

MASTER IELTS REPORTS

Trend Diagrams

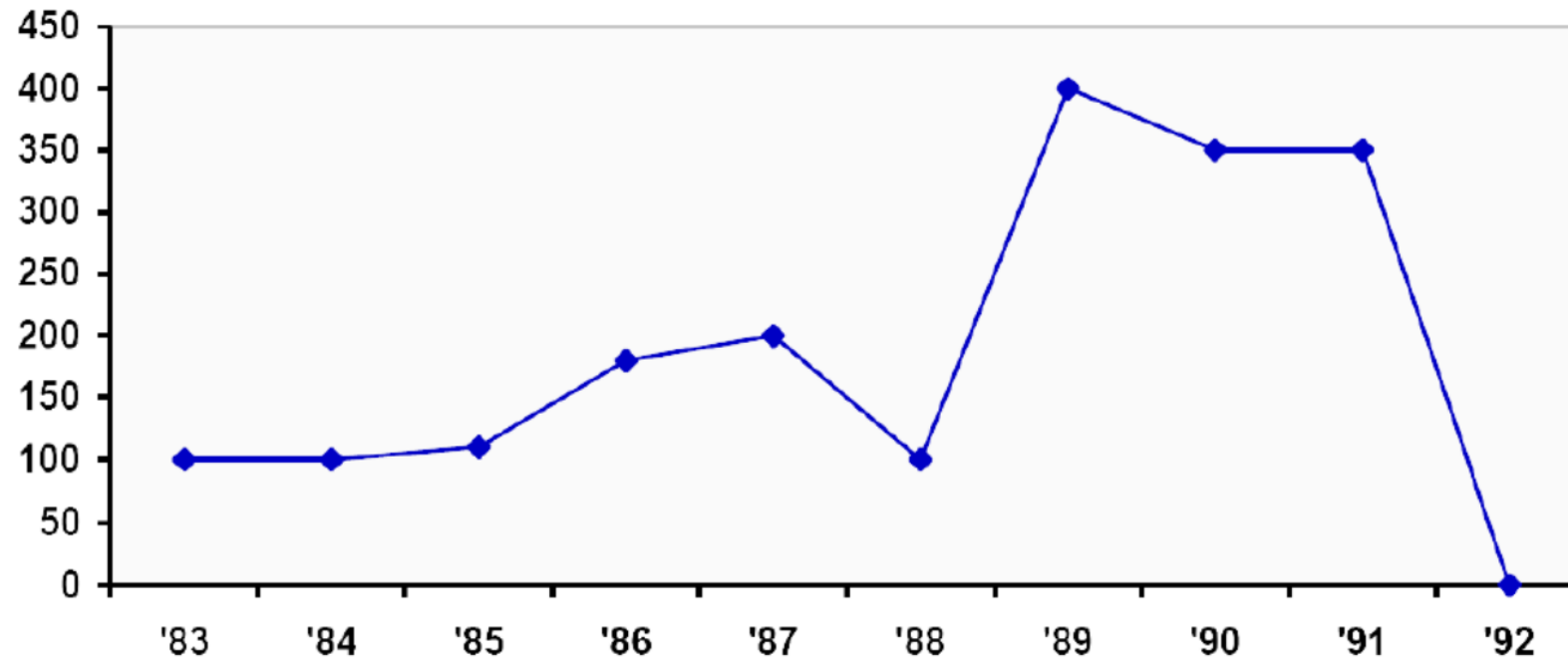
Ebrahim Tahassoni

CELTA, CertTESOL, IELTS Ac. 9



Trend Diagrams

Practice: The graph below gives information about the number of cases of diarrhea in Mashhad between 1983 and 1992.

