E. WRITING

Exercise 1. How much do you already know about IELTS Writing Task 1? Are the following statements True or False? Choose the correct answers.

1 You should spend 40 minutes on Task 1.

◯ True ◯ False

2 You will be asked to describe a chart, table, map or diagram.

◯ True ◯ False

3 You should include your opinions in the report.

◯ True ◯ False

4 You should write at least 150 words.

◯ True ◯ False

5 You must include every detail given in the information in your answer.

◯ True ◯ False

Exercise 2 :

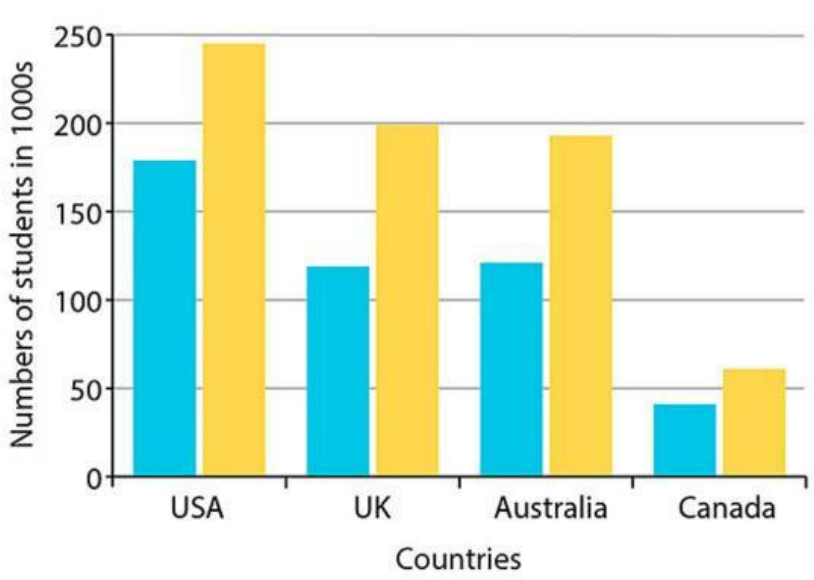
In IELTS Writing Task 1, you may be asked to describe a bar chart. The opening paragraph should include the following information:

- *the type of chart or table*
- *what the information is about*
- *the date(s)*
- *the place(s)*
- *the unit(s) of measurement.*

Look at the bar chart and the table. Sentences 1–4 are opening paragraphs taken from four different reports. Read the paragraphs and decide if they contain all the necessary information. Match the comments in the box with the paragraphs.

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Foreign students in English-speaking countries



Foreign students as percentage of total student numbers

	2004	2012
USA	2%	2%
UK	9%	13%
Australia	19%	24%
Canada	5%	7%

All information is mentioned.

The number of countries is not mentioned.

The unit of measurement is not mentioned.

The years are not mentioned.

The bar chart and table show information about students from abroad studying in four English-speaking countries in 2004 and 2012.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

1 The bar chart shows the number of foreign students studying in the USA, the UK, Australia and Canada, while the table shows foreign students as a percentage of total student numbers in the countries.

2 The bar chart shows the number of foreign students studying in four English-speaking countries in the years 2004 and 2012, while the table shows foreign students as a percentage of total student numbers in the countries.

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3 The bar chart shows the number of foreign students studying in English-speaking countries in 2004 and 2012, while the table shows foreign students as a percentage of total student numbers in the countries.

4 The bar chart and the table show the changes in foreign student numbers between 2004 and 2012 in the USA, the UK, Australia and Canada.

Exercise 3 :

When describing charts and tables, we need to think about what information to include and which paragraph to put the information in.

Choose the correct paragraph (A, B or C), for the statements (1–5).

A

The bar chart shows the number of foreign students studying in four English-speaking countries in the years 2004 and 2012, while the table shows foreign students as a percentage of total student numbers in the countries. We can see that the overall trend is an increase in the number and percentage of international students in most countries.

B

Starting with the number of students, the USA had the most foreign students, rising from approximately 179,000 in 2004 to around 245,000 in 2012. The figures for Australia and the UK were similar, increasing from around 120,000 to almost 200,000. Canada had a significantly lower number of overseas students than the other countries, with about 41,000 in 2004 and approximately 61,000 in 2012.

C

Next, if we look at foreign students as a percentage of total student numbers, we can see that percentages increased for all countries, with the exception of the USA. The percentage of foreign students was highest in Australia at 24% of total student numbers in 2012. In contrast, in the USA, the percentage of foreign students remained stable at 2%, which was the lowest percentage of all four countries.

