

MASTER IELTS REPORTS

Comparison Diagrams

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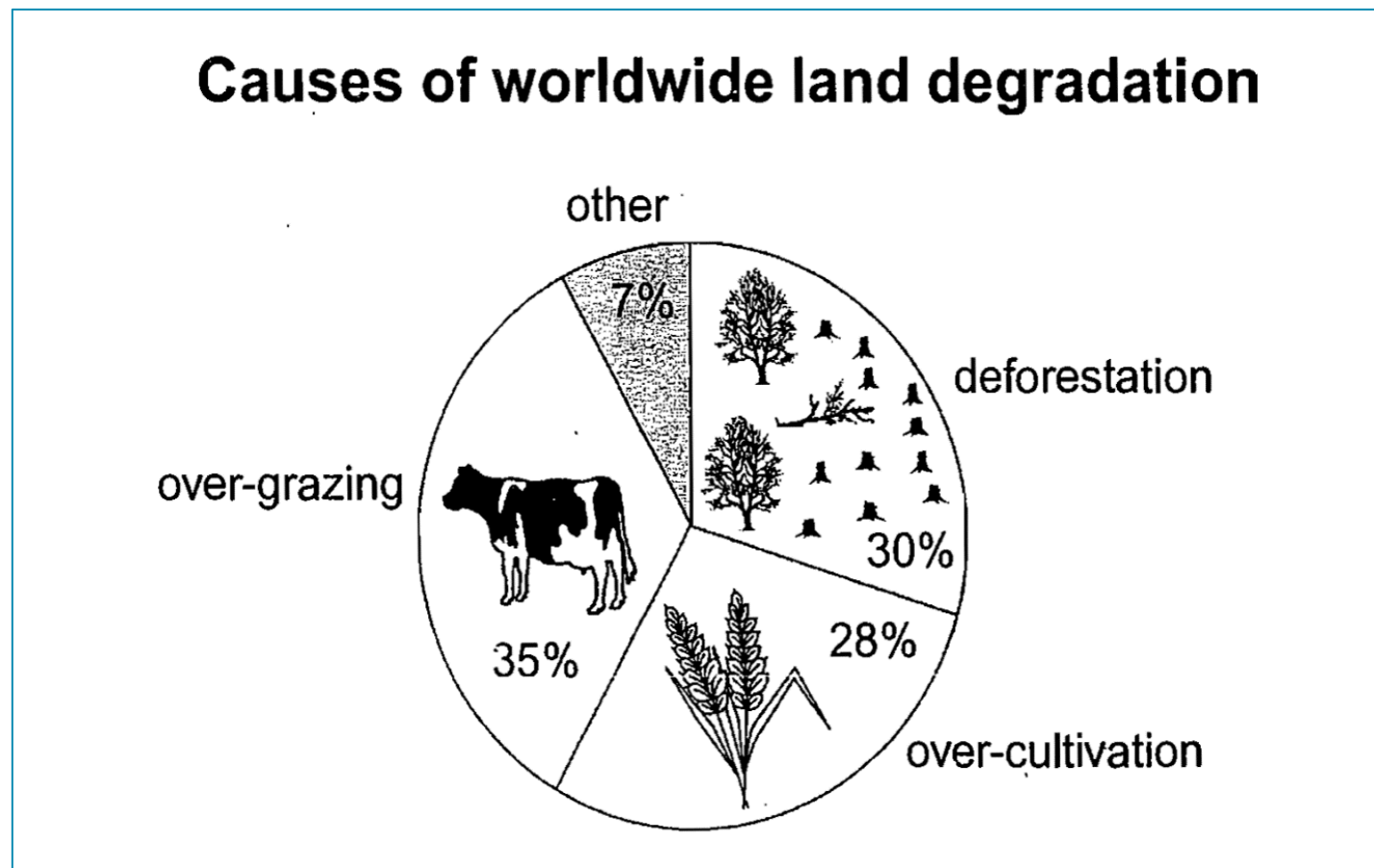
Major Comparisons



- Significant differences
- Insignificant differences (similar figures)
- Proportional differences
- Main ranks (1st, 2nd, last)

Choosing Your Framework

The pie chart below shows the main reasons why agricultural land becomes less productive.



