.

3. As the numbers are very precise you should use some language of approximation such as: roughly, approximately, just over, slightly over.

**Language**:

spending = expenditure

country = nation

food/drink/tobacco = foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco

clothing/footwear = clothes and shoes

leisure/education= recreation and learning

Ireland = Irish

Italy = Italians

Spain = Spaniards

Sweden = Swedes

Turkey = Turks

## Plan

| | Food/Drink/Tobacco<br>*H* | Clothing/Footwear<br>*2nd H* | Leisure/Education<br>*Low* |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Ireland** | 28.91% *2* | 6.43% *5* | 2.21% |
| **Italy** | 16.36% *3L* | 9.00% *4H* | 3.20% *8* |
| **Spain** | 18.80% *3L* | 6.51% *5* | 1.98% *9L* |
| **Sweden** | 15. 77% *3L* | 5.40% *6L* | 3.22% *8* |
| **Turkey** | 32.14% *1H* | 6.63% *5* | 4.35% *7H* |

H = highest; L = lowest; numbers represent the order to cover the item in the report

## Model Answer:

The table shows the percentages of consumer expenditure for three categories of products and services in five countries in 2002. Overall, the largest proportion of consumer spending in each nation went on foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco; and the lowest was for recreation and learning.

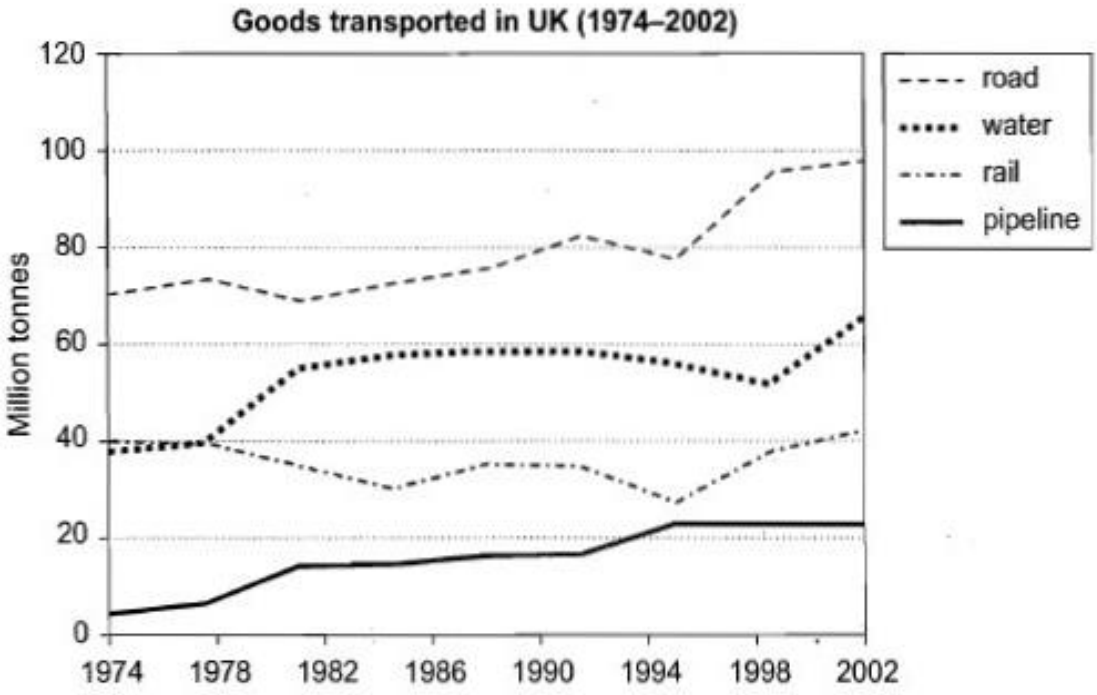
With regard to food, drinks and tobacco the country that spent the highest was Turkey, at 32.14%, followed by Ireland, at nearly 29%. The lowest percentages were in Italy, Spain, Sweden and Turkey, at a little over 15%.

Turning to clothes and shoes, which accounted for the second highest proportion of spending, for all nations, Italians and Swedes spent the highest proportion at exactly 9%. The next highest proportions were by the Irish, Spaniards and Turks at a little over 6%. The Swedes spent relatively the least at 5.40%

The proportion of spending on leisure and education was the lowest for all five nations. The highest level of spending was in Turkey at 4.35%. The next highest was in Italy and Sweden at just over 3%, while Spain had the lowest proportion at exactly 1.98%. [179 words]

## Change Over Time

**The graph below shows the quantities of goods transported in the UK between 1974 and 2002 by four different modes of transport.**




### Task Analysis:

Time: Multiple periods

Fewest category: Types of transportation

Amount of data: 32 = 8 years x 4 types of transport

### Notes:

1. There is a huge amount of data so you must choose the 10-12 key points and try to combine data as much as possible.
2. Note the spelling of *tonnes* for this task is different to tons [USA] and that you will get penalised if you write tons.