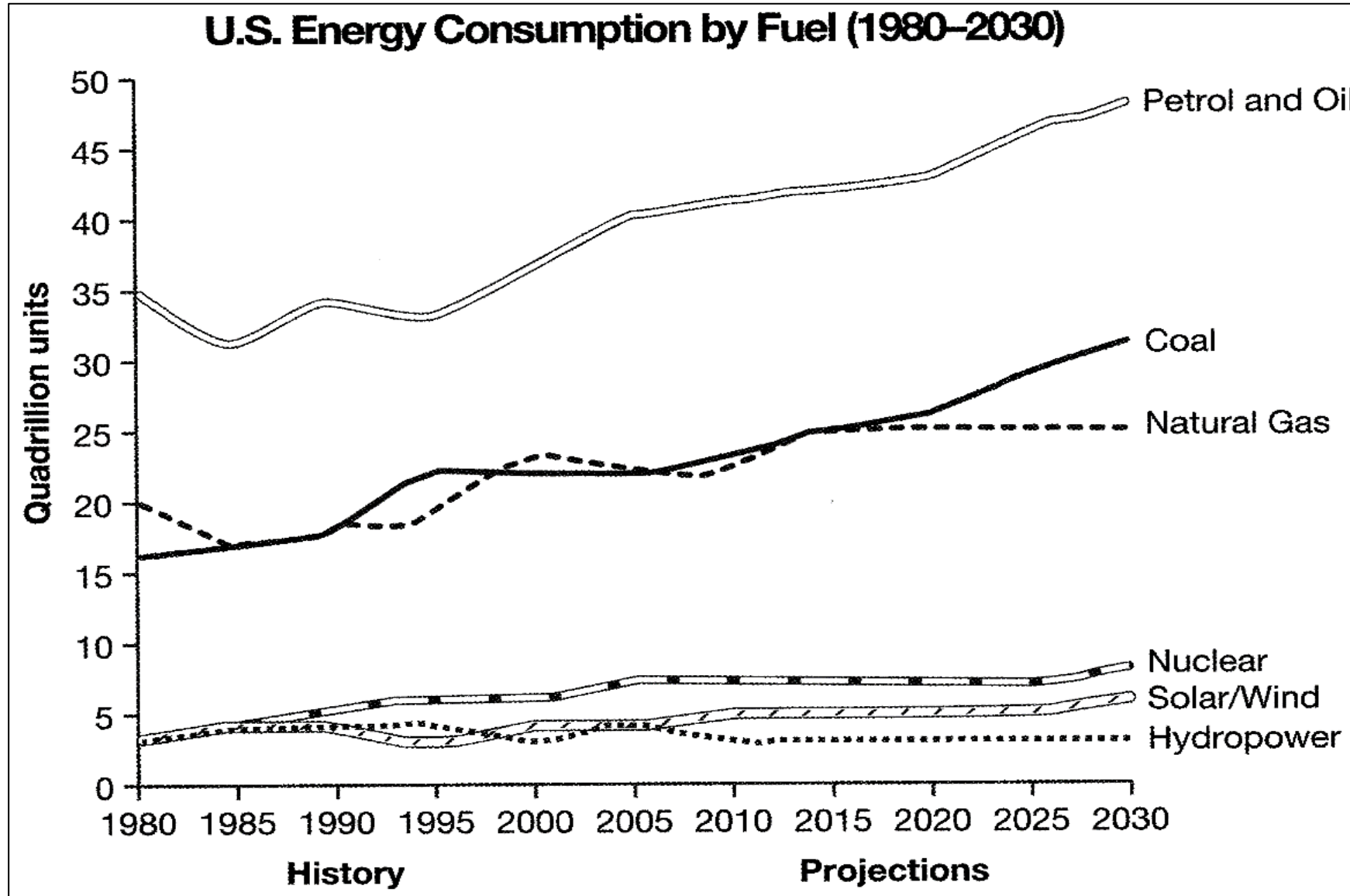


Main Features of a Trend Diagram



- Major trends
 - Upward
 - Downward
 - Static
- Fluctuation
- Beginning and end points
- Maximum and minimum
- Other major breakpoints (at the end of major trends)

Ultimate Trend Vocabulary: Band 9



Source: Cambridge IELTS 9 test 4

Ultimate Trend Vocabulary: Band 9

The graph shows energy consumption in the US from 1980 to 2012, and projected consumption to 2030.

Petrol and oil are the dominant fuel sources throughout this period, with 35 quadrillion (35q) units used in 1980, rising to 42q in 2012. Despite some initial fluctuation, from 1995 there was a steady increase. This is expected to continue, reaching 47q in 2030.

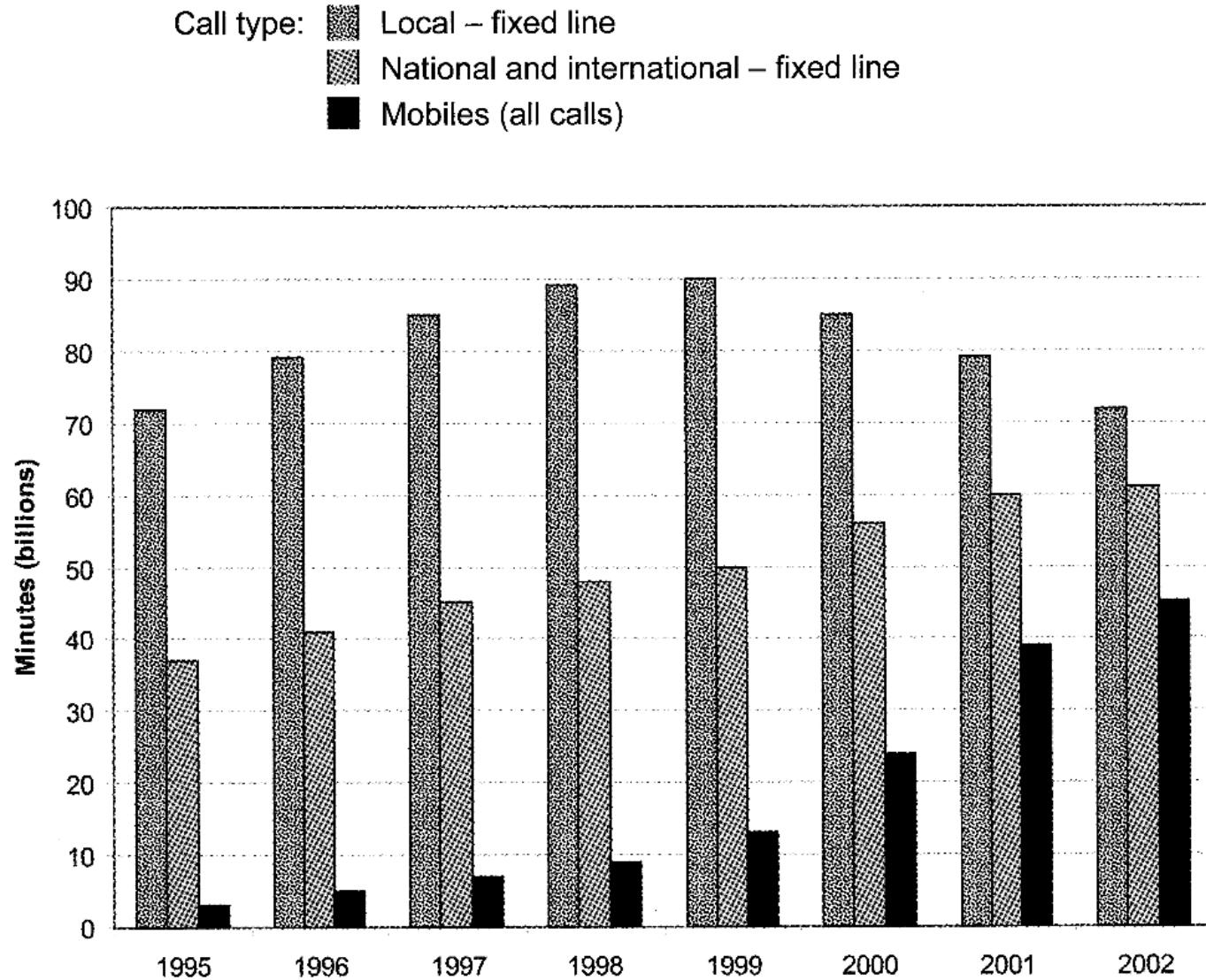
Consumption of energy derived from natural gas and coal is similar over the period. From 20q and 15q respectively in 1980, gas showed an initial fall and coal a gradual increase, with the two fuels equal between 1985 and 1990. Consumption has fluctuated since 1990 but both now provide 24q. Coal is predicted to increase steadily to 31q in 2030, whereas after 2014, gas will remain stable at 25q.