Choosing Your Framework

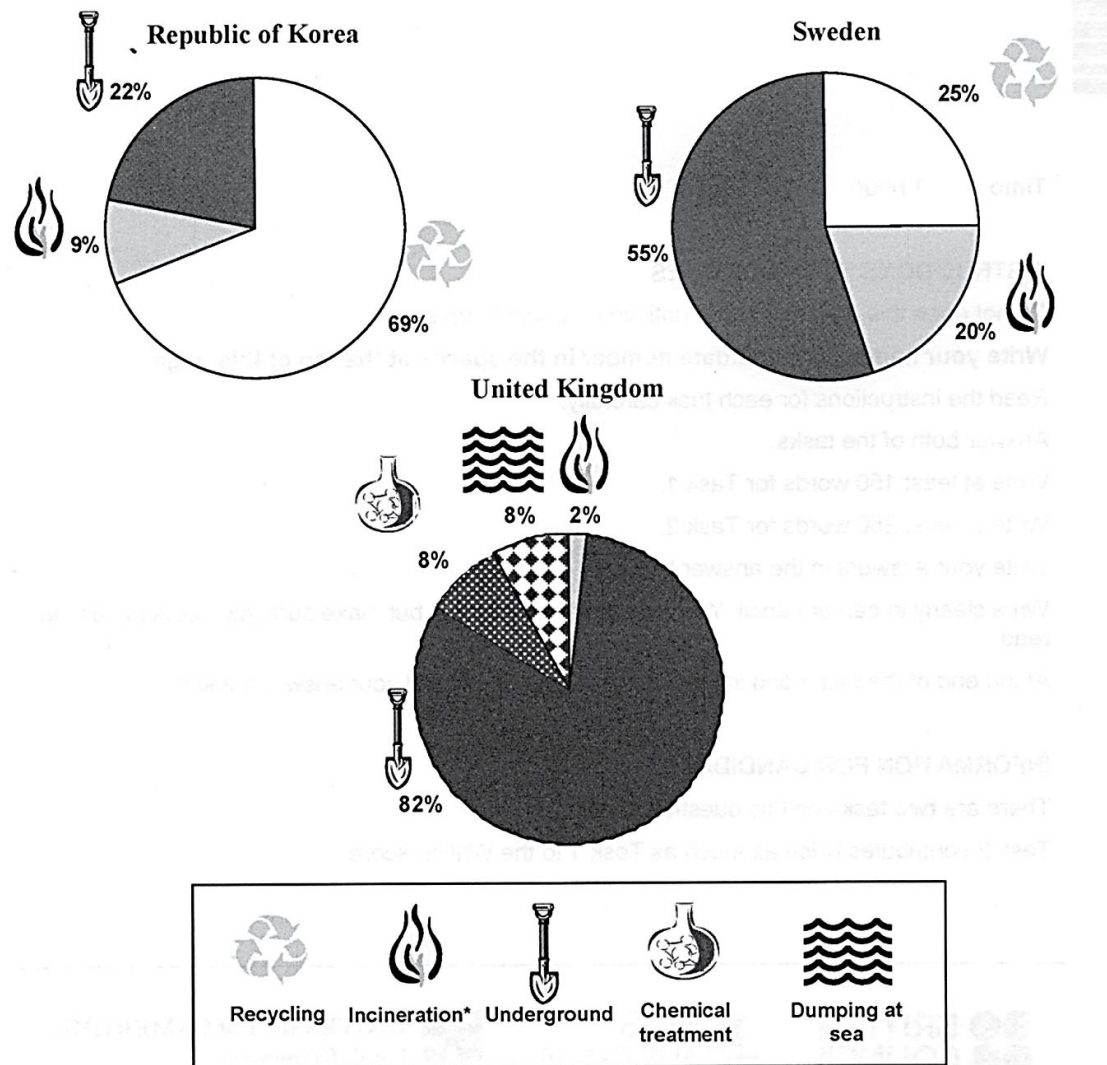


The table below shows social and economic indicators for four countries in 1994, according to United Nations statistics.

Indicators	Canada	Japan	Peru	Angola
Annual income per person (in \$US)	11100	15760	160	130
Life expectancy at birth (years)	76	78	51	47
Daily calorie supply per person	3326	2846	1927	1749
Adult literacy rate	99%	99%	68%	34%

Choosing Your Framework

The pie charts below show how dangerous waste products are dealt with in three countries.



* Incineration: a way of destroying something by fire

Choosing Your Framework

The table below gives information on consumer spending on different items in five different countries in 2002.

Country	Food/Drinks/ Tobacco	Clothing/ Footware	Leisure/ Education
Ireland	28.91%	6.43%	2.21%
Italy	16.36%	9.00%	3.20%
Spain	18.80%	6.51%	1.98%
Sweden	15.77%	5.40%	3.22%
Turkey	32.14%	6.63%	4.35%

Comparison Language: Introducing Differences (A)

Generally, there is	a significant difference	between a and b.
	a wide disparity	

Significant difference:

A vs. B: There was a significant difference between A and B.

A vs. B and C: There is a significant difference between A and B and C. 😞

→ There is a wide disparity between A **on the one hand**, and B and C **on the other**. 😊

Small difference:

There is little difference/disparity between...

There is no significant difference between...

Equal figures:

There is no difference/disparity between....

Introducing Differences (A)

Country	Food/Drinks/ Tobacco	Clothing/ Footware	Leisure/ Education
Ireland	28.91%	6.43%	2.21%
Italy	16.36%	9.00%	3.20%
Spain	18.80%	6.51%	1.98%
Sweden	15.77%	5.40%	3.22%
Turkey	32.14%	6.63%	4.35%

In terms of spending on food, drinks and tobacco, there was a significant difference between Turkey and Ireland on the one hand, and Spain, Italy and Sweden on the other,...

There was no significant difference between the figures for Sweden and Italy (3.22% and 3.22%, respectively).