This paragraph ...

1 gives a summary of the most important information._____

2 tells us about the important data (percentage) changes shown in the table._____

3 describes what the bar chart and table are about and what information they show._____

4 includes the important data (numbers) from the bar chart._____

5 tells us what type of chart is being described._____

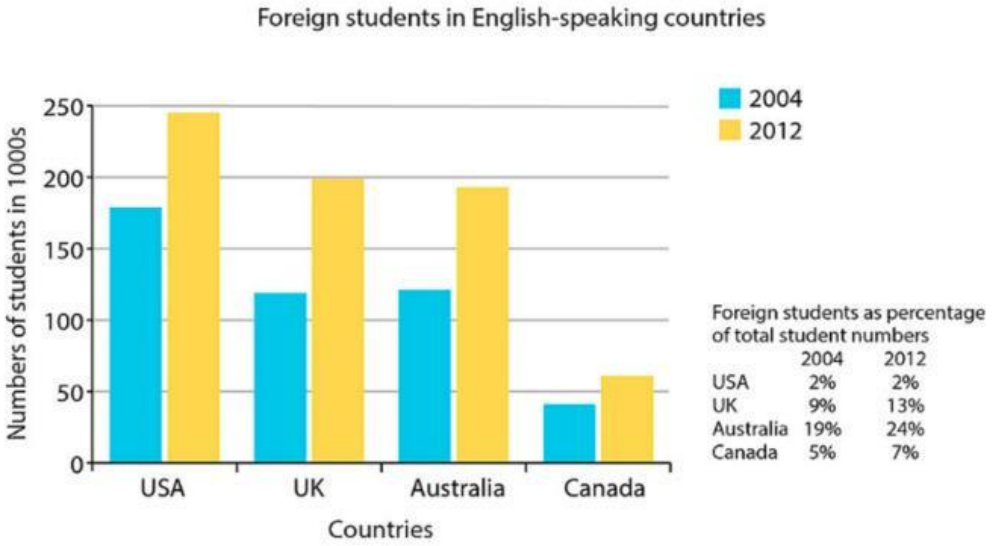
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Exercise 4 :

In IELTS Writing Task 1, you need to decide what information is important. The key information is:

- *the main trend*
- *something which doesn't follow a trend*
- *highs, lows and equal points.*

Look at the sentences from the essay and choose the correct answers. More than one answer may be possible.



Foreign students as percentage of total student numbers

	2004	2012
USA	2%	2%
UK	9%	13%
Australia	19%	24%
Canada	5%	7%

	the main trend	something which doesn't follow a trend	highs, lows and equal points
1 The USA had the highest number of foreign students.	☐	☐	☐
2 Canada had significantly lower student numbers than the other countries with around 41,000 in 2004 and approximately 61,000 in 2012.	☐	☐	☐
3 However, in the USA, the percentage of foreign students remained the same.	☐	☐	☐
4 There was an increase in both the number, and percentage, of international students in all but one of the countries.	☐	☐	☐
5 Foreign students, as a percentage of total student numbers, was highest in Australia and lowest in the USA.	☐	☐	☐

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Exercise 5 :

Look at the bar chart and table again. Then read the statements and decide if they contain key information or not. Choose Yes or No.

1 The USA had the highest number of foreign students. YES/ NO

2 In Canada, foreign students, as a percentage of total student numbers, rose between 2004 and 2012. YES/ NO

3 The number of students increased in all the countries. YES/ NO

4 The UK had the second lowest percentage of foreign students as a percentage of total student numbers in 2004. YES/ NO

5 However, in the USA, overseas students, as a percentage of total student numbers, remained the same. YES/ NO

6 The number of foreign students in Canada was much lower than in the other countries. YES/ NO

7 Foreign students, as a percentage of total student numbers, in Canada in 2012, was the second highest. YES/ NO

8 The numbers of foreign students in the UK and Australia were very similar. YES/ NO

Exercise 6 :

Look at the bar chart and table again. Then read the statements and decide if they are True or False.

1 The UK had the second highest number of foreign students in both years.

◯ True ◯ False

2 The number of foreign students in Canada rose by just under 50%.

◯ True ◯ False

3 There were over 80,000 more foreign students in the UK in 2012 than in 2004.

◯ True ◯ False

4 In the USA, foreign students, as a percentage of total student numbers, fell during the period.

◯ True ◯ False

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5 In Australia, foreign students, as a percentage of total student numbers, was the highest of all countries in both years.