In 1980, energy from nuclear, hydro- and solar/wind power was equal at only 4q. Nuclear has risen by 3q, and solar/wind by 2. After slight increases, hydropower has fallen back to the 1980 figure. It is expected to maintain this level until 2030, while the others should rise slightly after 2025.

Overall, the US will continue to rely on fossil fuels, with sustainable and nuclear energy sources remaining relatively insignificant.

Ultimate Trend Vocabulary: Band 9

UK telephone calls, by category, 1995–2002



Source: Cambridge IELTS 9 test 2

Ultimate Trend Vocabulary: Band 9

The chart shows the time spent by UK residents on different types of telephone calls between 1995 and 2002.

Local fixed line calls were the highest throughout the period, rising from 72 billion minutes in 1995 to just under 90 billion in 1998. After peaking at 90 billion the following year, these calls had fallen back to the 1995 figure by 2002.

National and international fixed line calls grew steadily from 38 billion to 61 billion at the end of the period in question, though the growth slowed over the last two years.

There was a dramatic increase in mobile calls from 2 billion to 46 billion minutes. This rise was particularly noticeable between 1999 and 2002, during which time the use of mobile phones tripled.

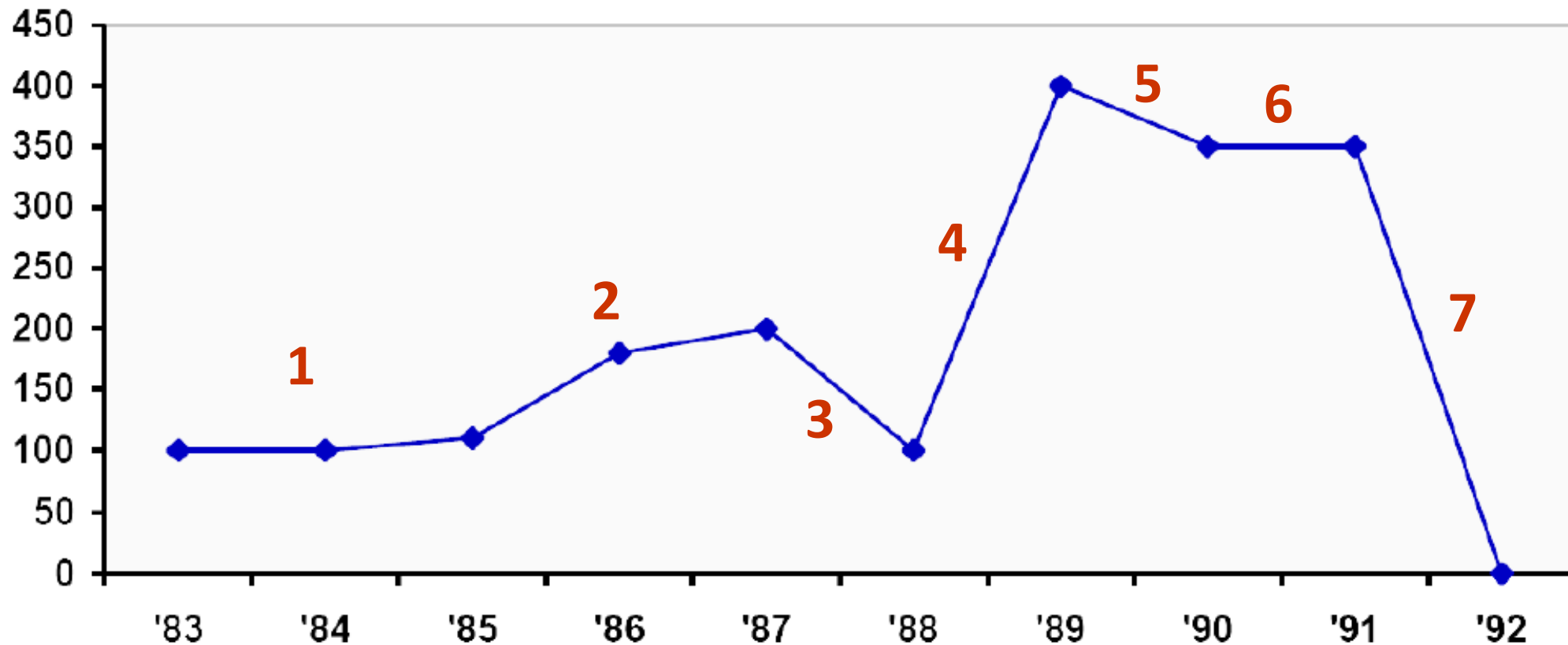
To sum up, although local fixed line calls were still the most popular in 2002, the gap between the three categories had narrowed considerably over the second half of the period in question.