Introducing Differences (A): Adding Figures



- There was little disparity between Italy and Sweden.
- There was little disparity between Sweden and Italy (3.22% and 3.20%, respectively).
- There was little disparity between Sweden and Italy at 3.22% and 3.20%, respectively.

CAREFUL! Avoid this:

- ~~- There was little disparity between Sweden at 3.22% and Italy at 3.20%.~~

Introducing Differences (A): Adding the Category Label

- **Only the first sentence of the category gets a label:**

- *In clothing and footwear, Italy allocated the largest percentage (9%). There was little difference between the figures for Turkey, Spain and Ireland at 6.63%, 6.51% and 6.43% respectively, while Sweden ranked last at 5.40%.*

- **If the first sentence of the paragraph is quite long, it is better to place the label (e.g. in leisure and education spending) at the beginning:**

- *There was a significant difference between Turkey and Ireland on the one hand, and Spain, Italy and Sweden on the other in food, drinks and tobacco. ❌*
 - *In food, drinks and tobacco there was a significant difference between Turkey and Ireland on the one hand, and Spain, Italy and Sweden on the other. ✅*
 - *There was a significant difference in food, drinks and tobacco spending between Turkey and Ireland on the one hand, and Spain, Italy and Sweden on the other. ✅*

Comparative Structures (B1)

1	A is x/ranks first at x, while B is larger/smaller A is x/ranks first at x, which is larger/smaller than B	by a narrow/wide margin. by a negligible/marginal x. by a considerable/substantial x.
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- Road A is 100 miles long, while road B is shorter by 20 miles, ranking last.
- Road A is 100 miles long, while road B is shorter by a narrow margin (80).
Road A is 100 miles long, while road B is shorter by a narrow margin, ranking last at 80.
Road A is 100 miles long, while road B is shorter by a negligible 20, ranking last.
- Benz stands first with 100000. *In contrast*, [the figure for] Volvo is smaller by 60000.X
- Benz stands first with 100000, while Volvo is smaller by 60000, ranking second.
Benz stands first with 100000, which is larger than Volvo in second place by 60000.
- Benz stands first with 100000, while Volvo is smaller by a substantial 60000, ranking second.
Benz stands first with 100000, which is larger than Volvo in second place by a substantial 60000.
- Benz stands first with 100000, while Volvo is smaller by a wide margin at 40000.
Benz stands first with 100000, which is larger than Volvo at 40000 by a wide margin.

Comparative Structures (B2)

2	A is	[approximately] x	larger/higher/greater [than B]. smaller/lower [than B].
		considerably/substantially marginally/slightly	

- Road A is 100 miles long, while road B is 20 miles shorter, ranking last.
- Road A is 100 miles long, while road B is slightly shorter (80)[, ranking last].
- Road A is 100 miles long, while road B is marginally shorter at 80[, ranking last].
- Road A is 100 miles long, which is marginally longer than road B at 80[, as the latter ranks last].

- Benz stands first with 100000, while Volvo is 60000 smaller, ranking second.
Benz stands first with 100000, which is 60000 more than Volvo in second place.
- Benz stands first with 100000, while Volvo is significantly smaller (40000)[, ranking second].
Benz stands first with 100000, while Volvo is significantly smaller at 40000[, ranking second].
- Benz stands first with 100000, which is significantly larger than Volvo at 40000.
Benz stands first with 100000, which is significantly larger than Volvo (40000)[as the latter ranks second].

Giving Further Information at the End of a Sentence

- **Referring to the last word in the clause: Adjective clause**

- Ireland was marginally larger than **Spain** (2.21% and 1.98%), **which** ranked last.

- **Shared subjects: participle clause**

- Ireland was 2.21%, while **Spain** was marginally smaller at 1.98% and ranked last. ☹️ compound structure

- Ireland was 2.21%, while **Spain** was marginally smaller at 1.98%, ranking last. 😊 complex structure

- **Spain** was marginally smaller than Ireland (1.98% and 2.21%, respectively), ranking last.

- **No shared subjects: AS or WITH**

- Ireland was 2.21%, which was marginally greater than Spain at 1.98%, as the latter ranked last. (normal adverb clause)

- Ireland was 2.21%, which was marginally greater than Spain at 1.98%, with the latter ranking last. (absolute construct with a participle)

CAREFUL! Avoid these:

- Spain at 1.98% was marginally smaller than Ireland at 2.21%. (Not common)

- Spain (1.98%) was marginally smaller than Ireland (2.21%). (Awkward: not normal)

Review: A, B1 & B2

A.