## **Language**:

UK = United Kingdom

Goods = products, cargo, freight

transported = conveyed, moved, shifted, delivered

modes of transport = types of transportation, forms of delivery

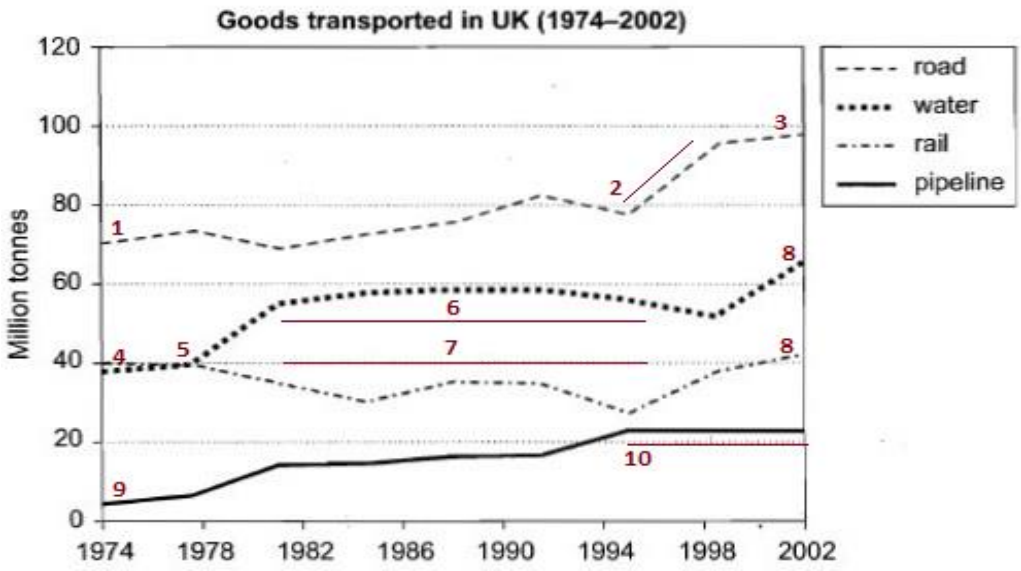
road = roadways

water = boat, ship,

rail = train, railway

pipeline = [unlikely you will know what this is so DO NOT rephrase it]

## Plan




## Model Answer:

The line graph provides information about how cargo was conveyed by four types of transportation, in the United Kingdom, between 1974 and 2002. Overall, goods sent by all forms of delivery increased except for railways, which fluctuated.

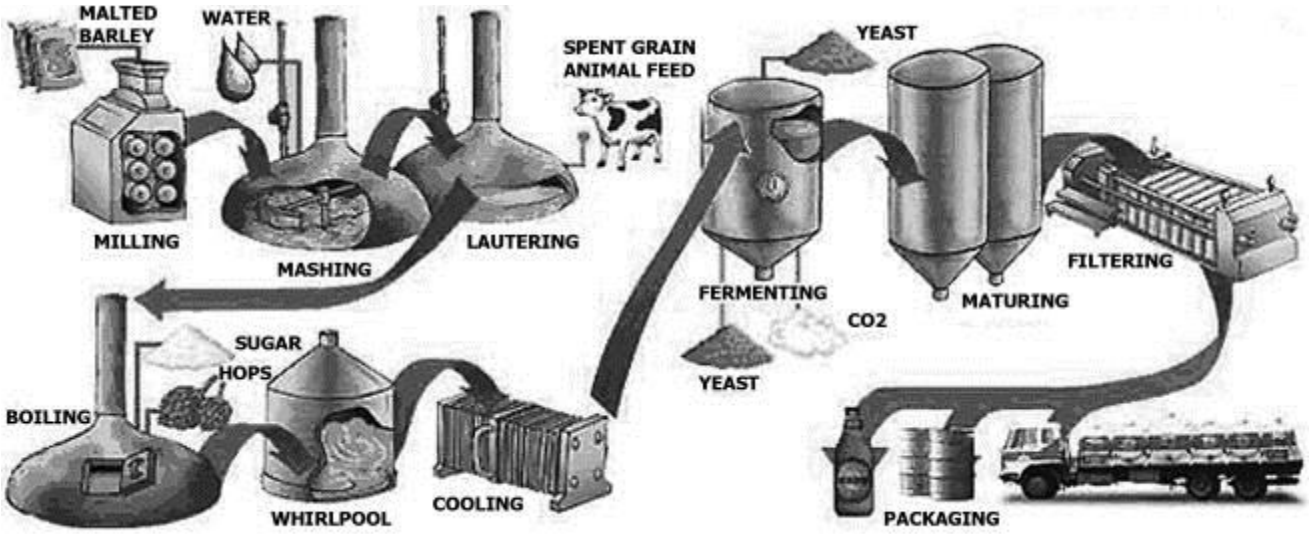
Road transport was used to move the most cargo. In 1974, roughly 75 million tonnes was transported and it gradually increased to about 80 million tonnes over the next 20 years. It dramatically increased to over 90 by 1998, and then it finished just below 100 tonnes by 2002.

