

**Ex1: Read the examples in the Technique box. Then rewrite sentences a-j below using the words in the **LANGUAGE REFERENCE**.**

### Technique

Include a variety of structures in your writing: noun + noun (sugar imports) and the noun + of + noun (the import of sugar).

a. Spice exports from Africa fluctuated wildly over the period.

\_\_\_\_\_.

b. The development of new products fell gradually.

\_\_\_\_\_.

c. There has been a noticeable decrease in research investment.

\_\_\_\_\_.

d. The purchases of tickets dropped significantly last month.

\_\_\_\_\_.

e. On the Internet, the number of sites rose significantly.

\_\_\_\_\_.

f. There was a sudden decrease in the sale of mangos.

\_\_\_\_\_.

g. At the theme park, there were very slight fluctuations in the number of visitors.

\_\_\_\_\_.

h. There was a gradual decline in sugar imports.

\_\_\_\_\_.

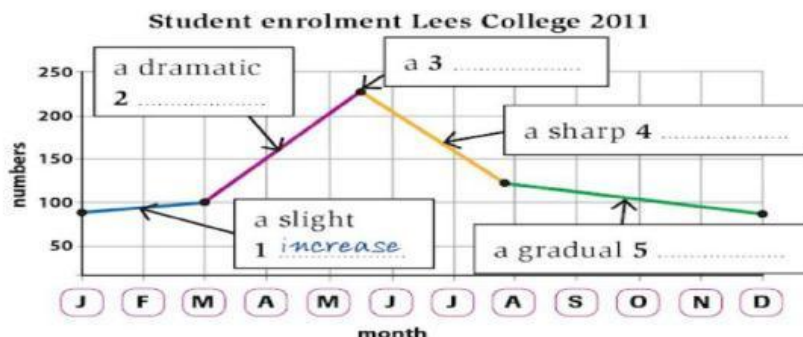
i. The quality of food in supermarkets has increased slowly.

\_\_\_\_\_.

j. The number of air travellers fluctuated remarkably.

\_\_\_\_\_.

Ex2: Complete the phrases that describe the trends on the line graph below using the words in the **LANGUAGE REFERENCE**.



Now complete this paragraph about the graph using words and phrases above.

The graph shows the changes in student numbers at Lees College over a one-year period. Over the year, there was a lot of fluctuation in the numbers. Between January and March, there was **1 a slight increase** in student numbers. This was followed by a **2 a dramatic increase** in numbers over the next three months. In June, enrolments reached a **3 a peak**. After that, there was a **4 a sharp decrease** in numbers. Finally, there was a **5 a gradual decrease** in numbers from August to December.

### Writing more complex sentences describing trends

Eg: The number of passenger journeys fell minimally.

The number of passenger journeys witnessed a moderate increase.

#### 1. before

The number of passenger journeys fell minimally **before** increasing moderately.

The number of passenger journeys fell minimally **before** witnessing a moderate increase.

There was a minimal fall in the number of passenger journeys **before** a moderate increase.

The number of passenger journeys saw a minimal fall **before** a moderate increase.

#### 2. but later

*The number of passenger journeys fell minimally **but later** increased moderately.*

**3. (which was) followed by**

*There was a minimal fall in the number of passenger journeys **(which was) followed by** a moderate increase.*

*The number of passenger journeys fell moderately, **(which was) followed by** a moderate increase.*