Generally, there is	a significant difference	between a and b.
	a wide disparity	

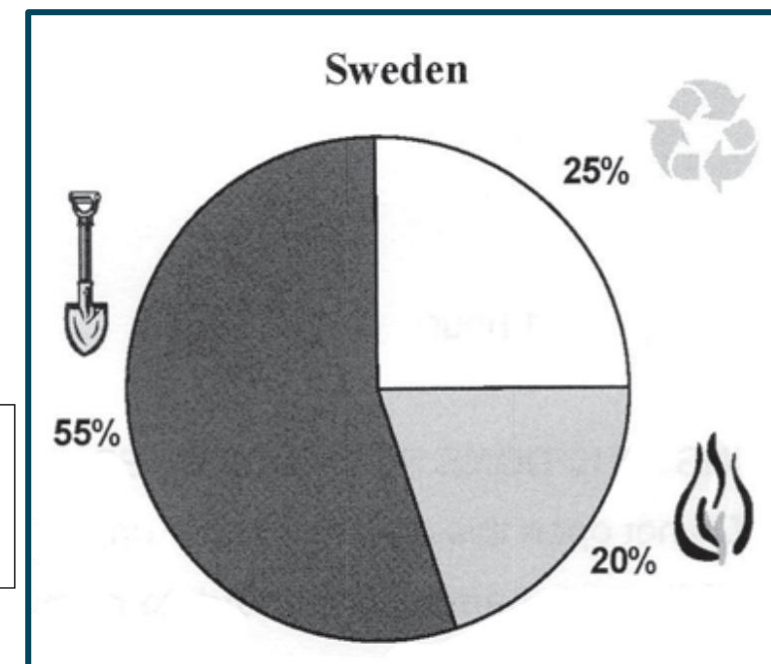
B.

1	A is x/ranks first at x, while B is larger/smaller A is x/ranks first at x, which is larger/smaller than B	by a narrow/wide margin. by a negligible/marginal x. by a considerable/substantial x.
---	---	---

2	A is	[approximately] x	larger/higher/greater [than B]. smaller/lower [than B].
		considerably/substantially marginally/slightly	

C.

1	A ranks/stands first/second/third/last.
---	---



Comparative Structures (B3)

3	A is	[almost/roughly /...]	as large/high as B.
---	------	-----------------------	---------------------

- Sweden was approximately/almost/nearly **as high as** Italy at 15.77% and 16.36%, respectively, ranking last.
- The figure for Italy was 16.36%, while Sweden was almost **as high** (15.77%), ranking last.
- The figure for Italy was 16.36%, while Sweden was almost as high. *[for band 7: less detail]*

- Sweden was **similar to/almost the same as/almost equal to** Italy at 15.77% and 16.36%, respectively, ranking last.
- Italy and Sweden **were similar** at 16.36% and 15.77%, respectively, with the latter ranking last.
- Italy and Sweden were approximately **the same** at 16.36% and 15.77%, respectively, with the latter ranking last.

- The shares of dumping at sea and chemical treatment are **equal/identical** at 8%.
- Dumping at sea and chemical treatment account for **equal** shares at 8%.

Comparative Structures (B4)

4	A is [under/over]	twice two/three times	as large/great/high as B.
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- The share of A is twice as large as B.
- The share of B is half as large as A.

-
- The length of A is twice as large as B.

BETTER → A is twice as long as B.

- B is half as long as A.

-
- The height of mountain A is twice as much/large as mountain B.

→ Mountain A is twice as tall as mountain B.

Mountain B is half as tall as mountain A.

In sentences, the last part is often deleted to avoid repetition:

A ranks first at 20%, while the share of B is half as high.

Twice, three times, etc + as much as/as many as

- We use *twice as much, three times as much*, etc to make comparisons between a larger and smaller quantity or number:

*There has been **twice as much** rain this year compared with last year.*

*There are **ten times as many** students here as in my old college.*

- (*Just*) *as much/many* means ‘an equal amount or number’:

*This machine uses **just as much** electricity as that one.*

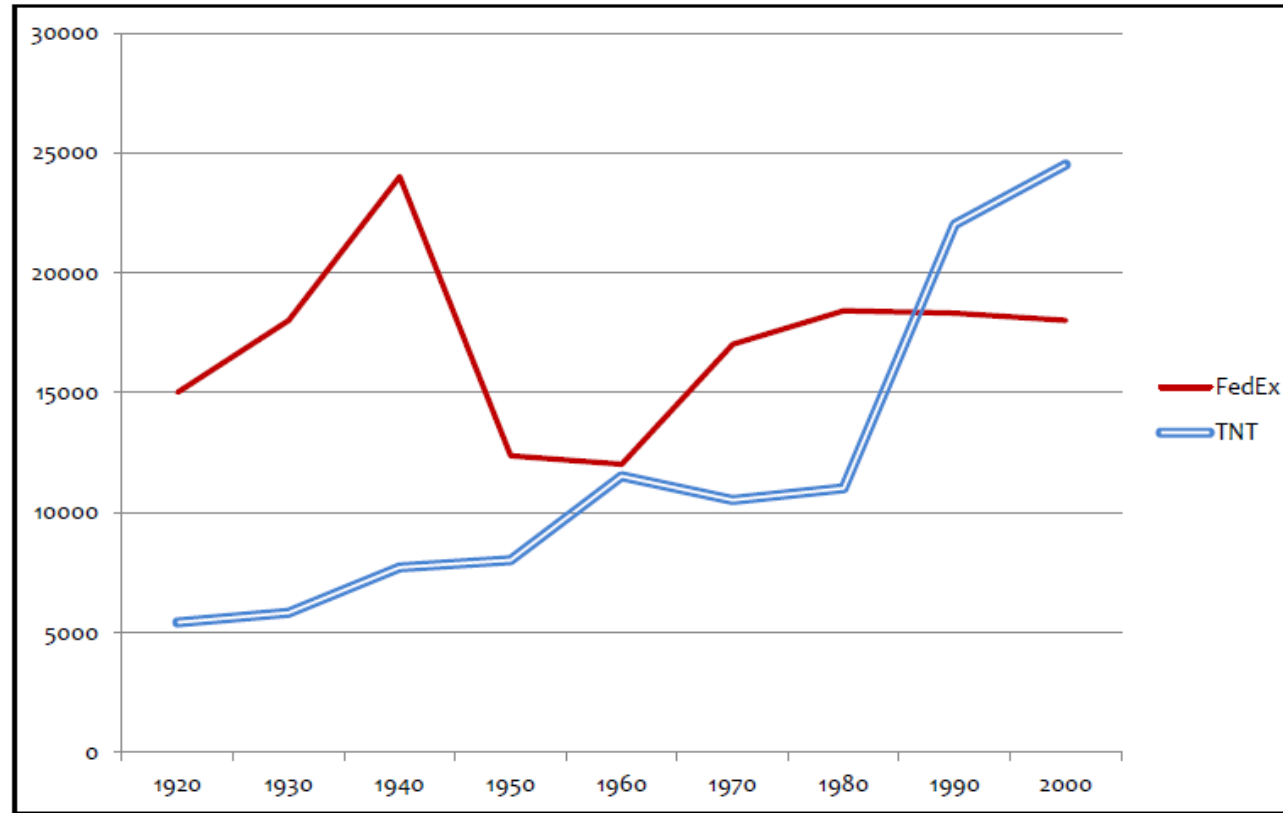
Comparative Structures (B4)

Country	Food/Drinks/ Tobacco	Clothing/ Footware	Leisure/ Education
Ireland	28.91%	6.43%	2.21%
Italy	16.36%	9.00%	3.20%
Spain	18.80%	6.51%	1.98%
Sweden	15.77%	5.40%	3.22%
Turkey	32.14%	6.63%	4.35%

The figures for Italy and Sweden were similar and approximately half as high as that for Turkey (16.36% and 15.77%, respectively), with Sweden ranking last.

Comparative Structures (B4)

Parcels delivered by Federal Express and TNT Mail Services



In the first year, the figure for TNT was 1/3 as high as that for FedEx (5000).

Comparative Structures (B5)

5	A produces/consumes/...	more/less + uncountable n. more/fewer + countable n.	than B.
		the same amount/number/quantity of + n.	as B.

The share of A was 20% more than B. → A *accounted for* 20% more than B.

- Italian and Swedish consumers *allocated/spent* similar proportions (16.36% and 15.77%, respectively).
- Italians and the Swedish *allocated* similar proportions *to this category* (16.36% and 15.77%, respectively).

Note:

- 😊 China and the US produced and consumed considerably/far more electricity than the others.
- ☹️ China and the US produced and consumed electricity more than the others. ❌

Comparative Structures (B5)

Country	Food/Drinks/ Tobacco	Clothing/ Footware	Leisure/ Education
Ireland	28.91%	6.43%	2.21%
Italy	16.36%	9.00%	3.20%
Spain	18.80%	6.51%	1.98%
Sweden	15.77%	5.40%	3.22%
Turkey	32.14%	6.63%	4.35%

Turkish consumers allocated 32.14% of their expenses to food, drinks and tobacco, ranking first, whereas the Irish spent much less (28.91%), as they came in next.

Practice: What is wrong with this sentence? (Tip: two issues)

(Food, drinks & tobacco) Italian consumers spent almost as high as the Swedish.

Superlative Structures (C1)

1	A ranks/stands first/second/third/last.
---	---

Turkey ranked first with 32.14%, followed by Ireland in second place with 28.91%.

Turkey ranked first with 32.14%, while Ireland came in second with 28.91%.

Superlative Structures (C2)

2	A has the [second/third] greatest/widest/ most significant/most productive/ ... + n
---	---

Turkey had the largest proportion of spending on food, drinks and tobacco, as it spent 32.14% in this category...

OR

Turkey had the largest *proportion* of spending on food, drinks and tobacco (32.14%)...



Kerman has the most significant pistachio production in the country.

OR

Kerman has the most significant pistachio *production* in the country (400000 tonnes).



Superlative Structures (C3)

3	A is the [second/third] largest/smallest/most significant/most productive/ ... + n..
---	--

Kerman is the largest producer of pistachio in the country.

Incorrect:

Kerman is the largest producer of pistachio in the country (400000 tonnes). **NO REFERENCE FOR THE DATA!**

Correct:

- Kerman is the largest producer of pistachio in the country, producing 400000 tonnes every year.*
- Producing 400000 tonnes every year, Kerman is the largest producer of pistachio in the country.*
- Kerman is the largest producer of pistachio in the country, as it produces 400000 tonnes every year.*
- Kerman, which produces 400000 tonnes of pistachio each year, is the largest producer in the country.*

Superlative Structures (C4)

4	A	Uses produces consumes	the largest/highest/smallest/lowest	proportion of + n. quantity of + n. amount of + uncountable n. number of + countable n.
---	---	------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--

Turkish consumers spent the largest proportion on food, drinks and tobacco at 32.14% ...

