



## DESCRIBING INFORMATION IN A GRAPH:



SMOKING.



I. First, learn the vocabulary with the following video (7'28):

« Graphs are a great visual way to show us data and variables. We use data graphs and analytics to talk about everything in our lives, from our gas bill to politics, to crimes rates. It's extremely important. So you need to know how to describe what you see in a graph! »



[youtube.com/watch?v=tApPdt\\_Y8jE](https://youtube.com/watch?v=tApPdt_Y8jE)

Let's recap:

- to decrease
- to level off
- to plummet
- to soar
- to increase
- to fluctuate
- to rise (irregular: *rose*\*)
- to zig-zag
- to decline
- to remain/stay the same
- to fall (irregular: *fell*\*)
- to drop
- to stabilize

Useful adverbs to describe a trend more closely:

- g\_\_\_\_\_
- d\_\_\_\_\_
- st\_\_\_\_\_
- si\_\_\_\_\_



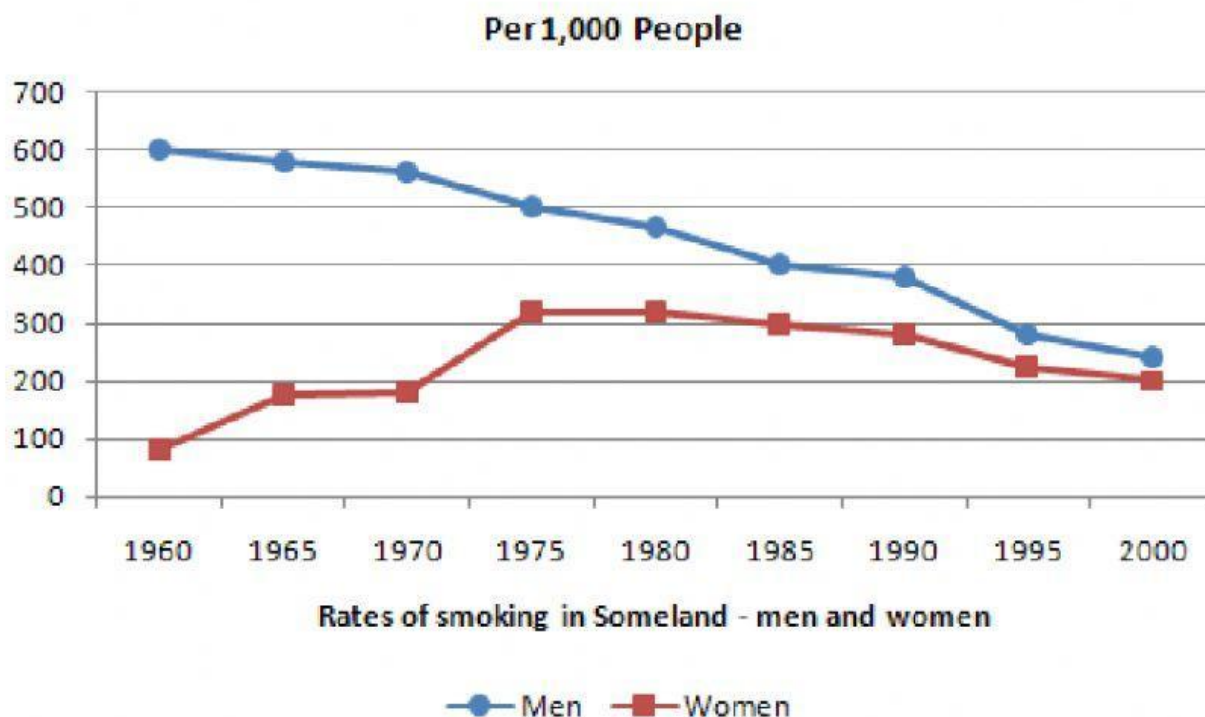
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II. Now, complete a report for a university lecturer describing the information in the graph below.



Look at the graph and use the following words to fill in the blanks (drag and drop):

decreased  
figures  
higher

rate  
steeply  
dropped

low  
fewer

remained  
increased

declining  
seen

The graph compares the \_\_\_\_\_ of smoking in men and women in Someland between the years 1960 and 2000. It can be clearly \_\_\_\_\_ that the rate of smoking for both men and women is currently \_\_\_\_\_ and that \_\_\_\_\_ women have smoked throughout the period.

In 1960, 600 men in every 1,000 was smoking. This number \_\_\_\_\_ gradually to 500 by 1974 and continued to decrease but more \_\_\_\_\_ to 250 in 2000. In contrast, the rate of smoking in women in 1960 was very \_\_\_\_\_ at only 80 in every 1,000. By 1968 this increased to 170, and increased again but more steeply to 320 in 1977. The rate of female smokers then \_\_\_\_\_ stable at 320 until 1984 at which point the \_\_\_\_\_ began to decline and had dropped to 200 by 2000.



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In conclusion we can see that the rate of smoking in men \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the whole period but was always at a \_\_\_\_\_ level than the female figures. The rate of smoking in women \_\_\_\_\_ until 1977 but then decreased for the rest of the period.

[https://www.ielts-exam.net/academic\\_writing\\_samples\\_task\\_1/101/](https://www.ielts-exam.net/academic_writing_samples_task_1/101/)

III. Finally, watch this ESL video (10 mn) and add other useful words for describing graphs:

Presenting business information using charts and graphs I  
Business of English #8 | ABC Australia



[youtube.com/watch?v=L0Mr-O9AGmw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L0Mr-O9AGmw)

What other words did they mention in the video?



to imp\_\_\_\_\_

to cl\_\_\_\_\_

an up\_\_\_\_\_



to de\_\_\_\_\_

to w\_\_\_\_\_

a down\_\_\_\_\_



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What other adjectives (before nouns) and adverbs (after verbs) will help you be more specific?

|                     |            |   |                 |
|---------------------|------------|---|-----------------|
| -for big changes:   | marked     | → | markedly        |
|                     | massive    | → | _____           |
|                     | pronounced | → | _____           |
|                     | _____      | → | substantially   |
| -for small changes: | slight     | → | _____           |
|                     | _____      | → | insignificantly |
| -for fast changes:  | sharp      | → | _____           |
|                     | dramatic   | → | dramatically    |
|                     | sudden     | → | _____           |
| -for slow changes:  | steady     | → | _____           |
|                     | moderate   | → | moderately      |

From noun to verb: **do the exercise orally** (from 6'30 to 7'16), then **copy the sentences** in your English notebook.

**Write the useful phrases for describing causes (7'37):**

- The drop in sales is \_\_\_\_\_ an interest rate rise.
- The drop in sales is a \_\_\_\_\_ an interest rate rise.
- The drop in sales is a \_\_\_\_\_ an interest rate rise.
- The drop in sales is \_\_\_\_\_ an interest rate rise.

to **reach** the lowest level = to b\_\_\_\_\_ o\_\_\_\_\_

to **represent** half of the sales = to a\_\_\_\_\_ f\_\_\_\_\_

More than half of sales are r\_\_\_\_\_ by air conditioners and heaters.

Washing machines r\_\_\_\_\_/account for/\_\_\_\_\_ 15% (fifteen percent) of sales.