Goods conveyed by water and rail were about 40 million tonnes, for each, in 1974. After 1978, freight by ships surpassed rail reaching roughly 58 million tonnes by 1982 and then it plateaued for the next twenty years. During the same period rail freight decreased to approximately 25 million tonnes. By 2002, the tonnage transported by boat increased to 60 million, and by railways rose to just over 40 million.

Pipeline was the least used method of transport. In 1974, the volume was only about 7 million and this increased to about 22 million by 1994. During the next ten years, the amount remained constant. [193 words]

# Process Diagram

## The diagram below shows the various stages involved in the production of beer.




[Source: IELTS - The Complete Guide to Task 1 Writing by Phil Biggerton ]

## Task Analysis:

Time: **single**

Tense: **present passive is best**

Amount of Data: **11 stages**

## Note:

1. With a process the overall summary can be the number of stages, pieces of equipment, or ingredients/materials used.

2. Passive tenses are needed as the agent (doer of actions) is unclear in the process.

## Language:

production = manufacture

beer = alcoholic beverage

**Sequencers**: first, subsequently, after that, finally

**Verbs of process**: Verbs are needed to describe putting things in, taking them out, changing one thing into another, or throwing away waste items. (inserted, extracted, transformed into, discarded).

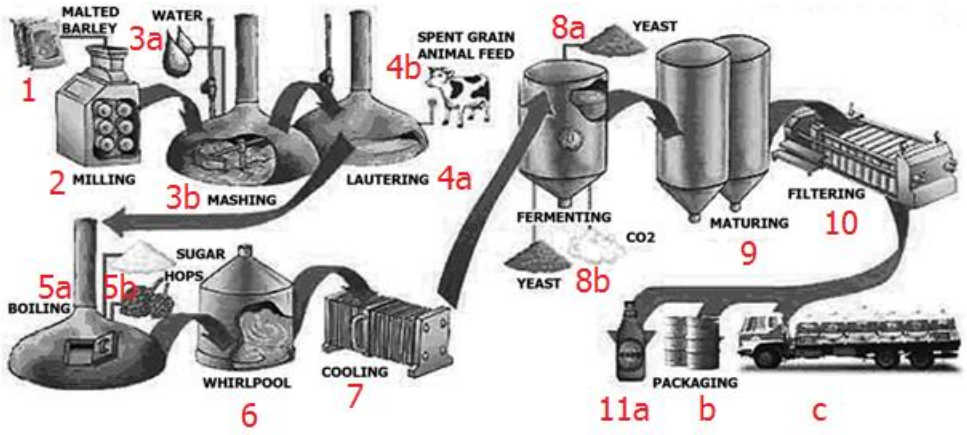
Put in: inserted, added

Take out: extracted, removed

Changed: transformed, altered

Thrown away: discarded

## Plan




## Model Answer:

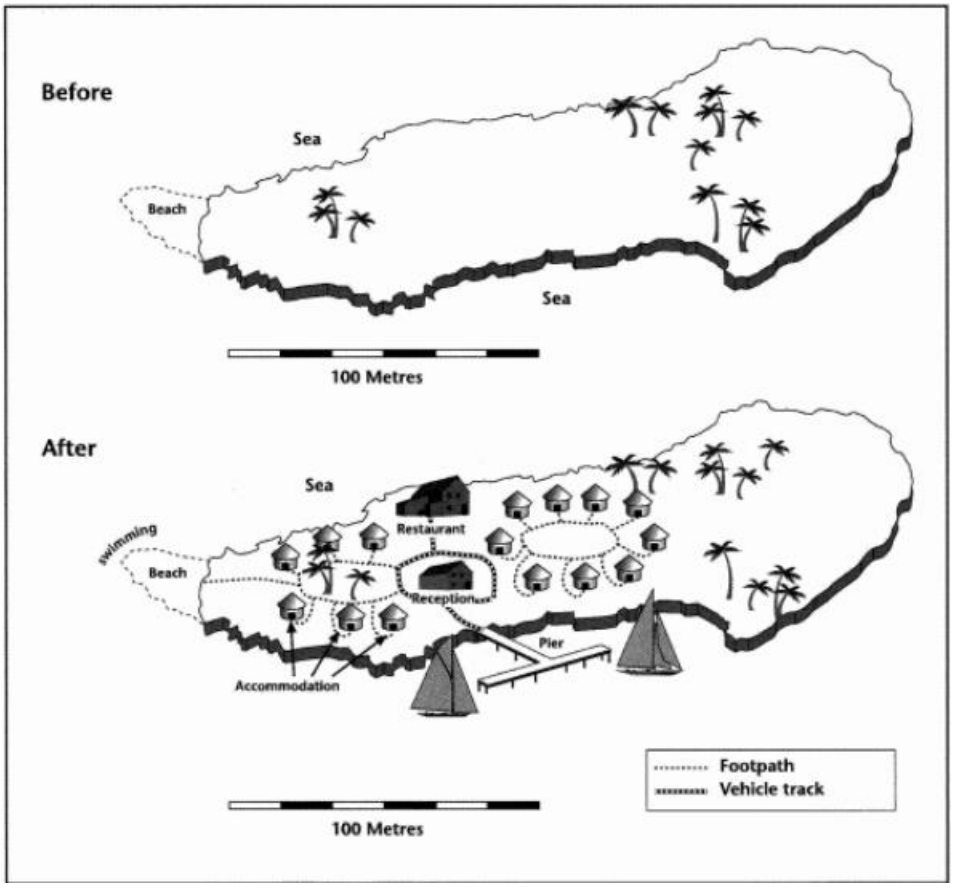
The figure illustrates the different steps used to manufacture beer. Overall, there are eleven stages in the process, beginning with the milling of malted barley and ending with packaging the beer.

Looking at the pre-fermentation stages of the process, we can see that in order to get liquid from malted barley, it has to be milled, mashed with water and lautered in special tanks. In order to get a pure liquid, the spent grain is taken out and used for the feeding of animals. Then, the liquid has to be boiled with sugar and hops and mixed in a whirlpool before cooling.

In the next stages, the cooled liquid has to be fermented by adding yeast and carbon dioxide. Then, it goes to storage tanks, in order to be matured. In the second to last stage, the matured beer is transferred to a filter for filtering. Finally, the beer is packed in bottles or barrels or put on trucks for delivery. [160 words]

# Map

**The two maps below show an island, before and after the construction of some tourist facilities.**




## Task Analysis:

Time: **2 periods**

Amount of data: **about 10 key features**

## Note:

1. There is no compass on the map so we cannot use words like north or south to describe the map
2. There is a scale showing 100 metres so the size of the island MUST be covered.

## Language

**Describing locations on a picture/map.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| top-left | top | top-right |
| left | centre | right |
| bottom-left | bottom | bottom-right |