Kerman produces the largest amount of pistachio in the country.

■ Using noun clauses

- The diagram/bar chart/line chart/graph/... illustrates/shows/compares how many/how much/what proportion of
- The table shows/contains information about/provides data about/compares how many/how much/what proportion of

Introduction (Noun Clauses)

Example: Book 7, Test 1 *(or page 13 of your task 1 pamphlet)*

The table below gives information on consumer spending on different items in five different countries in 2002.

→ The table compares what proportion of consumer expenditure **was allocated to/was spent on** three categories **[, namely food, beverages and tobacco, clothing and footwear, and leisure and education,]** in five countries in 2002.

Introduction (Noun Clauses)



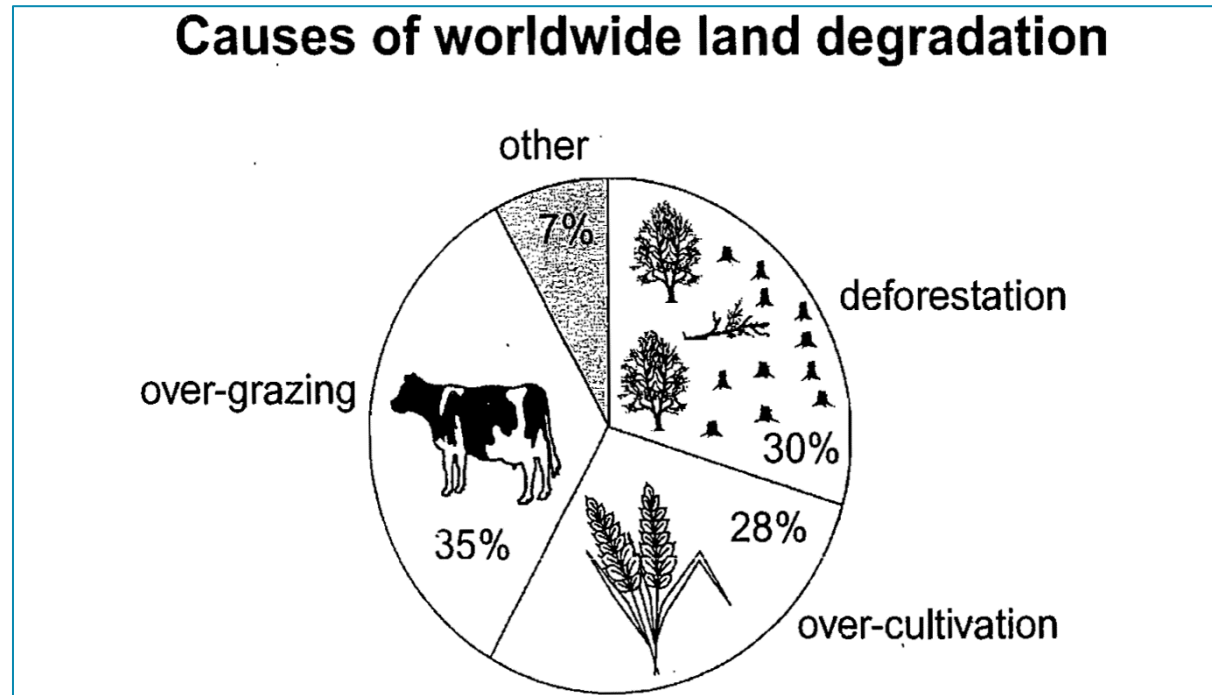
Example: Book 4, Test 3 (or page 17 of your task 1 pamphlet)

The chart below shows the different levels of post-school qualifications in Australia and the proportion of men and women who held them in 1999.

- The bar chart illustrates what proportions of post-school degrees and diplomas were held by females and males in Australia in 1999.
- The bar chart illustrates what proportion of various post-school qualifications was held by females and males in Australia in 1999.

Introduction (Noun Clauses)

Example: Book 8, Test 1 (or page 18 of your task 1 pamphlet)



