

LANGUAGE REVIEW

Describing trends

Which of the verbs in Exercise A also have noun forms? What are they?

example: *to increase – an increase*

decline	increase	double	level off	decrease	peak
gain	rocket	fall	triple	fluctuate	rise
drop	plummet	halve	recover	improve	jump

1. a decline
2. a gain
3. a drop
4. an increase
5. (*rocket* does not have a noun form in this context)
6. a plummet (rare, but it does exist as a noun)
7. a doubling
8. a fall
9. a halving
10. a levelling off
11. a tripling
12. a recovery
13. a decrease
14. a fluctuation
15. an improvement
16. a peak
17. a rise
18. a jump

Prepositions

*Profits rose 5% **to** \$1.4 billion.*

*The sales of Dupont have gone up **from** \$19.6 billion **to** \$27.4 billion.*

*Sales rose **by** 20% over the holiday period.*

*This represents a decrease **of** 16.4% from the first quarter.*

*The average retail gasoline price stood **at** \$4.11 a gallon yesterday.*

Look at the graphs below. Complete the sentences about them with appropriate prepositions.

- 1 Sales have increased €5m €7m.
- 2 Sales have increased €2m.
- 3 There has been an increase €2m in our sales.
- 4 Sales now stand €7m.
- 5 Sales reached a peak €7m in July.
- 6 Sales reached a low point €1m in April.