Trend Vocabulary Review

Trend	Verbs	Nouns
	- rise (rose-risen) - increase - grow - double - triple - soar - Jump	- a rise - an increase - a growth - a doubling in + n. - a trebling in + n.
	- fall (fell-fallen) - decline - decrease - drop (dropped) - halve - dive	- a fall - a decline - a decrease - a drop
	- maintain the same level - remain stable/unchanged	no change
Constant Change	fluctuate	a fluctuation
Position	- stand at (stood at) - level off (levelled off) - plateau (plateaued) - peak [at x] - reach - hit	- a levelling off - a plateau - hit/reach a high [of x] - hit/reach a peak [of x] - hit/reach a low [of x]

Highlighting Trends

- Degree of change
- Speed of change



Vocabulary for Highlighting Trends

Adjectives and adverbs for degree of change:

	Adjective	Adverb
Very extensive change	Dramatic	dramatically
Extensive change	substantial/significant/ considerable/remarkable	substantially/considerably/ significantly/remarkably
Average change	noticeable/moderate/ marked	noticeably/markedly/ moderately
Small change	slight/minimal	slightly/minimally

Adjectives and adverbs for speed of change:

	Adjective	Adverb
Quick change	sharp/rapid/steep	sharply/rapidly/steeply
Slow change	steady/gradual	steadily/gradually
Unexpected change	sudden/abrupt	suddenly/abruptly

Simple Sentence Structures



v. + adv

The number of carrots increased significantly.

adj + n.

There was a significant increase [in the number of carrots].

The figure **saw/showed/experienced** a significant increase.

A Review of Tense Usage



Past tenses

Past simple: Used for reporting consecutive trends and events in the past:

There **was** a significant rise **in 1964**. Then, the figure **dipped** sharply **in 1980**.

Past perfect: Used for reporting what happened by a given time in the past:

There was a significant rise in 1964. Then, the figure dipped sharply and **had reached** 5 **by 1980**.

Present tenses

Present simple: Used for reporting trends that have no specific time and occur regularly (e.g every day), or for reporting the present value or figure of a variable:

There **is** a significant rise **at 6am every morning**. Then the figure **increases** sharply **at 8am**.

The number of people suffering from diarrhoea now **stands** at 158.

Present perfect: Used for reporting trends that started in the past and have continued until the present time or continue into the future:

There **has been** a significant rise **since 2013**, and the figure now stands at 15000.

There **has been** a significant rise **since 2013**, and the figure is expected to reach 15000 in 2020.

A Review of Tense Usage

Future

Future forms are used to describe trends that are *predicted* and *projected* for future times and dates. You should note that none of these predictions are certain, and therefore a level of uncertainty is desirable in your report.

The figure **will/should reach** 15000 in 2020.

It is	predicted expected	that the figure will increase and reach 800 in 2050.
-------	-----------------------	--

The figure is	predicted expected	to increase and reach 800 in 2050.
---------------	-----------------------	------------------------------------

And/but

The figure initially stood at 200 million dirhams **and** rose significantly in March/during the next two months...

At the beginning, the figure stood at 200 million dirhams **and**...

The figure rose significantly from 200 million dirhams to 350 million over the first two months, **but** there was a gradual decline...

Before/after +clause/participle/noun phrase

The figure rose significantly from 200 million dirhams to 350 million over the first two months **before** there was a gradual decline/declining gradually...

After rising from 200 million dirhams in January to 350 million in March, there was a gradual decline...

After/following which *and* [which was] followed by

The figure rose significantly from 200 million dirhams to 350 million over the first two months, **after which** there was a gradual decline...

The figure rose significantly from 200 million dirhams to 350 million over the first two months, **[which was] followed by** a gradual decline...

Until... when *and* until..., after which

The figure initially stood at 200 million dirhams **and** rose significantly until March, **when** it reached 350 million...

It then increased markedly until August, **following which** there was another decline...

Although *and* while

It then increased markedly until August, **although** this was followed by another decline...

Although it saw a marked rise in August, it decreased again in the following month...

Reporting Figures

$X \rightarrow Y$

In January, the figure stood at 200 million dirhams and increased significantly over the next two months

to 350 million.
to reach 350 million.
as it reached 350 million.
, reaching 350 million.

$X \pm \Delta$

200 $\rightarrow$ 350 $\rightarrow$ amount of change = 150 $\rightarrow$

It rose by 150 million *or* There was a rise of 150 million.

Using proportions

$150/200 = \frac{3}{4}$ or 75%

It rose by $\frac{3}{4}$ *or* It rose by 75% *or* There was a 75% increase.

Note: only use simple common proportions like $\frac{1}{5}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$.

Rounding



- trends

It rose rather/relatively significantly.

It remained rather/relatively stable.

There was a relatively/rather significant increase.

- figures

198 → 200

It stood at nearly/almost 200.

It stood at about/around/approximately/roughly 200.

It stood at just under/slightly less than 200.

203 → 200

It stood at about/around/approximately/roughly 350.

It stood at just over/slightly more than 200.

Report the figure based on a previously reported figure.

Local fixed line calls were the highest throughout the period, rising from 72 billion minutes in 1995 to just under 90 billion in 1998. After peaking at 90 billion the following year, these calls had fallen back to the 1995 figure by 2002.

Trend Diagrams: Paragraphing



- Is it really important?

- **Strategies:**

1. *E.g. Book 7 test 2*

Body 1: Compare at the beginning

Body 2: variables with rising trends

Body 3: variables with falling trends

2. *E.g. Book 8, test 2; Book 9, tests 2 and 4*

Group based on initial figure: report those with similar beginning in separate body paragraphs