◯ True ◯ False

6 In Canada, foreign students, as a percentage of total student numbers, was the lowest in both years.

◯ True ◯ False

7 There were nearly 300,000 foreign students in the USA in 2012.

◯ True ◯ False

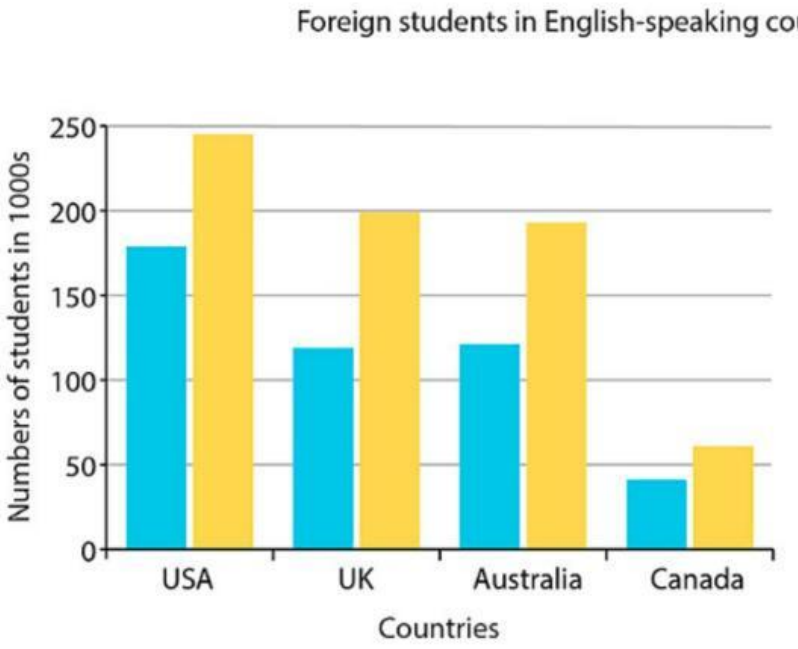
8 The rise in student numbers in the UK was approximately four times greater than in Canada.

◯ True ◯ False

Exercise 7 :

It is important that you support the information with accurate numbers (data) when completing IELTS Writing Task 1.

Look at the bar chart and table. Then put the numbers in the correct gaps to complete the sentences.



Foreign students as percentage of total student numbers

	2004	2012
USA	2%	2%
UK	9%	13%
Australia	19%	24%
Canada	5%	7%

LIVEWORKSHEETS

120,000 | 2 | 24 | 245,000 | 61,000

1 The USA had the most foreign students, rising from approximately 179,000 in 2004 to around _____ in 2012.

2 The percentage of foreign students in the USA was lowest of all countries during both years, at _____ %.

3 The percentage of foreign students was highest in Australia at _____ % of total student numbers in 2012.

4 Canada had the lowest number of overseas students in both years, with 41,000 in 2004 and approximately _____ in 2012.

5 Student numbers in Australia and the UK were similar in 2004, at around _____ .

Exercise 8 :

Look at the bar chart and table again. Then complete the report with the correct numbers in the box (some numbers you can use more than once).

2% | 200,000 | 2004 | 2012 | 41,000

The bar chart shows the number of foreign students studying in four English-speaking countries in the years _____ and _____ , while the table shows foreign students as a percentage of total student numbers in the countries. We can see that the overall trend is an increase in both the number and percentage of international students in most countries.

Starting with the number of students, the USA had the most foreign students, rising from approximately 179,000 in _____ to around 245,000 in _____ . The figures for Australia and the UK were similar, increasing from around 120,000 to almost _____ . Canada had a significantly lower number of overseas students than the other countries, with about _____ in 2004 and approximately 61,000 in 2012.

Next, if we look at the percentage of foreign students, we can see that percentages increased for all countries, with the exception of the USA. The percentage of foreign students was highest in Australia at 24% of total student numbers in 2012. In the USA, the percentage of foreign students remained stable at _____ , which was the lowest percentage of all four countries.

