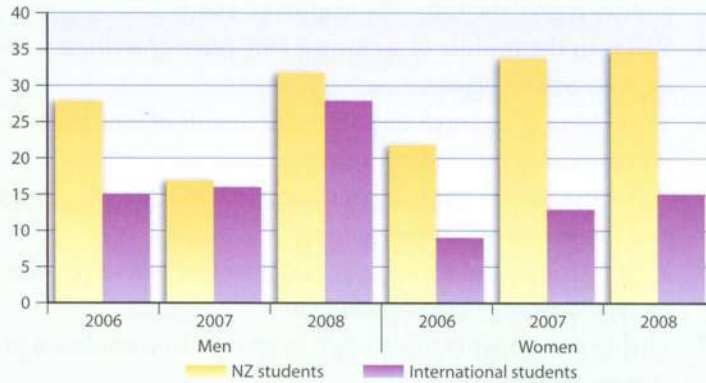


Graphs, charts, trends

1 Choose the answer (A, B, C or D) that best fits each space.



New Zealand and International students, 2006–8

The bar chart (1) the number of male and female students (2) science subjects at Northland College, New Zealand (3) three years, and also (4) whether they were New Zealanders or international students. (5) to the number of New Zealanders, the number of international students was (6) smaller. Nevertheless, there was clear statistical growth in the (7) group from 2007–2009. Furthermore, the number of female students from New Zealand eventually (8) the number of males from the same country, (9) a high of 35 students in 2009. 2008 (10) the most dramatic developments, (11) the number of male New Zealanders dropping from just (12) 30 students to 17, and the number of female New Zealanders increasing from 23 to 34. There was also (13) growth in the number of male students from overseas, climbing from 15 in 2007 to 27 in 2009. Overall, we can see a(n) (14) trend in the number of students at the college.

- | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1 A points | B draws | C examines | D illustrates |
| 2 A study | B studies | C studying | D studied |
| 3 A during | B over | C through | D since |
| 4 A indicates | B tells | C regards | D underlines |
| 5 A Compared | B Comparing | C Comparison | D Comparative |
| 6 A slightly | B really | C significantly | D marginally |
| 7 A last | B least | C latter | D later |
| 8 A outweighed | B overtook | C extended | D upturned |
| 9 A getting | B aiming | C finding | D reaching |
| 10 A met | B existed | C happened | D saw |
| 11 A and | B with | C for | D but |
| 12 A under | B less | C minus | D before |
| 13 A noticed | B noticing | C notable | D noted |
| 14 A upward | B general | C irregular | D stable |

2 Add synonyms to each verb in 1–7 below.

go up	dive	be unpredictable	climb	stay constant
drop	plunge	shoot up	hold steady	reach a high point
slump	rise	grow	rocket	fall
				jump

- 1 to increase *go up*
- 2 to decrease
- 3 to remain stable
- 4 to fluctuate
- 5 to soar
- 6 to plummet
- 7 to reach a peak

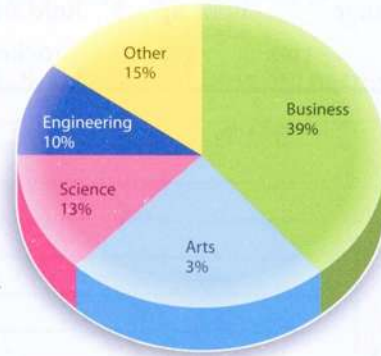
3 Underline the two adverbs that have a similar meaning.

- 1 Sales figures dropped *sharply/suddenly/gradually* in April of 2007.
- 2 The amount of time spent on leisure activities was *exactly/approximately/roughly* 20%.
- 3 Membership rose *steeply/slightly/significantly* during the summer months.
- 4 The number of accidents fell *rapidly/steadily/progressively* during 2009.
- 5 The percentage was *relatively/comparatively/marginally* higher in the following year.
- 6 The figure in 1997 was *vastly/somewhat/rather* lower compared to the 1996 figure.

4 Rewrite the first sentence by changing the verb in *italics* into a noun, any adverb in *italics* into an adjective, and making any other necessary changes.

- 1 The number of people owning mobile phones *rose dramatically* between 1990 and 1995.
There *was a dramatic rise in* the number of people owning mobile phones between 1990 and 1995.
- 2 Migration from rural regions to urban centres *has levelled out* over the last ten years.
Over the last ten years there migration from rural regions to urban centres.
- 3 The amount of time spent on leisure activities *fell slightly* in 2008.
2008 saw the amount of time spent on leisure activities.
- 4 Newspaper circulation during the 1990s *fluctuated considerably*.
There newspaper circulation during the 1990s.
- 5 The rate of applications for the nursing profession *plateaued* between 2001 to 2007.
The rate of applications for the nursing profession between 2001 to 2007.

5 Choose the answer (A, B, C or D) that best fits each space to complete the information about the pie chart.



Percentage of students by subject

The pie chart illustrates the (1) of foundation-year students following different subjects in 2009. We can see that (2) the greatest (3) of students were taking business-related courses. The (4) highest group were students taking Arts subjects, and these (5) 23% of the total. Science-programme students made (6) 13%, and the smallest group, the Engineering students, (7) 10%.

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1 | A proportion | B sector | C size | D variety |
| 2 | A as for | B by far | C much more | D about |
| 3 | A amount | B part | C fraction | D percentage |
| 4 | A following | B less | C after | D second |
| 5 | A added up | B worked out | C accounted for | D counted towards |
| 6 | A with | B up | C by | D from |
| 7 | A contained | B composed | C comprised | D consisted |

6 Underline the two or three linking words in *italics* which make sense.

- Whereas/Although/While* the number of students taking Business subjects remained approximately the same, the number taking Arts subjects rose from the previous year.
- Comparing/Compared/In comparison* with the previous year, the number of Engineering students fell slightly, from 10 to 6%.
- The number of female students slowly declined *while/but/whilst* the number of male students went up sharply.
- Regarding/Concerning/As for* the number of international students, the trend was unpredictable throughout the period 1995-2005.
- In total/All in all/Overall*, there was a generally downward trend in the number of students enrolling for Social Sciences.

7 Look at the language for describing a trend in bold in the first sentence. Choose the correct meaning in *italics* in the second sentence.

- 1 In the 1960s, we began to see **a swing away from** the traditional view that women should be homemakers.
People were *holding on to/beginning to reject* their traditional view.
- 2 There has been **a backlash against** the government response to the flu pandemic. The public are generally *supportive/critical* of the government's response.
- 3 Critics of biometric data collection suggest it **is a move towards** the loss of personal freedom.
The loss of personal freedom is *becoming more likely/will now occur*.
- 4 Figures continued to rise steadily throughout the 1990s. **An exception to** this trend was a brief dip in the first quarter of 1994.
The first quarter of 1994 was *a good example of/not included in* this trend.
- 5 Over the last few years, there has been **a resurgence** of interest in Gothic literature. People have *gradually become less /suddenly become more* interested.
- 6 It remains to be seen whether this new approach to weight loss will **catch on**. This approach may *become popular/disappear rapidly*.
- 7 There is **a tendency amongst** men in this age group to neglect their health. The pattern of behaviour of men in this age group is *predictable/unpredictable*.
- 8 The **long-term outlook** for this species is still uncertain. The possible *future/past* situation regarding the species is not known.
- 9 In some countries, long-term partners are choosing not to have children. **What is behind this development?**
How can we explain this change?/What will the result be?
- 10 Since the 1970s, there has been a gradual **drift away from** the practice of the eldest son taking over the family farm.
It is becoming increasingly *common/rare* for the eldest son to take over the farm.