In the centre of the map…

In front of the…

Behind…

Next to…

Adjacent to…

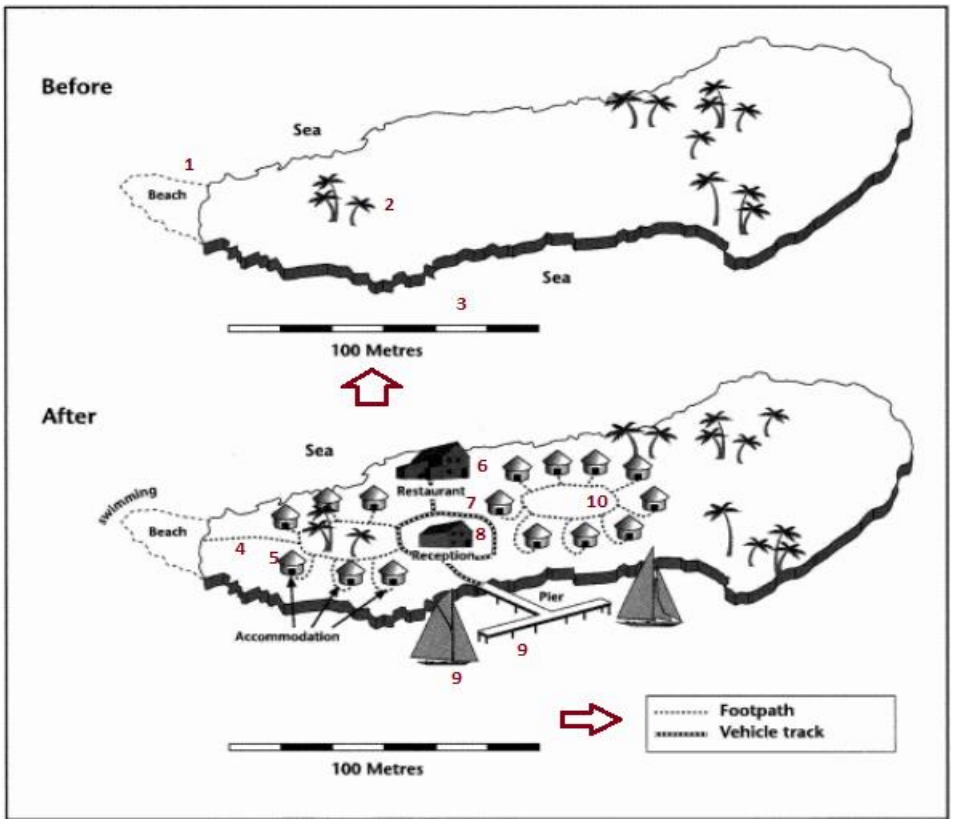
**Describe objects which are nearby:**

Next to…

Within easy reach of a...

It is not far from...

## Plan



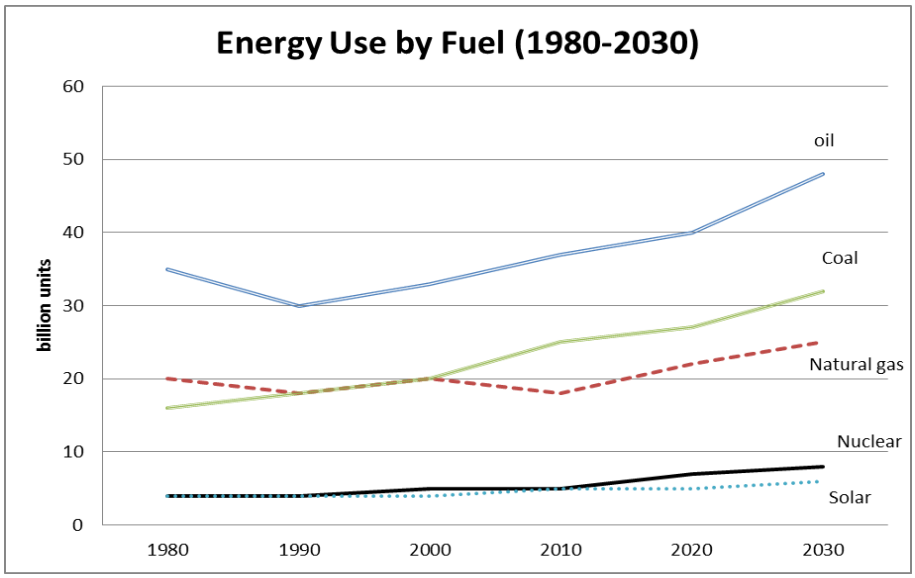

## Model Answer:

The maps illustrate an island before and after the building of tourist amenities. Overall the island transforms from having no man-made construction to an island that is covered with structures, except on the right-hand side of the island.

The first map shows the island has only one beach on the left-hand side and it is barren except for a few trees scattered around it. The island is about 250 metres long and about 75 metres wide.

The second map illustrates the building of tourist infrastructure on the island. The left of the maps shows a path was constructed to allow