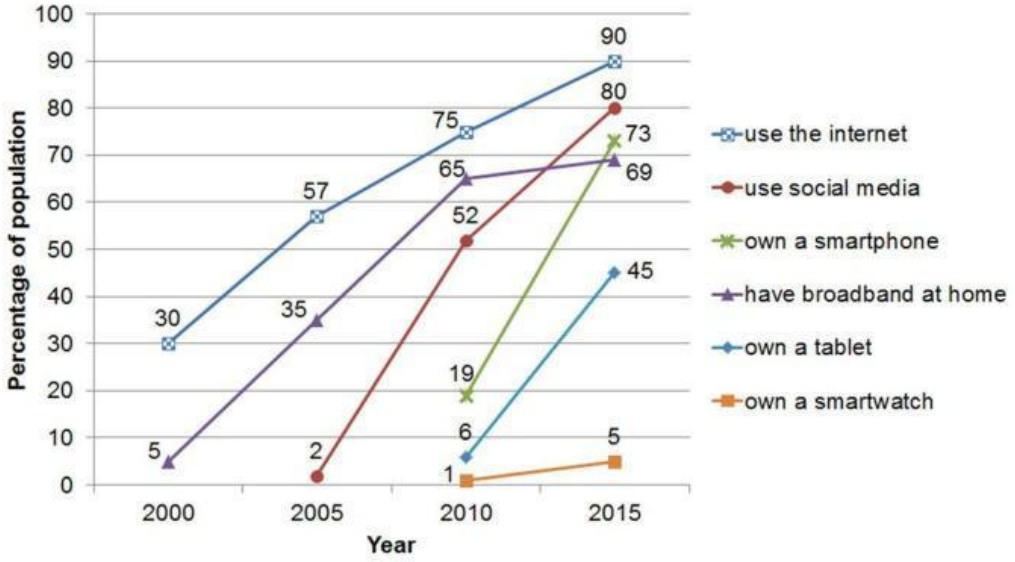
Exam question

The graph shows information about technology usage in the UK over time. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features. Make comparisons where relevant.



The graph shows the rate at which British people adopted new technology over a 15-year period from 2000 to 2015. The figures are given as percentages of the population.

Overall, there was widespread adoption of new technology during these years. Nearly nine out of ten people in the UK were online by 2015. The figures for having broadband in the home, ownership of a smartphone and use of social media platforms were all high that year too, at around 70 to 80 per cent, and nearly half the population owned a tablet. The only exception to this is smartwatch ownership, which remained comparatively low at 5 per cent.

If we look at the trends over time, we can see that the uptake of new technology increased dramatically in this period. For example, internet usage tripled and social media usage grew strikingly by 78 percentage points. Smartphones and tablets appeared in 2010 and, similarly, these followed a steep upward trajectory. However, for some products, the graph shows that growth slowed down noticeably after an initial surge. Social media usage, for instance, was near zero in 2005 and shot up to 52 per cent in 2010, before climbing more slowly to 80 percent in 2015. Also, broadband subscriptions rose steadily by 30 percentage points every five years to 2010, but by a modest 4 percentage points after then. In contrast, the newer technologies such as tablets showed no sign of levelling off.

Ownership of all the technologies was increasing; it will be interesting to see when it peaks.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

IELTS WRITING TASK 1

Describing a graph of trends over time

Fill the gaps with the correct adjective or adverb from the box.

modest/ steadily/ sharp/dramatically/ Notably/ negligible

1. There was a …….. increase in profits last year. (sudden, big change)

2. Numbers of young people using the product grew …….. . (change at a consistent rate)

3. Sales declined …….. , despite increased advertising. (big change)

4. The difference between the figures for 2012 and 2013 was …….. . (practically no difference)

5. The graph shows a …….. rise over the spring and summer period. (small change)

6. ……., production was moved out of the country before 2015. (important change)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

IELTS WRITING TASK 1

Describing a graph of trends over time

Complete the second sentence so that it has the same meaning as the first. You should write one, two or three words.

1. Sales grew rapidly in the first quarter, then slowed down considerably.

The ……..…… sales was rapid in the first quarter, then slowed down considerably.

2. There was a lot of fluctuation in their income between 2014 and 2016.

Their income ……..…… between 2014 and 2016.

3. The popularity of the sport declined considerably over the following few years.

There was a …….. in the popularity of the sport over the following few years.

4. Ownership of tablets surged dramatically between October and December.

There was a …….. ownership of tablets between October and December.

5. There was a gradual increase in levels of interest after 2013.

Levels of interest ……..……. after 2013.

6. Despite the levelling-off of sales in 2012, production was increased.

Although sales ……..…….. in 2012, production was increased.

7. There was a significant decline in profits in the second quarter.

Profits ……..…… the second quarter.

8. The price suddenly surged at the end of 2016.

The price ……..…….. up at the end of 2016.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS