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.

_____.

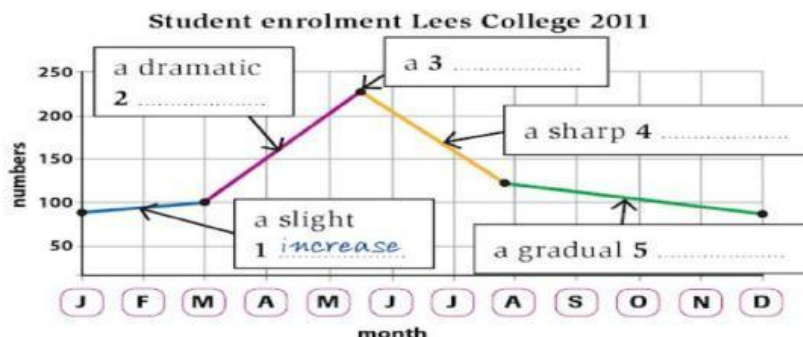i. The quality of food in supermarkets has increased slowly.

_____.

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 <mark>LANGUAGE REFERENCE</mark>*.*

Student enrolment Lees College 2011

a dramatic 2 ....

a 3 ....

a sharp 4 ....

a slight 1 *increase*

a gradual 5 ....

J F M A M J J A S O N D

month

numbers

250 200 150 100 50

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**...........................in numbers over the next three months. In June, enrolments reached a **3** ………………….. After that, there was a **4**................................ in numbers. Finally, there was a **5**..............................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, insprite 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.*
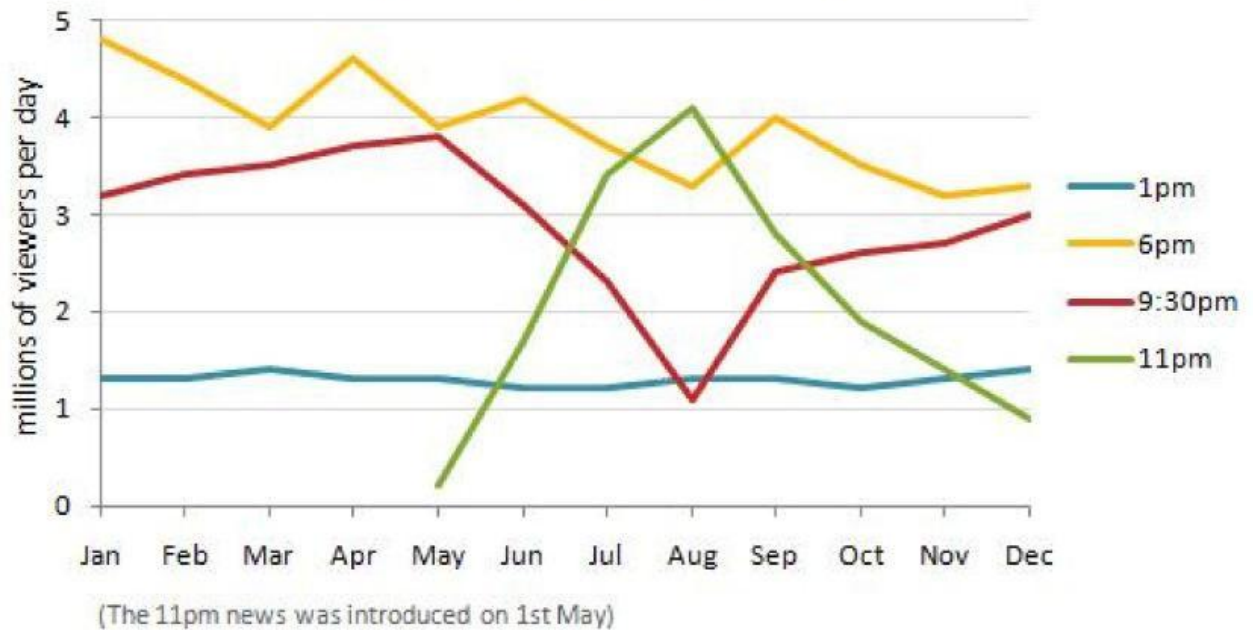
5. Until

*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

millions of viewers per day

Legend:
- 1pm
- 6pm
- 9:30pm
- 11pm

(The 11pm news was introduced on 1st May)

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

----

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

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.

_____