tourists to go swimming on the beach. This path is connected to a ring of bungalows. To the right of this path, a road was built with a reception building beside it. The road leads to a restaurant above the reception and a jetty below it that allows boats to dock. On the right side of the island, another ring of huts was constructed connected by a path. The far right remains free from man-made construction. [179 words]

# Future Period




**[source:** Task 1: Academic Writing for IELTS: http://www.ieltsanswers.com/ielts-books-task1-academic-report.html]

## Task Analysis:

Time: multiple including future

Fewest category: energy type

## Language:

**Words to express a prediction**: predicted, expected, forecasted, anticipated

**Future tense**: will, is going to

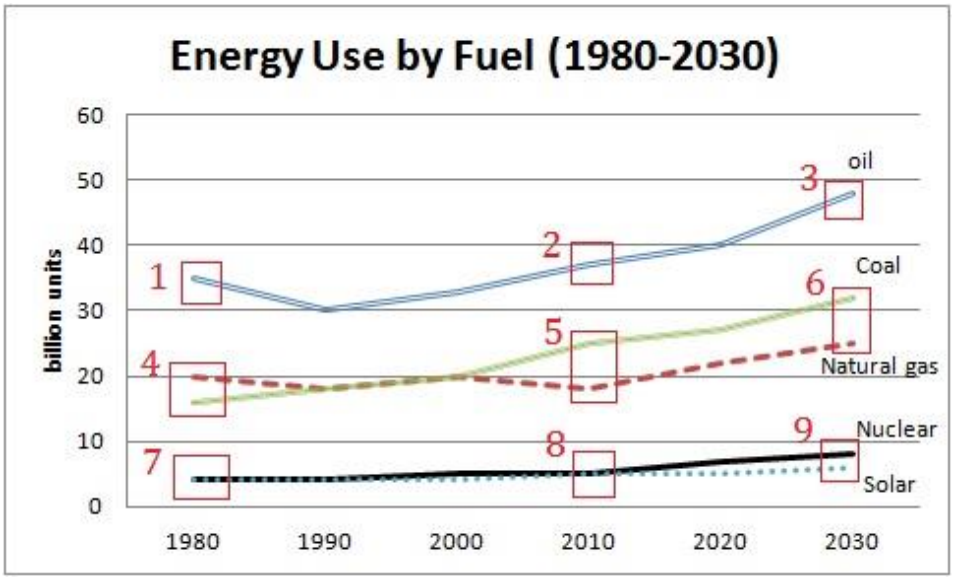
*It is predicted that the use of solar energy will rise.*