Introduction

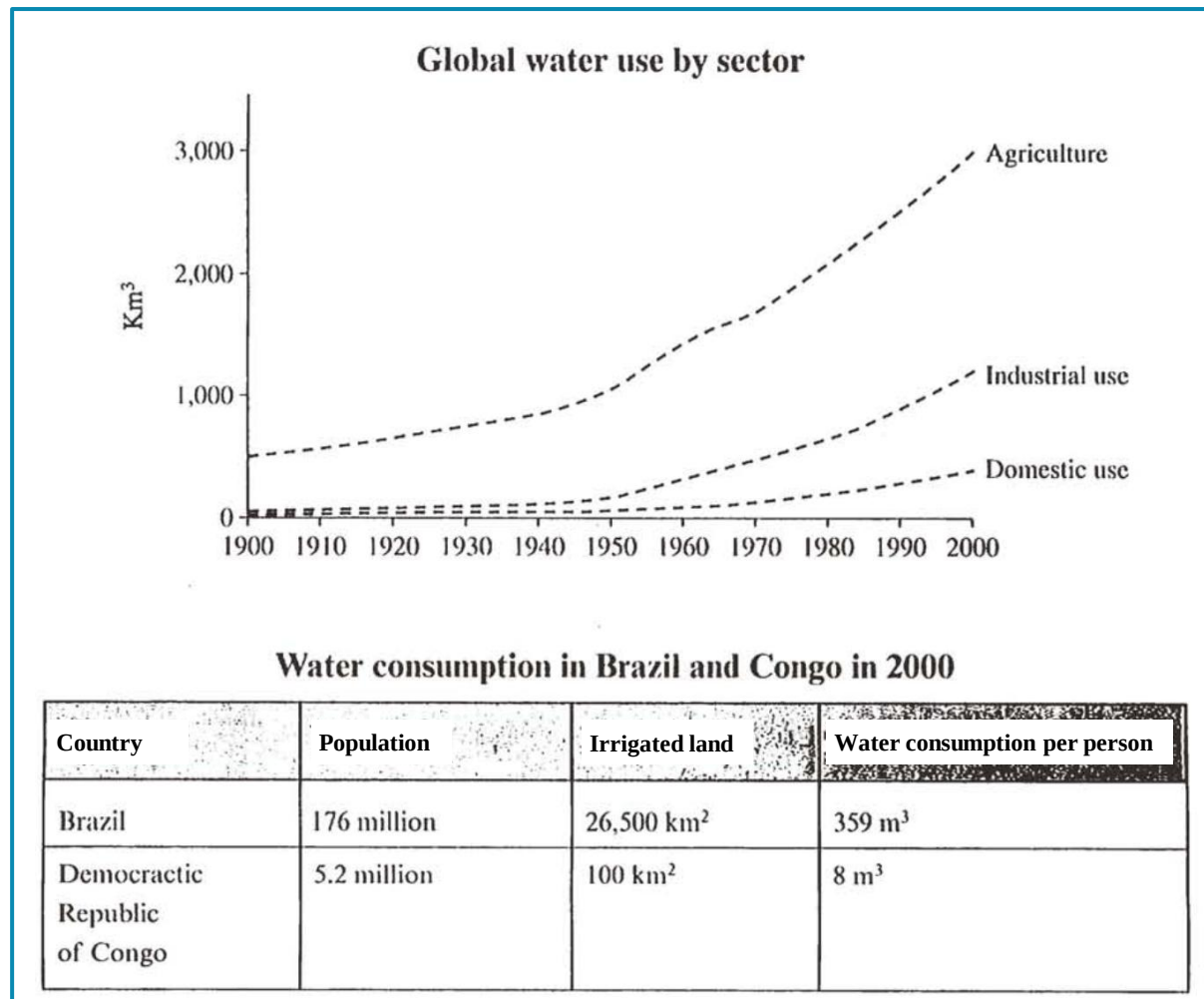


- The diagram shows how many/how much/what proportion of...
- The diagram shows/illustrates/compares how changed...
- The diagram shows changes in...

NOTE: *from 1992 to 2000 ↔ between 1992 and 2000*

Introduction

- The graph and table below give information about water use worldwide and water consumption in two different countries.



The graph and table below give information about water use worldwide and water consumption in two different countries.

- **Using noun clauses**

→ The line graph illustrates what proportion of water was used globally in agriculture, industry and houses from 1900 to 2000, while the table compares the use of water in Brazil and Congo in the last year of this period.

→ The line graph illustrates how global water consumption changed from 1900 to 2000, while the table compares...

