

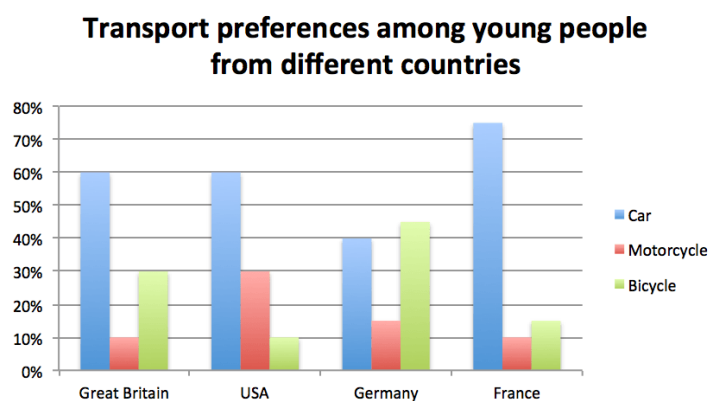


A GUIDELINE FOR A DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY

A descriptive summary is a simple description of the main points, a summary of the main features in the graph, table, or diagram.

1. Brainstorming

Firstly, you need to get an overview of the graph/chart/diagram you will describe. Look for the key features to get an idea of how you will structure your summary.



2. Planning

Consider and plan all the key features carefully to write your summary. Remember to use the words and the structure in Unit 7.

According to the graph, the key features:

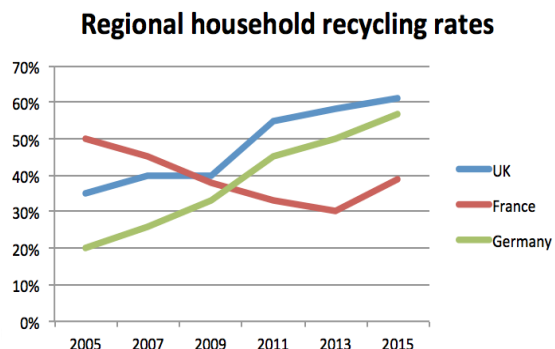
- *Car was the most popular type of transport in all countries, except for Germany.*
- *In Great Britain and USA, there are big differences between percentages of people who choose some kind of transport.*
- *In Germany, percentages of people who choose car and bicycle are roughly the same.*
- *In France, percentages of people who choose motorcycle and bicycle are nearly equal.*
- *Motorcycle was the least popular type of transport in all countries, except for the USA.*
- *Overall, car is the most chosen transport, bicycle is on the second place and motorcycle is the least chosen transport.*

3. Writing the Descriptive Summary:

Once you've planned all the key features on the graph, you can start writing your summary. Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant.



STUDENT SAMPLE SUMMARY



The line graph illustrates the regional household recycling rates in the UK, France and Germany from 2005 to 2015. Overall, the recycling rates of the UK and Germany showed a steady but significant rise over the period, while the percentage of recycled waste in France experienced a downward trend. As you can see, the UK and Germany followed a similar trend: their recycling rates were increasing throughout the period, while recycling rates of France experienced a fall. In 2005, the recycling rates of the UK and Germany were nearly 35% and 20% respectively. Germany's rate increased sharply throughout the period, exceeding France's rate in 2009 and reaching almost 60% in the end of the period. In the meantime, the percentage of recycled waste in the UK grew to 40% in 2007, and then remained steady until 2009. During 2009-2011 it experienced a rapid surge to more than 50% and continued with a gradual increase to 60% in 2015. In early 2005 the recycling rate of France (50%) was the highest among these three countries. However, it dramatically declined to 30% in 2013. Then, there was a growth of 10% in 2015, but France's recycling rate was the lowest in the end of the period.