*It is anticipated that the use of solar energy is going to rise.*

## Note:

The report is produced in 2010 so we can establish that all data before this point has actually occurred and everything after this date is a projection.

## Plan




## Model Answer:

The line graph displays energy consumption in Australia from 1980 to 2030, by five different energy sources. Overall, in the past, there is an upward trend for all types of energy except natural gas, and all forms are predicted to increase by 2030.

Oil is the highest source of energy. In 1980, 35 billion units of oil were used this increased to about 38 billion by 2010. Projections show the usage will hit about 48 billion by 2030.

Coal and natural gas generate the next highest amounts of energy. Coal starts the graph lower at 16 billion units and gas at 20 billion units, but by 2010 the use of gas, at approximately 25 billion overtakes coal at 18 billion. By 2030 coal is expected to climb to end at 32 billion overtaking gas at 25 billion units.

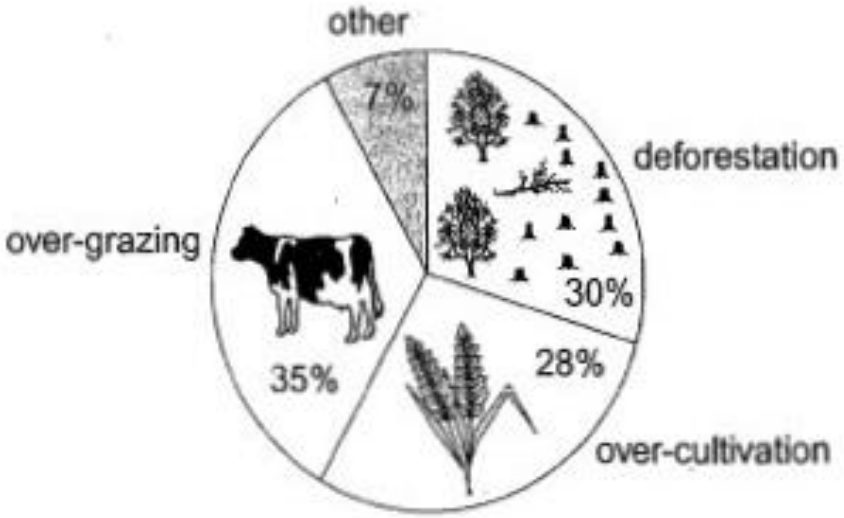
Nuclear and solar energy were both stable at about 4 billion units from 1980 to 2010. They are predicted to have a marginal increase in their units of consumption, reaching 8 billion and 6 billion units, respectively, in 2030.
[177 words]

## Multi-Chart Type

This type of task includes more than one type of chart.

**The pie chart below shows the main reasons why agricultural land becomes less productive. The table shows how these causes affected three regions of the world during the 1990s.**

### Causes of worldwide land degradation




### Causes of land degradation by region

| Region | % land degraded by... | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | deforestation | over-cultivation | over-grazing | Total land degraded |
| North America | 0.2 | 3.3 | 1.5 | 5% |
| Europe | 9.8 | 7.7 | 5.5 | 23% |
| Oceania* | 1.7 | 0 | 11.3 | 13% |

* A large group of islands in the South Pacific including Australia and New Zealand

## Task Analysis:

Time: **static**

Fewest category: **not applicable, structure by graph**

## Note:

The table does not show countries; it shows regions.