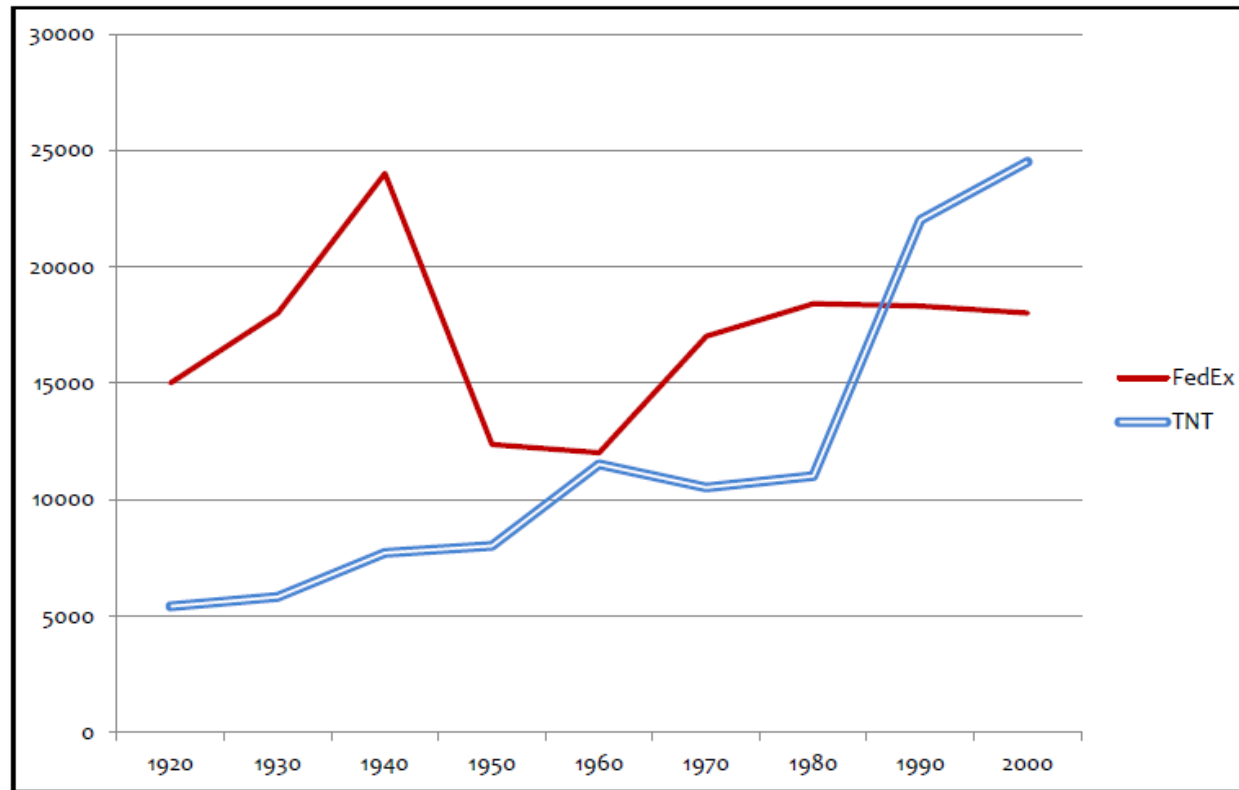
- **Using CHANGES IN...**

→ The line graph illustrates changes in global water consumption from 1900 to 2000, while the table compares...

Introduction

- The diagram below gives information about the number of parcels delivered by two major mail services companies from 1920 to 2000.

Parcels delivered by Federal Express and TNT Mail Services



The diagram below gives information about the number of parcels delivered by two major mail services companies from 1920 to 2000.

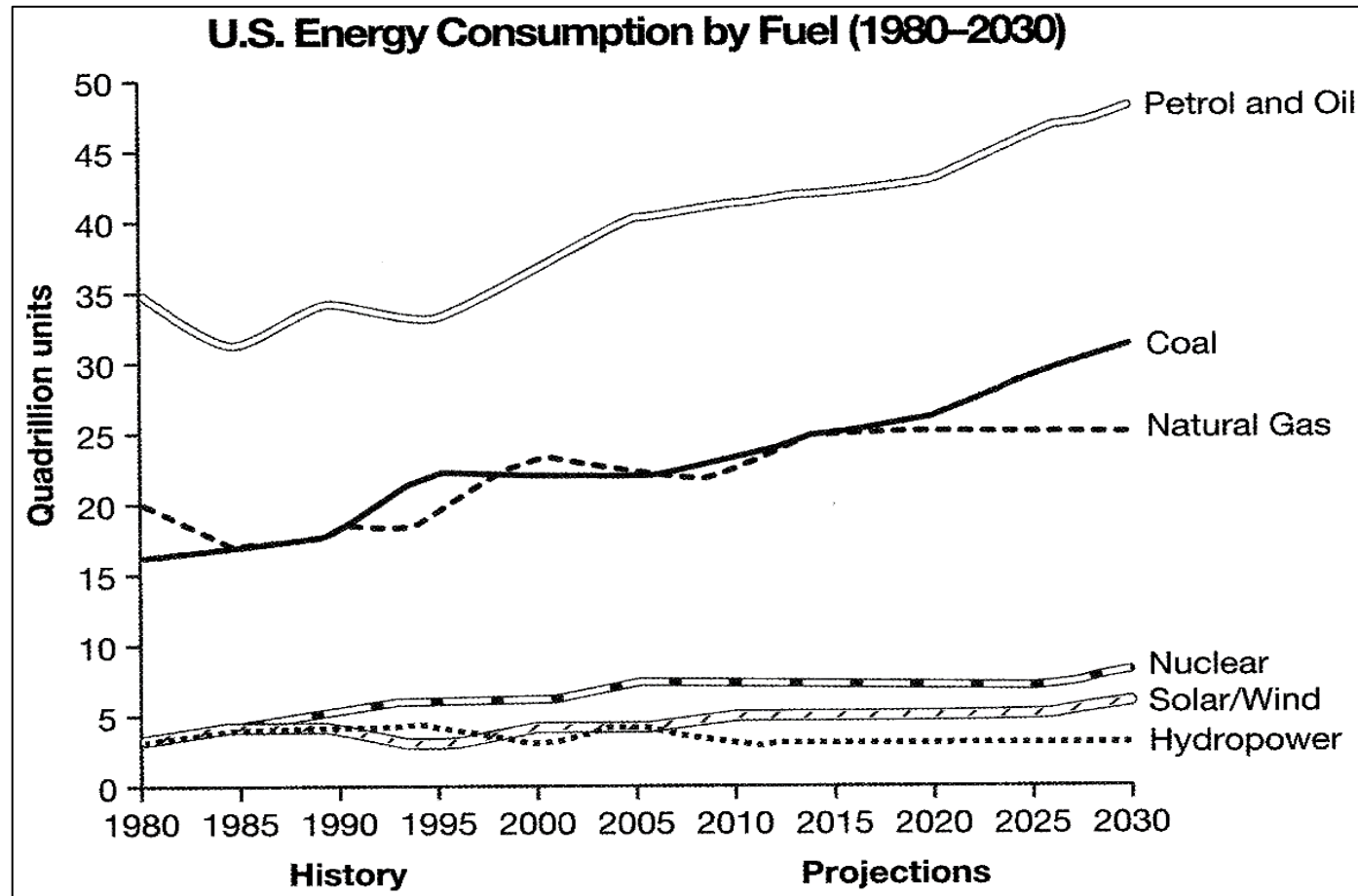
- **Using noun clauses**

- The line graph shows how many parcels were delivered by FedEx and TNT between 1920 and 2000.
- The line graph shows how many parcels FedEx and TNT delivered between 1920 and 2000.
- The line graph illustrates how the quantity of parcels that/which were delivered by FedEx and TNT changed between 1920 and 2000.

- **Using CHANGES IN...**

- The line graph illustrates changes in the quantity of parcels that were delivered by FedEx and TNT between 1920 and 2000.

