

7 Read the model text below. Match paragraphs a–d with summaries 1–4.

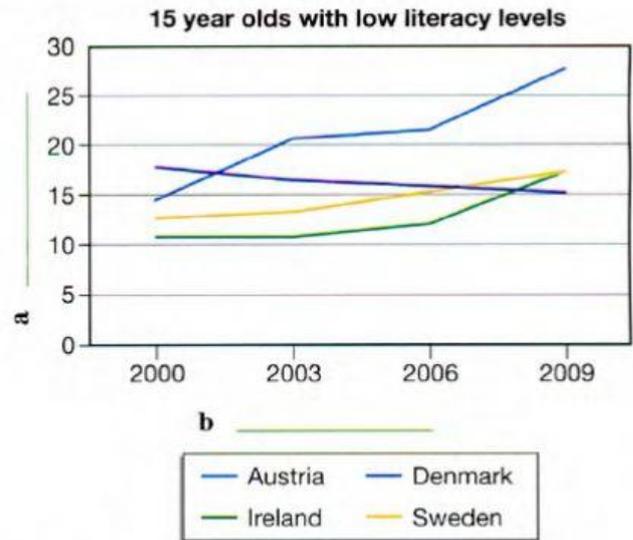
- 1 Gives an overview _____
- 2 Describes main upward trends _____
- 3 Describes the main downward trend _____
- 4 Introduction describing data set _____

a The graph provides information about the literacy rates of 15 year olds in four European countries over a period of nine years.

b There are two clear trends visible. Only one country, Denmark, experienced a slight fall in poor literacy levels, as numbers dropped marginally from around 17 per cent in 2000 to 15 per cent in 2009. This minor dip nevertheless gave Denmark the lowest percentage overall by the end of the period shown.

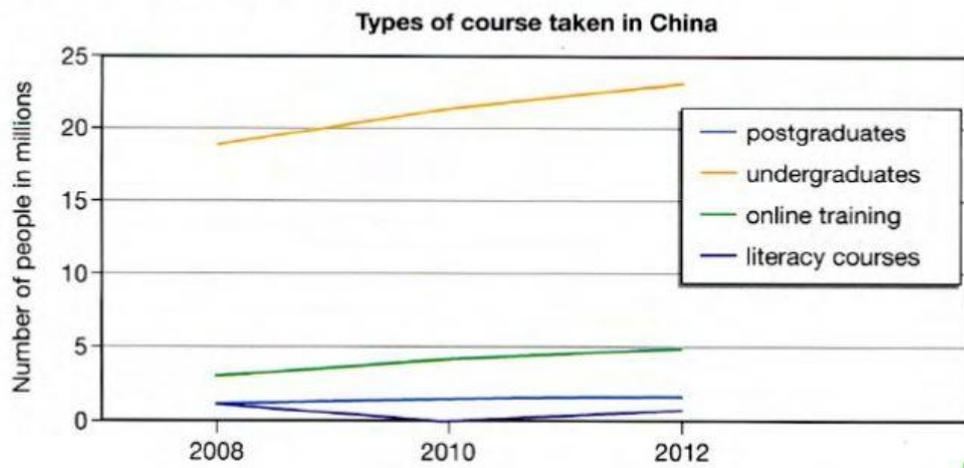
c Conversely, in the majority of countries the proportion of children with low literacy levels increased, the biggest rise being evident in Austria. This country had the highest number of children with weak literacy throughout the period, except in the year 2000 where, at 15 per cent, the numbers were approximately 2 per cent lower than those in Denmark. However, by 2003 Austrian numbers had reached just over 20 per cent and rose again more steeply to a high of around 27 per cent in 2009. Ireland and Sweden both saw steady upward trends in their totals, beginning with around 11 per cent and 13 per cent respectively and ending at a similar percentage of 17 per cent.

d Therefore, with the exception of Denmark, the percentage of 15 year olds with literacy problems generally went up. The difference between the countries was relatively low in 2000, ranging from around 11 per cent to 17 per cent, but this difference grew and by 2009 spanned from approximately 15 per cent to over 27 per cent.



8 Look at the graph. Quickly check the title and axis to find out:

- a what the chart shows.
- b what the numbers refer to.

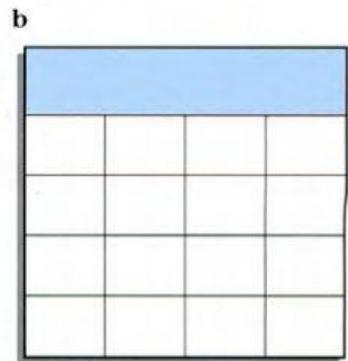


- 11 Read the example question and model answer below. Ignore the gaps. Number the paragraphs a–d in the correct order. Does the model answer contain similar information to your notes?

The graph shows the number of students enrolled on different course types in China. Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main information.

Write at least 150 words.

- a The first key feature shows that literacy courses had the lowest number of participants overall for the whole period. This type of course is the only one which showed a _____, beginning with just over 1.5 million students in 2008 then _____ almost 0 by 2010. Uptake _____ slightly in 2012 to just under a million but this course type remained the lowest in terms of student numbers.
- b Overall, with the exception of literacy, the number of students on all the other courses climbed _____ with undergraduates easily outnumbering all other types of student.
- c The graph _____ the number of people enrolled on four different types of educational course in China in the period 2008 to 2012.
- d On the other hand, the proportion of students on undergraduate courses showed the highest increase throughout the period and numbers on this type of course _____ from around 19 million in 2008 to 23 million in 2012. These courses had approximately four times as many students as the other types of course. Similarly, numbers of students enrolled as postgraduates and using online courses followed a similar _____ and increased moderately from 2008 to 2012, ending with around 2 million and 5 million participants respectively in 2012.

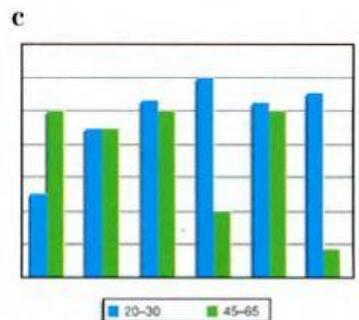


- 12 Read the model answer again in the correct order. Complete the answer with words from the box.

demonstrates ■ dipping to ■ downward trend ■ gradually ■ increased steadily
rose ■ upward trend

- 13 Match the visuals a–d with correct names from the box.

bar chart ■ pie chart ■ process diagram ■ table



- 14 Look at the visuals in 13 again and answer the questions.

- a Which two visual figures can also show trends?
b Which of the visuals is best for high levels of detail?
c Which visual helps highlight proportions or parts within a whole data set?
d Which visual helps highlight comparisons between different categories of a data set?

Technique

Line graphs are useful for showing overall trends. There are four other types of visual you might write about in Task 1: bar chart, pie chart, process diagram, table.

