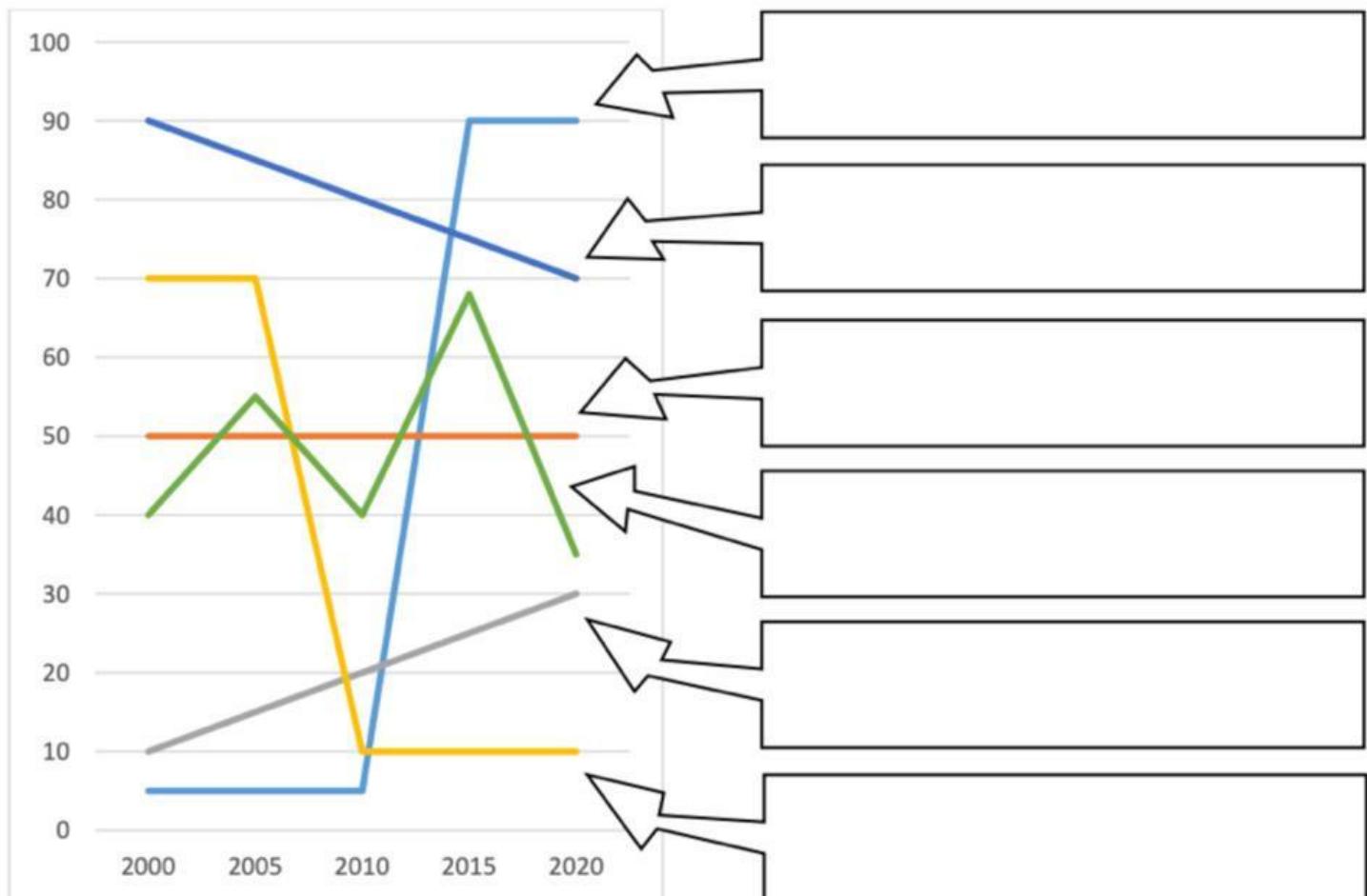


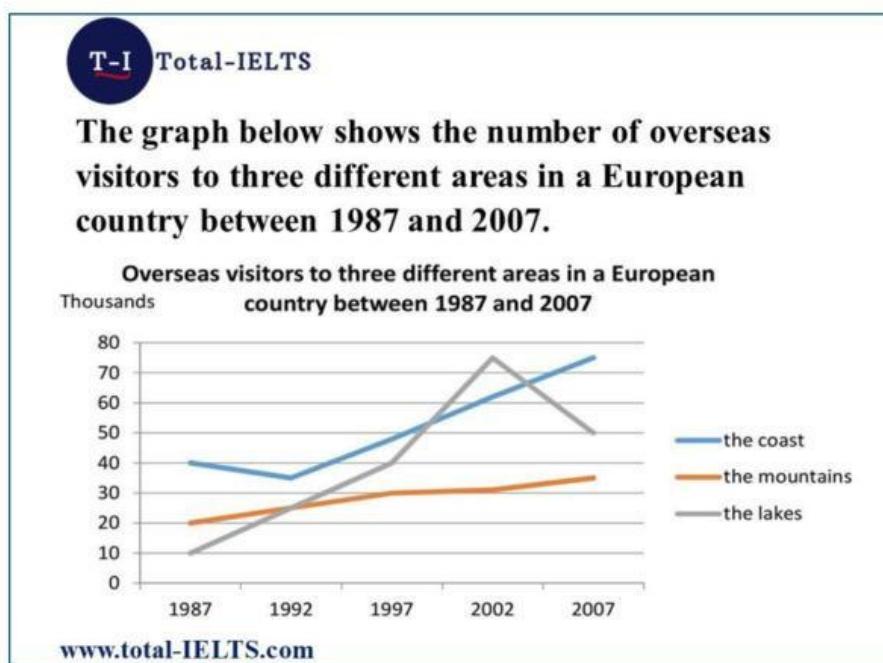
Name: _____ Class: _____

Complete the blanks by filling the word or phrase

stay the same fluctuate decrease gradually fall dramatically rise steadily
rise sharply decrease considerably increase significantly remain constant
decrease suddenly increase rapidly be inconsistent fall abruptly rise slightly



Complete the sentence by filling the missing word.



The line graph illustrates the number of overseas visitors to three different areas—the coast, the mountains, and the lakes—in a European country over a 20-year period, from 1987 to 2007. The figures are given in thousands.

Overall, the number of visitors to all three areas increased over the period, although the lakes _____ after peaking in 2002. The coast was the most popular destination by the end of the period.

In 1987, the coast attracted the highest number of overseas visitors, with approximately 40,000 people, followed by the mountains with around 20,000. The lakes were the least visited, drawing only about 10,000 tourists. However, by 2002, the lakes had _____ to around 75,000 visitors, overtaking both the mountains and the coast. After this peak, the number _____ to 50,000 in 2007.

In contrast, the coast _____ in the early years, declining to 35,000 in 1992, before _____ to reach the highest point of approximately 75,000 visitors by 2007. The mountains showed _____, starting from 20,000 in 1987 and ending at about 35,000 in 2007, without any _____.

In summary, while all three areas saw growth in tourist numbers over the period, the coast maintained steady growth and ended as the top destination, whereas the lakes had a volatile trend, and the mountains remained the least visited throughout.

Read and answer the question

In the modern world, there has been a **steady shift** in language learning methods, moving from traditional classroom instruction to technology-based approaches. Textbooks and grammar drills are **gradually giving way** to interactive apps, video content, and AI-powered platforms. This change began as a **subtle**, even **barely perceptible** evolution in learning preferences, but the impact is now **noticeable** (Smith, 2022). Online language-learning platforms have **grown substantially** in popularity, especially during the pandemic era, though their initial rise went **entirely unnoticed** by mainstream education systems (Jones, 2021).

The influence of digital tools is now **hugely significant**, as mobile and immersive methods are **taking hold** globally. The use of language apps is clearly **on the increase**, driven by an **ongoing** demand for flexible, personalized education (Brown & Lee, 2020). With a **rapid rise** in users, these platforms are leaving a **lasting** mark on how people acquire and retain language.

Yet, despite these advances, many learners still **struggle with** practical fluency. After periods of inactivity, their skills become **rusty**, prompting the need to **brush up on** vocabulary and grammar. To truly progress, students must **get to grips with** complex structures and **immerse themselves in** authentic contexts. Ultimately, the ability to **hold a conversation** with confidence remains one of the most valuable—and achievable—goals in language learning (Taylor, 2023).

1. What does the phrase “gradually giving way” in the passage most nearly mean?
 - a) Suddenly replacing something
 - b) Being slowly replaced by something else
 - c) Becoming more powerful over time
 - d) Supporting an existing system

2. According to the passage, why did the rise of online language platforms go “entirely unnoticed” at first?
 - a) They were not effective enough to be recognized.
 - b) Learners preferred traditional methods.
 - c) Mainstream education systems didn’t initially acknowledge them.
 - d) There was no technology available to support them.

3. What can be inferred about students whose language skills have become “rusty”?
 - a) They never practiced the language.
 - b) They improved quickly with new technology.
 - c) They avoided using grammar rules.
 - d) They haven’t practiced in a while and need to refresh their skills.

Name: _____ Class: _____

4. Why does the author use the phrase “taking hold” to describe digital tools?
 - a) To show they are being rejected by users
 - b) To emphasize their rapid failure
 - c) To highlight that they are becoming firmly established
 - d) To suggest they are too difficult to use

5. What is the central idea of the passage?
 - a) Language learning is no longer necessary in the digital age.
 - b) Traditional language learning methods are still the best approach.
 - c) Language learners now only use mobile apps.
 - d) There has been a major shift toward digital language learning, which presents both opportunities and challenges.