**IELTS Academic – Task 1**

**Describing multiple charts and graphs**

In IELTS Writing task 1, sometimes you may come across in the test a prompt asking you to describe two or more different types of charts and graphs. The question could include any combination of; a bar chart, a line graph, a pie chart or a table chart. These charts will be related to each other in some way and as long as you have practiced describing each type you will have no problem with multiple chart/graph questions.

The process for planning and writing multiple graph/chart essays is the same as for the single graph or chart prompts.

There are three basic requirements you need for an IELTS writing task 1 are:

1. **Introduce the graph**
2. **Give an overview**
3. **Give the detail**

**1) Introduce the Graph**

You need to begin with one or two sentences that state what the IELTS writing task 1 shows. To do this, paraphrase the title of the graph, making sure you put in a time frame if there is one.

**2) Give an Overview**

You also need to state what the main trend or trends in the graph or charts are. Don’t give detail such as data here – you are just looking for something that describes what is happening overall.

### 3) Give the Detail

You can now give more specific detail in the body paragraphs. When you give the detail in your body paragraphs in your IELTS writing task 1, you must make reference to the data.

You need to summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features, making comparisons where relevant.

The key to organizing your body paragraphs for an IELTS writing task 1 is to **group data** together where there are **patterns**.

To do this you need to identify any **similarities** and **differences**.

Look at the graph/chart – what things are similar and what things are different?

**Ideally, your essay should have 4 paragraphs:**

**Paragraph 1** – Introduction

**Paragraph 2** – Overview

**Paragraph 3** – Details of 1st graph or chart

**Paragraph 4** – Details of 2nd graph or chart