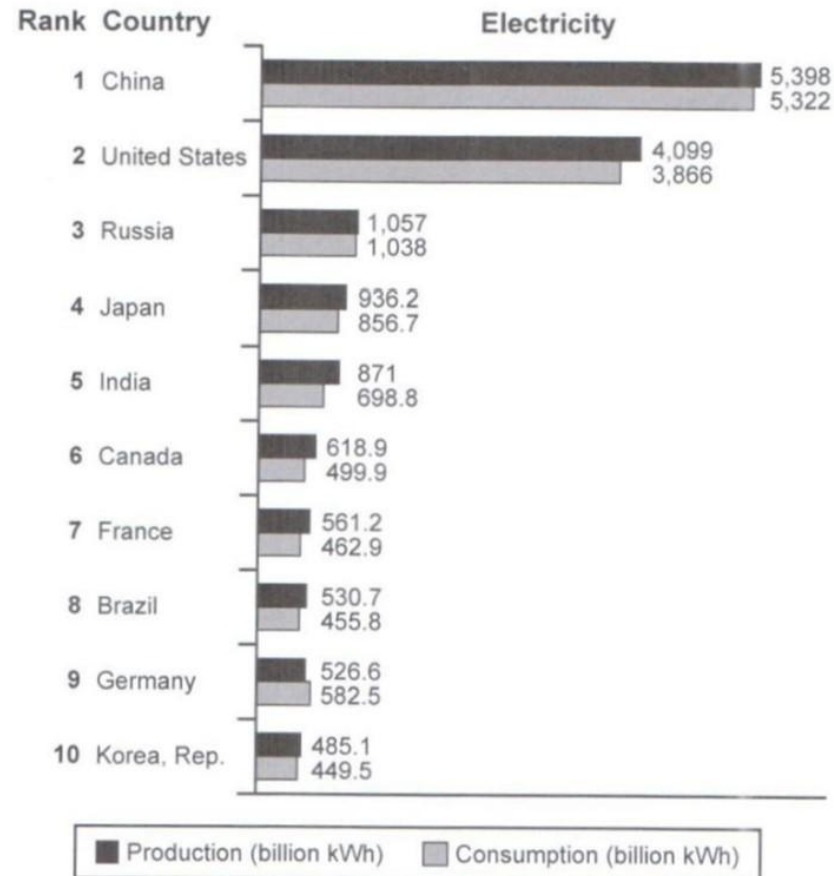
The pie chart illustrates what proportion of global land degradation is caused by/results from/is accounted for by/is contributed by different reasons.

Introduction Practice (Noun Clauses)

The bar chart below shows the top ten countries for the production and consumption of electricity in 2014.

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

Write at least 150 words.



Source: Cambridge IELTS 13

■ Using adjective clauses

- The diagram/bar chart/line chart/graph/... illustrates/shows/compares the number/amount/quantity/percentage of... that
- The table shows/contains information about/provides data about/compares the number/amount/quantity/percentage of... that

Introduction (Adjective Clauses)



Example: Book 4, Test 3 (or page 15 of your task 1 pamphlet)

The chart below shows the different levels of post-school qualifications in Australia and the proportion of men and women who held them in 1999.

- The diagram illustrates the shares **that females and males held/had** in 5 different post-school qualifications in Australia in 1999.
- The diagram illustrates the shares of post-school qualifications **that males and females had/held/were responsible for/accounted for** in Australia in 1999.
- The diagram illustrates the shares of post-school qualifications **that were held/contributed/accounted for** by males and females in Australia in 1999.

Introduction (Adjective Clauses)



Example: Book 7, Test 1 (or page 13 of your task 1 pamphlet)

The table below gives information on consumer spending on different items in five different countries in 2002.

→ The table compares the proportion of consumer expenditure that was allocated to/was spent on three categories[, namely food, beverages and tobacco, clothing and footwear, and leisure and education,] in five countries in 2002.

Introduction (Adjective Clauses)



Using reduced forms:

E.g. Book 7 test 1:

The table compares the percentage of consumer expenditure ~~that was~~ spent on/allocated to...

E.g. Book 4 bar chart:

The pie chart illustrates the percentage of global land degradation ~~that is~~ caused by/contributed by different factors.

OR

The pie chart illustrates the percentage of global land degradation ~~that results from~~ resulting from different factors.

E.g.

The diagram shows the number of people in cities and villages in different parts of Australia.

→ The chart illustrates the quantity of individuals ~~who live/reside~~ in urban and rural areas in various parts of Australia.

OR

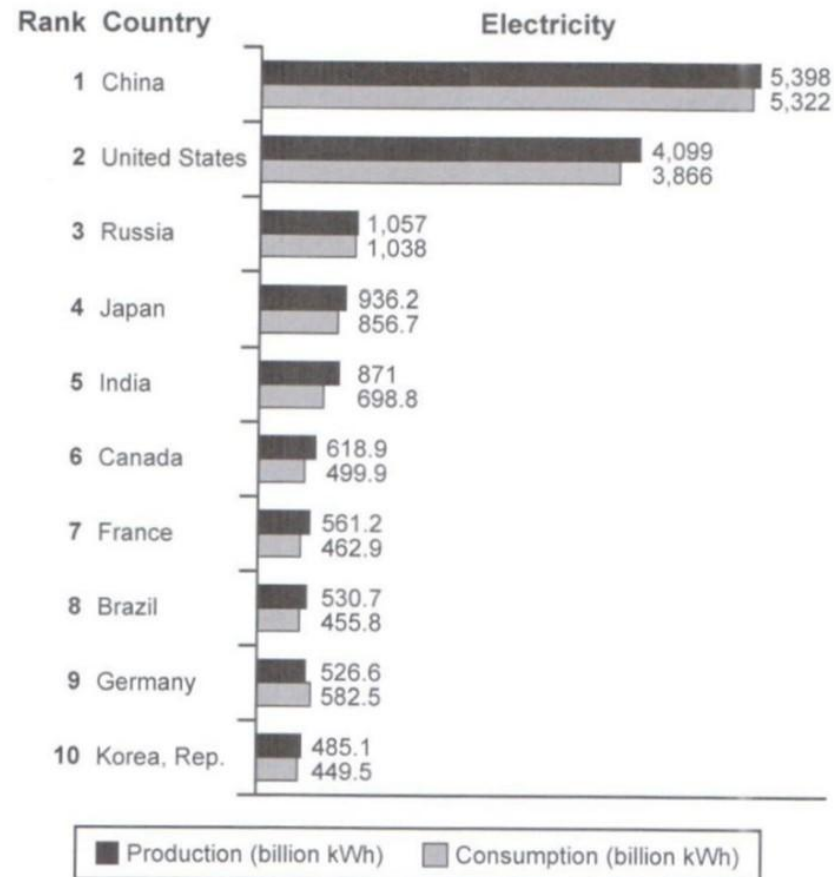
→ The chart illustrates the quantity of individuals ~~living/residing~~ in urban and rural areas in various parts of Australia.