## Language:

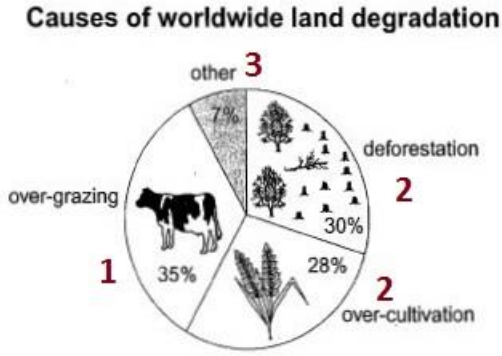
land degradation = deterioration of global farmland, degraded land

over-grazing = over-farming

deforestation = cutting down forests, removal of forests

over-cultivation = growing too many crops

## Plan




**Causes of land degradation by region**

| Region | % land degraded by... | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | deforestation | over-cultivation | over-grazing | Total land degraded |
| North America | 0.2 13 | 3.3 12 | 1.5 | 5% 11 |
| Europe | 9.8 5 | 7.7 | 5.5 6 | 23% 4 |
| Oceania* | 1.7 9 | 0 10 | 11.3 8 | 13% 7 |

* A large group of islands in the South Pacific including Australia and New Zealand

## Model Answer:

The pie chart illustrates the main causes of the deterioration of global farmland and the table gives data regarding the influence of these causes on three areas during the 1990s. Overall, over-farming was the leading cause of global land degradation and the Eurozone had the highest proportion of degraded land.

With regard to global land degradation, the leading cause was over-farming at 35%. This was closely followed by cutting down forests and growing too many crops, which accounted for 30% and 28%, respectively. Other reasons were only responsible for 7% of the damage.

Turning to the individual areas, Europe had the highest proportion of land that was less fertile. The main causes were deforestation and over-farming at 9.8% and 5.5%, respectively. Oceania had 13% of land that was degraded and this was caused by overgrazing at 11.3% and deforestation at a much lower 1.7%. There was no damage due to growing too many crops in Oceania. North America had the lowest proportion of arable land damaged at 5%. The biggest cause was over-cultivation (3.3%) and the least was the removal of forests (0.2%). [181 words]

## Limited Data

Some tasks have very little data and the challenge is to make sure you write at least the minimum 150 words to avoid a penalty on Task Achievement

### The table below shows the sales at a small restaurant in a downtown business district.

| | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thus. | Fri. | Sat. | Sun. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Lunch** | $2,400 | $2,450 | $2,595 | $2,375 | $2,500 | $1,950 | $1,550 |
| **Dinner** | $3,623 | $3,850 | $3,445 | $3,800 | $4,350 | $2,900 | $2,450 |

### Task Analysis:

Time: single

Fewest category: lunch and dinner

Amount of data: 12

### Note:

1. When there is limited data, you **MUST** include every piece of data.
2. Reach the word limit by making lots of comparisons.

### Language:

sales = revenue

downtown business district = inner city

Monday-Friday =week days

Saturday-Sunday =weekends

**Plan**

| | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thus. | Fri. | Sat. | Sun. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Lunch** | $2,400 1 | $2,450 1 | $2,595 2H | $2,375 3 | $2,500 4 | $1,950 5L | $1,550 5L |
| **Dinner** | $3,623 6 | $3,850 7 | $3,445 8 | $3,800 9 | $4,350 10H | $2,900 11L | $2,450 11L |

## Model Answer:

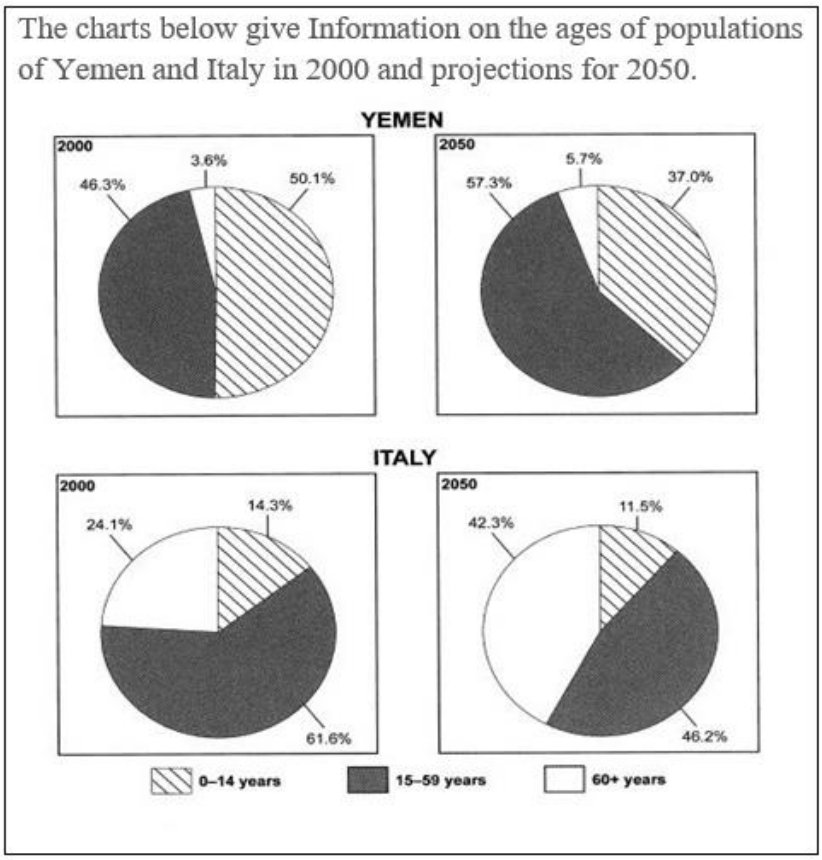
The table displays the revenue of a small inner city restaurant. Overall, dinner sales are always greater than lunch sales and weekdays have higher sales than weekends.

