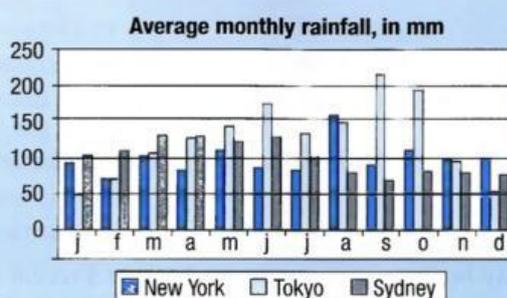
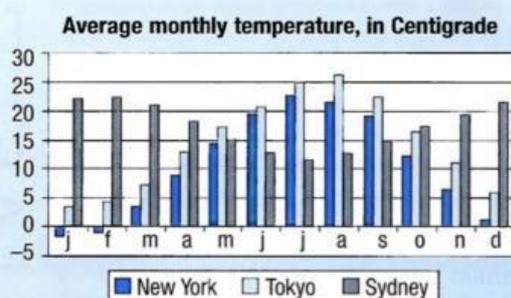


LANGUAGE OF COMPARISON

1 Read the task and the student's response. Write *S* if the meaning is the same, or *D* if it is different.

Academic writing, task 1

The charts below show average monthly rainfall and temperatures in three cities: New York, Tokyo and Sydney. Write a report for a university lecturer describing the information below.



The information in the first chart compares average temperatures in New York, Tokyo and Sydney. We can see that January and February are the hottest months in Sydney, but the coldest in New York and Tokyo. In Tokyo, Winter temperatures are warmer than in New York, but the warmest Winters are in Sydney. Sydney also has the least variation in temperature of the three cities, while New York is the most extreme. Tokyo is around 6° hotter than New York in the middle of Summer, making it the hottest city of all.

The second chart shows the average amount of rain the cities get each month. Patterns of rainfall vary more widely than temperatures. September in Tokyo is the rainiest month on the chart, with more than 200 mm on average. However, it is slightly less rainy than New York in August. Sydney is much drier than Tokyo in September, and a little drier than New York. Rainfall in Tokyo is the most variable, with a minimum in January of 50 mm, showing a difference of around 150 mm between January and September.

- 1 When Sydney is hot, the other cities are cold. S
- 2 Temperatures in Sydney change more than in Tokyo and New York.
- 3 Average monthly rainfall is easier to predict than temperatures.
- 4 New York is drier than Tokyo in September, but wetter in August.
- 5 In September, there is not much difference in rainfall between New York and Sydney.

There are a number of common words and phrases that we use to make comparisons:

Compare sth (to/ with sth), as opposed to

The graph *compares* the crime rates in Japan and the US.

It's impossible to *compare* modern films *with* those made maybe 20 years ago.

Compared to/ with sth

Women's income rose by 31%, *compared to* only 13% for men. (**not comparing to**)

In comparison (to/ with sth)

US workers get very little holiday *in comparison with* their European counterparts.
After two weeks in a tent, the simple little hotel seemed luxurious *in comparison*.

Sth + be + adj-er/ more + adj than sth // S + V + more/ less/ fewer + N + than S'

Prague has *more* churches *than* any other European city.

Sth + be + double/ half ... that of sth // x times as high as ...

Britain's population density is *double that of* China. (not compared to)

highest / second highest / lowest

The London underground is **the oldest system**, having opened in 1863. It is also **the largest** system, with 394 kilometres of route. **The second largest** system, in Paris, is only about half the size of the London underground, with 199 kilometres of route.

While/ Whereas

Girls are much more likely than boys to play sports. *While* around 18% of girls enjoy playing sports, only 10% of boys do so.

Followed by

Oil consumption in Japan was highest, at 70 million tones, followed (distantly < closely) by Canada (35 million) and the UAE (20 million).

We use **in contrast to, by/ in contrast** introduce a fact or idea which is very different from what has already been mentioned. Notice the position of the phrases in the sentence:
Questionnaires produce only limited responses. Interviews, in contrast, are time-consuming but allow for further replies.

In Britain only 9% of over sixties live with their families, in contrast to 29% in Japan.

2. Are these sentences right or wrong? Correct those which are wrong. If the sentence is right, don't write anything

1. 66.6 million people traveled abroad in 2007, comparing to 64.6 million in 2006.

Wrong part: → Correction

2. Non-smokers' risk of heart attacks is roughly half that of people who smoke.

Wrong part: → Correction

3. In comparative with other writers, she uses very simple, everyday language.

Wrong part: → Correction

4. The pass rate was over 70% in 2005, compared to 62% in 1990.

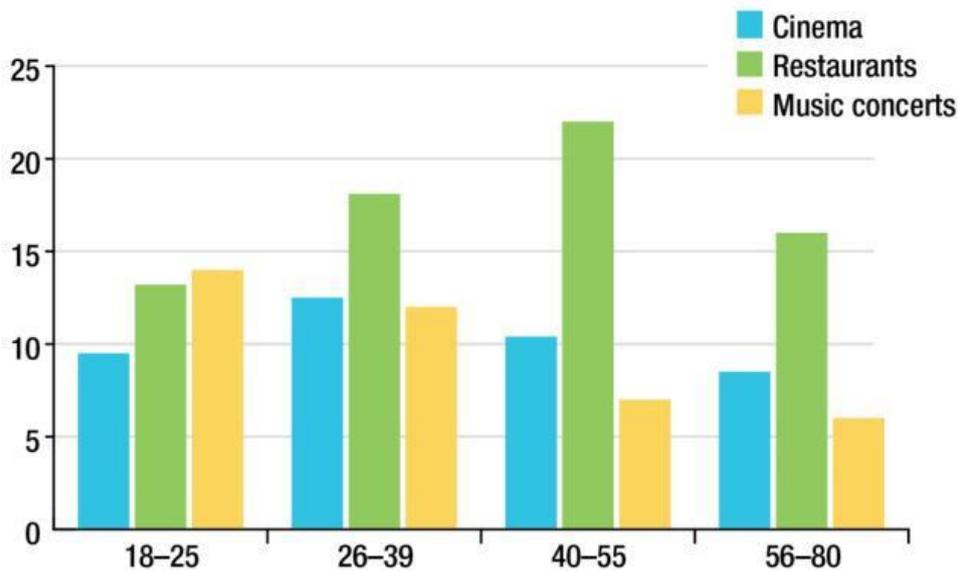
Wrong part: → Correction

5. Many more crimes were committed by males compared to females.

Wrong part: → Correction

3. The bar chart compares the amount of money (in millions of dollars) that people in four different age groups from Seoul, South Korea, spent on going to the cinema, restaurants and music concerts in 2014.

Choose the correct answers to complete the statements.



1. The 26-39 age group spent less than the 40-55 age group on going to _____
2. The 18-25 age group spent _____ on going to music concerts.
3. The 56-80 age group spent the least of their money on going to _____
4. The 26-39 age group spent about the same on going to _____
5. The 40-55 age group spent _____ on going to the cinema.