-
- U.S. Energy Consumption by Fuel (1980-2030)**
- The graph displays energy consumption in quadrillion units for six different fuel sources. The Y-axis ranges from 0 to 50 quadrillion units. The X-axis shows years from 1980 to 2030, with the period from 1980 to 2005 labeled as 'History' and from 2005 to 2030 labeled as 'Projections'.
- Legend:**
- Petrol and Oil (Solid line with a thin outline)
 - Coal (Solid line)
 - Natural Gas (Dashed line)
 - Nuclear (Solid line with square markers)
 - Solar/Wind (Dashed line with diagonal hatching)
 - Hydropower (Dotted line)
- Approximate Data Points (Quadrillion units):**
- | Year | Petrol and Oil | Coal | Natural Gas | Nuclear | Solar/Wind | Hydropower |
|------|----------------|------|-------------|---------|------------|------------|
| 1980 | 35 | 16 | 20 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| 1985 | 32 | 17 | 17 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.5 |
| 1990 | 34 | 18 | 18 | 5.5 | 4.5 | 4.5 |
| 1995 | 33 | 22 | 19 | 6.5 | 3.5 | 4.5 |
| 2000 | 37 | 22 | 23 | 6.5 | 4.5 | 3.5 |
| 2005 | 41 | 22 | 22 | 7.5 | 5.5 | 4.5 |
| 2010 | 42 | 24 | 23 | 7.5 | 5.5 | 3.5 |
| 2015 | 43 | 25 | 25 | 7.5 | 5.5 | 3.5 |
| 2020 | 44 | 27 | 25 | 7.5 | 5.5 | 3.5 |
| 2025 | 47 | 30 | 25 | 7.5 | 6.5 | 3.5 |
| 2030 | 49 | 32 | 25 | 8.5 | 6.5 | 3.5 |



Introduction: Diagrams with Predictions



- **If future figures are included in the diagram:**

The diagram illustrates ... from... to.../since ...,

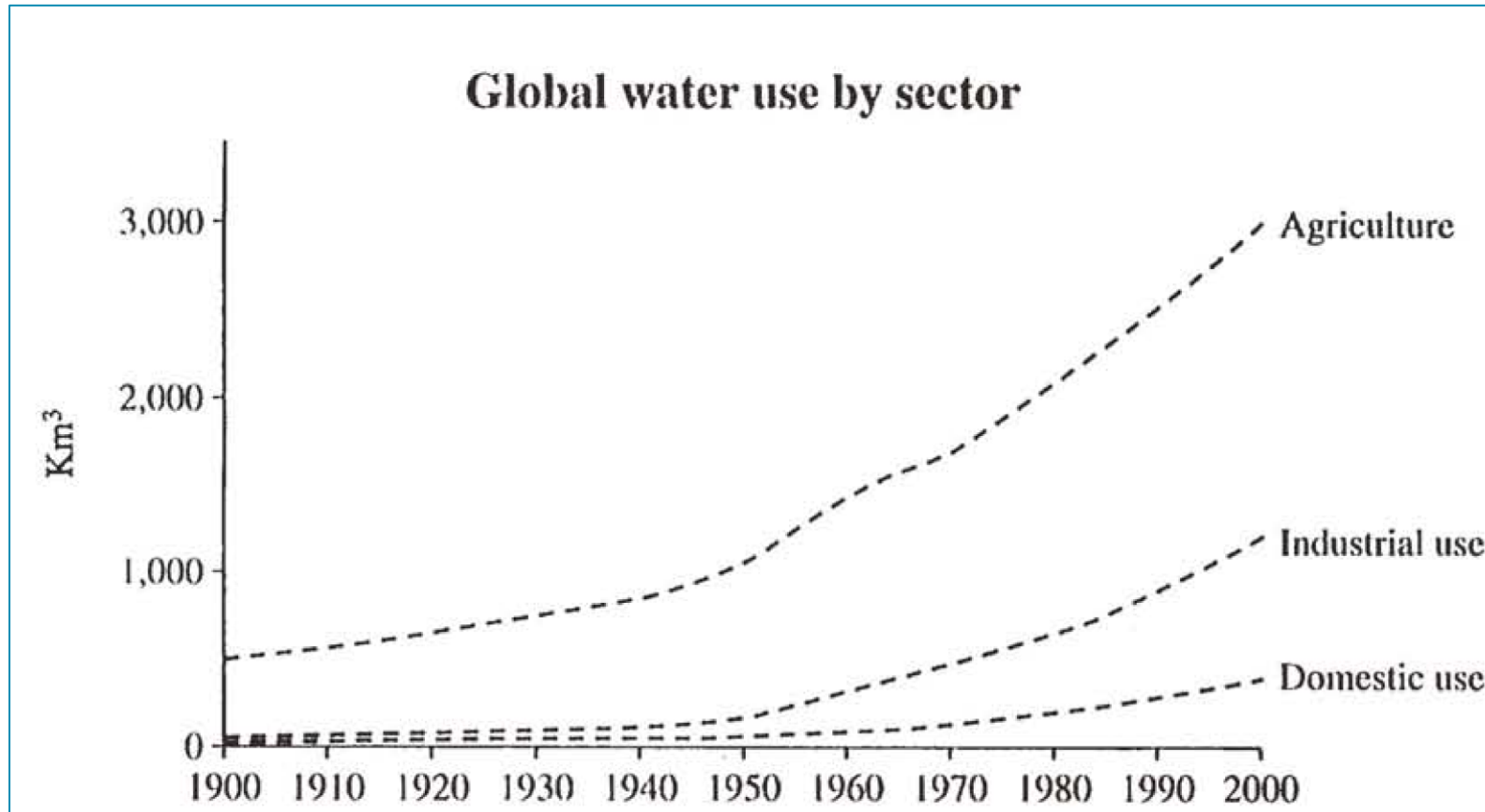
with/as well as/along with/in addition to predictions for/until...

Example: Book 9, test 4

- The graph illustrates how much energy has been consumed from 6 different sources in the US since 1980, with predictions until 2030.
- The graph illustrates how the amount of energy consumed from 6 different sources has changed in the US since 1980, with predictions until 2030.
- The graph illustrates changes in the amount of energy consumed from 6 different sources in the US since 1980, with predictions until 2030.