Looking first at the lunch sales, Mondays and Tuesdays were almost the same with sales of about $2,400. Sales peak on Wednesdays at $2,595, reduce to $2,375 on Thursdays and then rise to $2,500 on Fridays. Weekend sales are the least with $1,950 on Saturday and then a further decline to $1,550 on Sunday.

Turning to revenue in the evening, it is higher than lunchtimes every day. Monday sales are $3,623 and then they rise to $3,850 on Tuesday. Then, sales dip to $3,445 on Wednesday, before rising again to $3,800 on Friday, and then peaking at $4,350 on Friday. As with lunch sales, the revenue declines significantly during the weekend to $2,900 on Saturday, and then further to the lowest level of the week at $2,450 on Sunday.
[156 words]

# Age Groups

These types of tasks have different categories of age groups.




## Task Analysis:

Time: **past and future**

Fewest categories: **countries or years**

Amount of data: **12**

## Note:

1. We can assume 2000 is the past and 2050 is the future.
2. Caution is needed with the length of the report due to categories of age groups requiring a lot of words to describe.
3. Describing ages often leads to factual and grammatical errors.
4. In the phrase the 15 to 59-year-olds, year does not have an "s" as it functions as an adjective.

## Language:

**Describing age groups**

people who are 15 to 59 years old.

15 to 59 year-olds

the cohort aged from 15 to 59

the over 60's

the youngest/oldest group

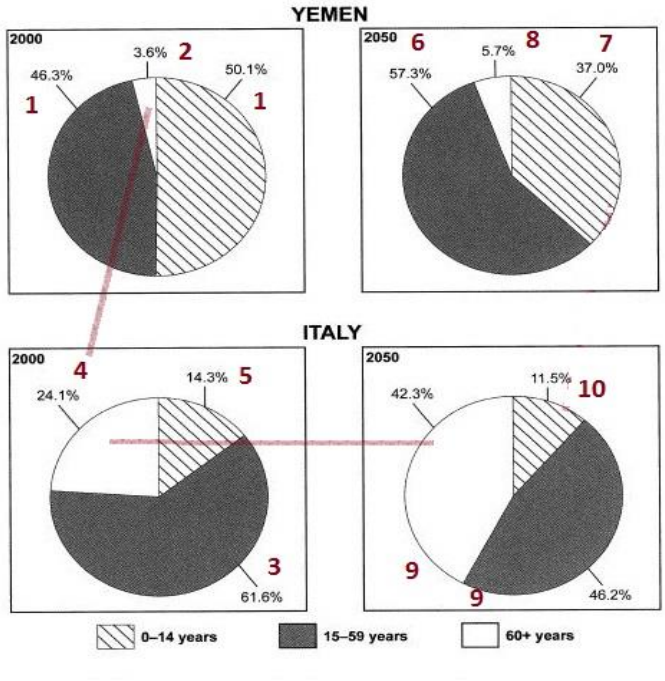
**Words to express a prediction:** predicted, expected, forecasted, anticipated

**Future tense:** will, is going to

*It is predicted that the use of solar energy will rise.*

*It is anticipated that the use of solar energy is going to rise.*

## Plan




## Model Answer:

The four pie charts give the proportions of three different age groups in 2000, and a forecast for 2050 in Yemen and Italy. Overall, Italy had an older population than Yemen in 2000, and both populations are predicted to age in the future.

In 2000, in Yemen, over half the population was aged 0-14, and 46.3% of the population was aged from 15 to 59. The smallest proportion was the over 60s, who accounted for just 3.6% of the population. Turning to Italians, the highest percentage was 15-59 year olds. Those over 60 were 24.1% of the population, which was more than six times higher than it was in Yemen. The smallest percentage was for the youngest group at 14.35%.

Turning to the forecast for 2050, in Yemen, the largest group is expected to be those aged 15-59 at 57.3%. This is followed by forecasts for the youngest group at 37%, and the oldest group at 5.8%. For Italians, the highest percentage is for those aged 15-59 years at 46.2%. This is followed by the over 60s at 42.3%, which is almost double the level in 2000. The youngest group accounts for only 11.5% of the population. [197words]

## Useful Links

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