**4. Despite, inspite of, although**

***Although** the number of passenger journeys saw a minimal fall, it still witnessed a moderate increase.*

***Despite / Insprite of a** minimal fall in the number of passenger journeys, it still witnessed a moderate increase.*

**5. Until**

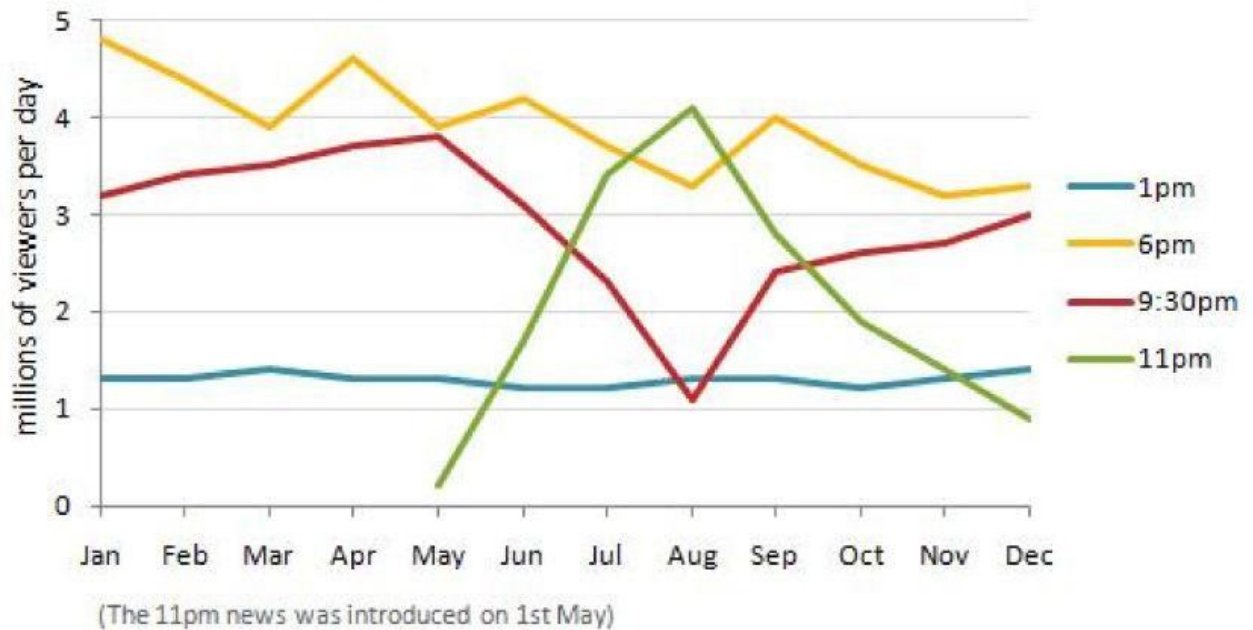
*The number of passenger journeys witnessed a minimal drop, **followed by** a moderate increase **until** it reached 40.000 visitors.*

**Ex3: Use complex sentences with the given linking devices to describe the graph below.**

**The graph below shows the changes in number of viewers per day for four TV news programs over the last year.**

Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant.

Channel one news viewing figures



1. stable/for the first 10 months/**but later**/increase/October until the end of the year
2. Fluctuate/**before**/lowest point/November
3. **Despite**/downward/led other programs/popularity/most of the year
4. From January to May/steady increase/a high of/**followed by**/significant drop/**until**/lowest point/August
5. recover/September/**and then**/gradually increase/December

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6. Soar/August/**before**/decline sharply

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**Ex4: Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 1990 \_\_\_\_\_ 2000, there was a drop \_\_\_\_\_ 15%.
  2. GM car sales peaked \_\_\_\_\_ 2,000 \_\_\_\_\_ 1999.
  3. The chart shows a decline \_\_\_\_\_ 35% \_\_\_\_\_ the bird population.
  4. There has been a significant increase \_\_\_\_\_ the number of people aged over eighty.
  5. There have been dramatic cuts \_\_\_\_\_ the level of spending on the elderly, reaching a low \_\_\_\_\_ 11%.
  6. Profits rose \_\_\_\_\_ a low \_\_\_\_\_ 4.5 million to a high of 8 million in 2008.
  7. Canada and Australia's wheat exports fluctuated \_\_\_\_\_ 5 million and 6 million respectively.
  8. There were significant improvements \_\_\_\_\_ healthcare \_\_\_\_\_ 1980.
  9. The statistics show a reduction \_\_\_\_\_ 20% \_\_\_\_\_ energy costs as a result \_\_\_\_\_ the measures.
  10. Profits fell \_\_\_\_\_ 10%, from 2,000 to 1,800 in 1970s.
  11. The radio station experienced a fall \_\_\_\_\_ 36,000 listeners to a total audience \_\_\_\_\_ 2.1 million.
  12. The number of students fell \_\_\_\_\_ a low of 1,500 in the second half of the year.
  13. Cases of AIDS shot \_\_\_\_\_ 2,400 \_\_\_\_\_ 1996 \_\_\_\_\_ 4,000 \_\_\_\_\_ 2004.
  14. Demand reached a peak \_\_\_\_\_ 45,000 in early March.
  15. The number of cars sold remained unchanged in 1999 \_\_\_\_\_ three million.
  16. Students do \_\_\_\_\_ three \_\_\_\_\_ four hours homework a night.
  17. The number of accidents \_\_\_\_\_ 1999 was slightly higher than that of 2000.
  18. The figure rose steadily \_\_\_\_\_ the four years between 1997 \_\_\_\_\_ 2001.
  19. Oil production rose dramatically at first but then leveled out \_\_\_\_\_ \$70 a barrel.
  20. There was an increase \_\_\_\_\_ 50,000 between 1990 and 1992.
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