Overview

- Overall Trends for all variables
- Highest figure(s) throughout the period



Source: Cambridge IELTS 6 Test 1

Overview Examples: Cambridge IELTS 6 Test 1



1) Overall, agricultural use ranked first throughout the period.

2) While agricultural use rose significantly, industrial and domestic experienced marked rises.

→ Overall, agricultural use ranked first throughout the period and rose significantly, while industrial and domestic experienced marked rises.

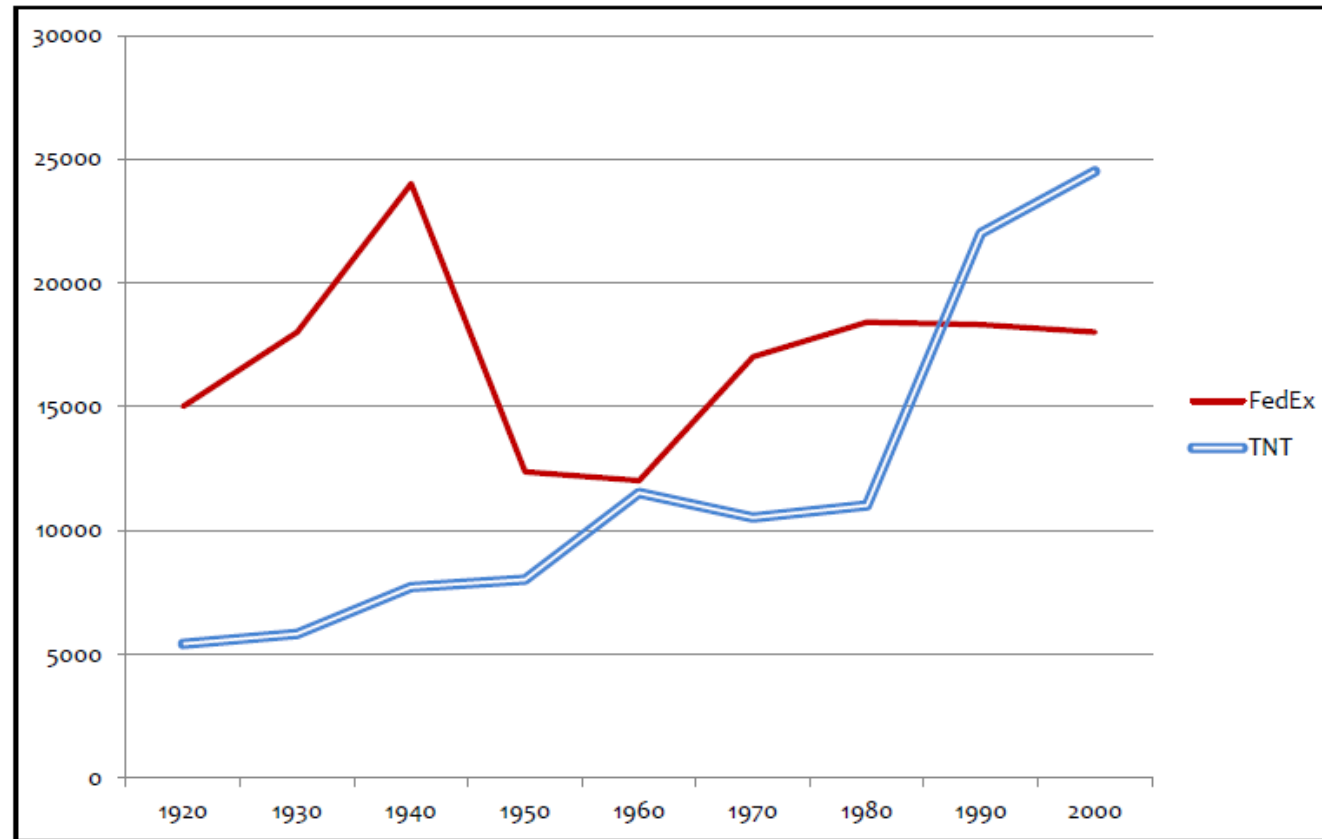
Or

- Overall, while **agriculture** ranked first throughout the period, **rising** significantly, industrial and domestic use experienced marked increases.
- Overall, **ranking** first throughout the period, **agricultural use** rose significantly, while industrial and domestic experienced marked rises.
- Overall, agriculture had the highest consumption throughout the period [, while domestic use ranked last/, with domestic use ranking last]. All figures rose, **albeit/although** at different rates/to varying degrees.
- Overall, agriculture had the highest consumption throughout the period and rose **along with/alongside** industrial and domestic consumption, albeit/although at different rates.
- Overall, agriculture had the highest consumption throughout the period, rising **along with/alongside** industrial and domestic consumption, albeit/although at different rates.

Overview

- Overall Trends for all variables
- Highest figure(s)n throughout the period

Parcels delivered by Federal Express and TNT Mail Services



Overview Examples: FedEx & TNT



- Overall, although FedEx ranked first **initially/during most of this period**, it was **overtaken/outstripped** by TNT later on/towards the end. The former rose slightly [despite fluctuation], whereas the latter showed a dramatic increase.
or
 - Overall, although FedEx ranked first initially/during most of this period, TNT overtook/outstripped it towards the end...
 - Overall, although ranking first initially, FedEx was overtaken by TNT towards the end...
- Overall, [although] ranking first initially, FedEx was overtaken by TNT towards the end. Both figures rose, albeit **at different rates/to varying degrees**.
- Overall, although FedEx initially ranked first and rose slightly, it was overtaken by TNT which saw a dramatic increase.
- Overall, although FedEx ranked first during most of this period and rose slightly, TNT saw a dramatic increase and outstripped it towards the end.
- Overall, although FedEx ranked first during most of this period and rose slightly, TNT saw a dramatic increase, overtaking/outstripping it towards the end.