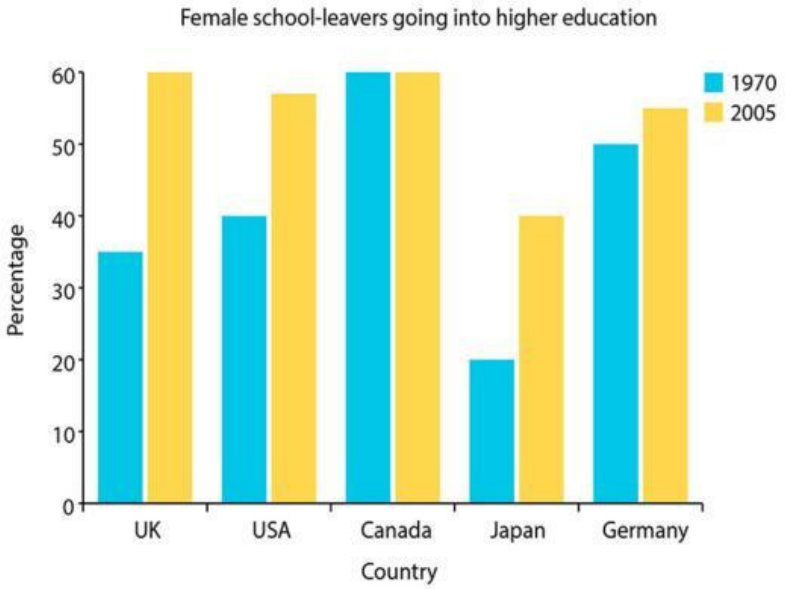
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Exercise 9: Look at the IELTS Writing Task 1 question.

The chart gives information on the percentage of women going into higher education in five countries for the years 1970 and 2005.

***Summarise** the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and **make comparisons** where relevant.*

Then read the statements below and decide which points need to be included in your report. Choose the correct answers.



	Yes	No
1 The UK figure was 60% in 2005.	○	○
2 In Germany, the percentage increased from 50% to 55%.	○	○
3 The percentage of women studying in the UK rose from approximately 35% to 60%.	○	○
4 The overall proportion of women in higher education increased in all five countries.	○	○
5 The percentage of women studying in higher education in Japan doubled.	○	○
6 The percentage of women studying in the USA rose from 40% to 55%.	○	○
7 In 2005, 40% of female school-leavers didn't go into higher education in Canada.	○	○
8 Changes were a result of wider social changes.	○	○
9 Canada's percentage was the same in both years.	○	○
10 Canada had the highest percentage in both years.	○	○

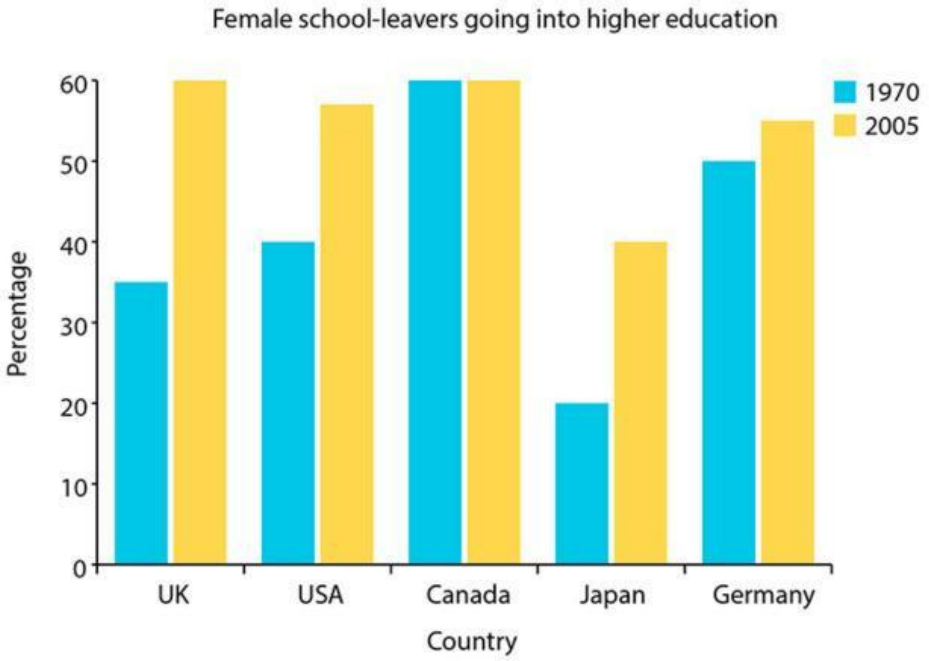
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Exercise 10 :

WRITING TASK 1
You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The chart gives information on the percentage of women going into higher education in five countries for the years 1970 and 2005.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and **make comparisons** where relevant.
Write at least 150 words.



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