Introduction Practice (Adjective Clauses)

The bar chart below shows the top ten countries for the production and consumption of electricity in 2014.

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

Write at least 150 words.



Source: Cambridge IELTS 13

IMPORTANT: No figures and details in the overview!

Begin the overview with:

Overall, ...

What to include:

- **ALWAYS:** First rank (*plus the last one if necessary*)
- **IF POSSIBLE:** Patterns across the diagram and any possible exceptions, including:
 - major overall differences
 - major overall similarities

Example: Book 7, Test 1 (or page 13 of your task 1 pamphlet)

Country	Food/Drinks/ Tobacco	Clothing/ Footware	Leisure/ Education
Ireland	28.91%	6.43%	2.21%
Italy	16.36%	9.00%	3.20%
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Sweden	15.77%	5.40%	3.22%
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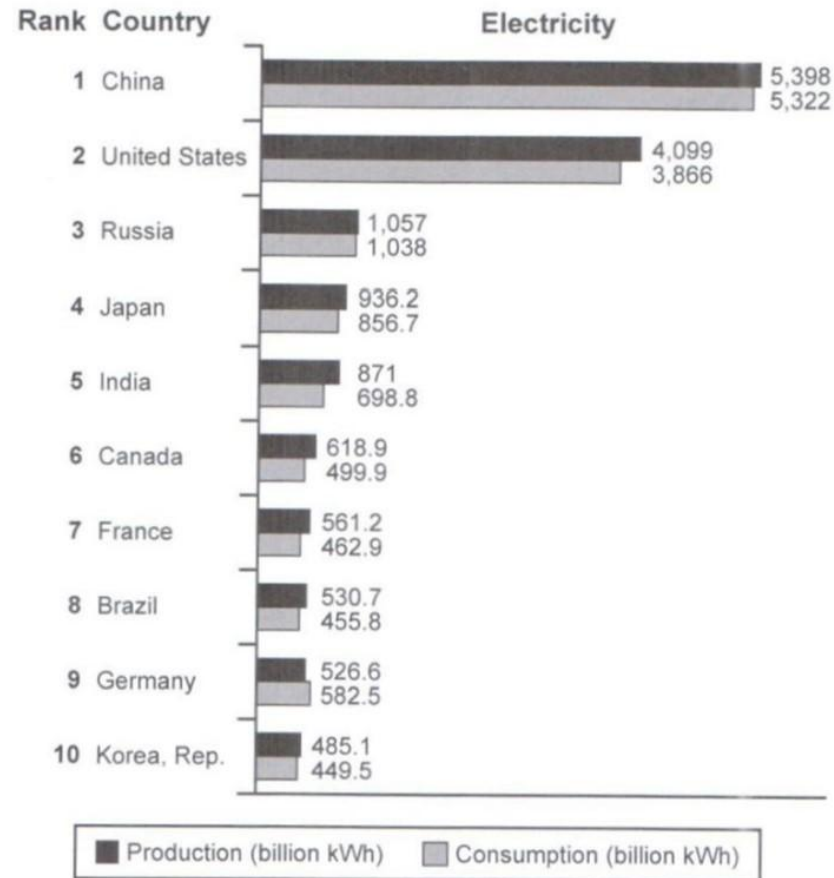
1. Overall, while the share of food, drinks and tobacco was significantly higher than the other two categories in all countries, leisure and education ranked last. Turkey had the highest figures in these two categories, whereas Italy stood first in clothing and footwear.
2. Overall, the share of food, drinks and tobacco was significantly higher than the other two categories in all countries. Turkey ranked first in the former and in leisure and education, while Italy stood first in clothing and footwear.
3. Overall, food, drinks and tobacco ranked first ... in all countries. Turkey ranked first in this category and in leisure and education, while Italy stood first in clothing and footwear.

Overview Practice

The bar chart below shows the top ten countries for the production and consumption of electricity in 2014.

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

Write at least 150 words.



Source: Cambridge IELTS 13