

# Describing & analysing tables

A. Look at the four tables below. These show demographic trends in four different countries between 1996 and 2000. The numbers on the left and right of each table show the number of people in hundred thousands. Using the information in these tables, match sentences 1-13 on the next page with the appropriate country. Use the words and expressions in *bold* to help you.



Number of people  
under 18 years of age



Number of people  
over 65 years of age



Number of deaths

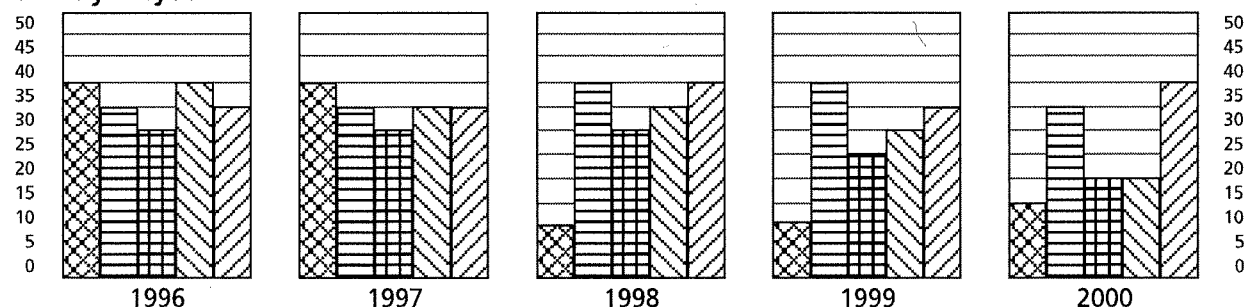


Number of  
married people

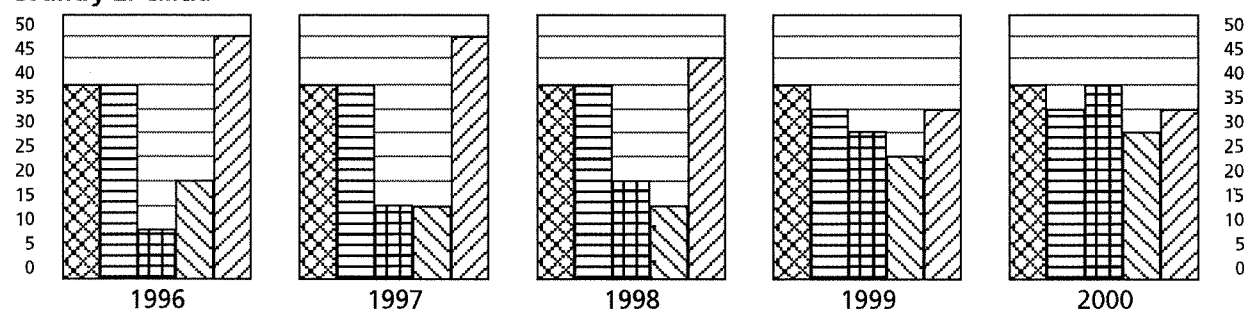


Number of  
single people

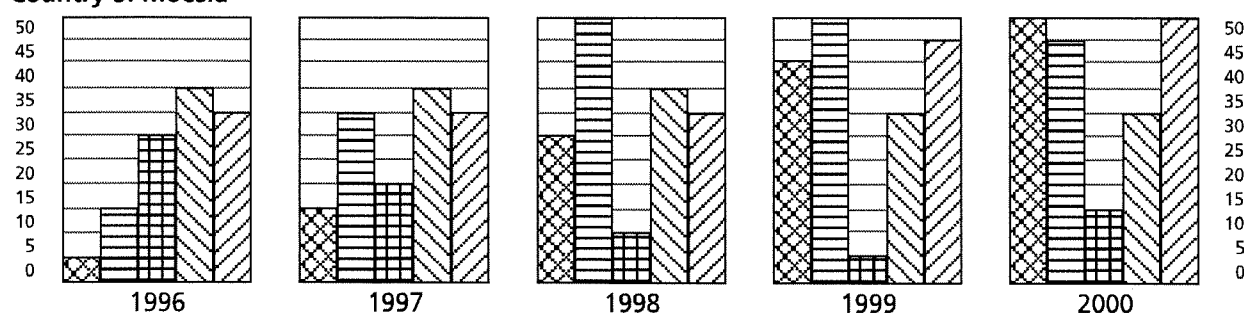
Country 1: Lycia



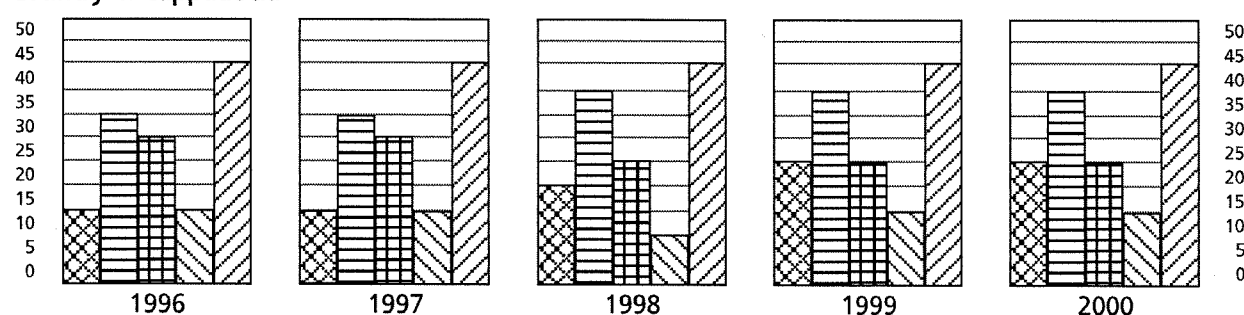
Country 2: Cilicia



Country 3: Moesia



Country 4: Cappadocia

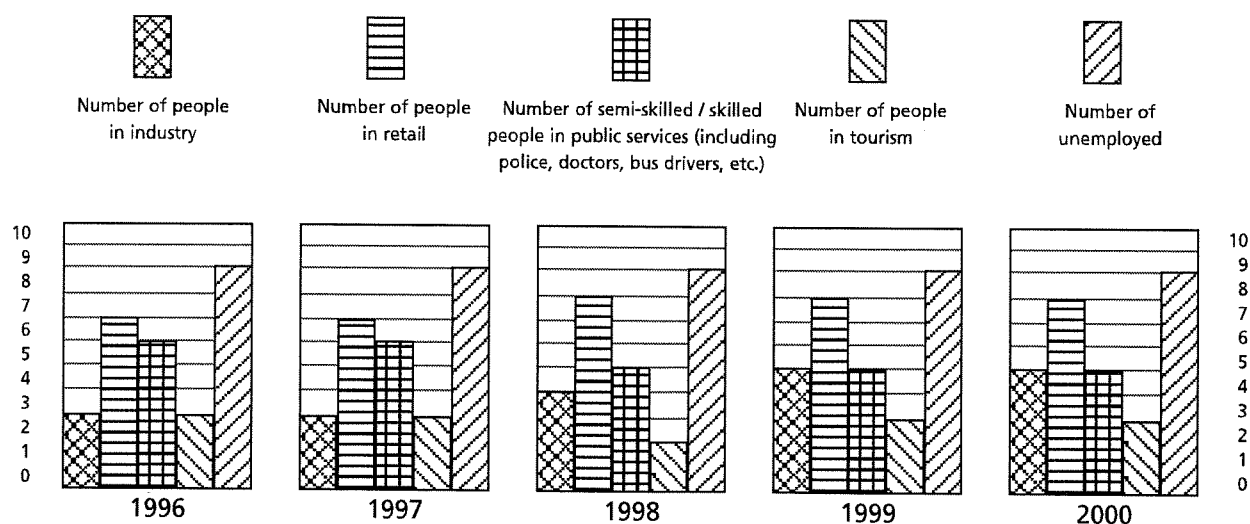


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1. In which two countries was there a **considerable discrepancy** between married and single people between 1996 and 1998?
2. In which country was there a **constant** and **considerable discrepancy** between married and single people over the five-year period?
3. In which country was there a **sudden** and **noticeable difference** between those under 18 and those over 65 in 1998?
4. In which country did the number of under-18s **rise dramatically** between 1996 and 2000?
5. In which country did the number of under-18s **increase slightly** between 1996 and 2000?
6. In which country did the number of over-65s **go up sharply** between 1996 and 1998?
7. In which country did the number of married people **decline significantly** over the five-year period?
8. In which country did the number of deaths **decrease significantly** between 1996 and 1999?
9. In which two countries was there a **slight decline** in the number of married people between 1998 and 1999?
10. In which country was there a **sharp drop** in the number of under-18s between 1997 and 1998?
11. In which country was there a **slight reduction** in the number of deaths over the five-year period?
12. In which country was there a **significant increase** in the number of deaths between 1998 and 2000?
13. In which country did the number of deaths **remain constant** over the five-year period?

**B. Now look at the table below, which shows the changes in economic activity in a town over a period of five years. The figures on the left and right show the number of people involved in these activities, in thousands. Write your own sentences to describe the situation in the town regarding the number of:**

1. People employed in industry between 1996 and 2000.
2. People employed in retail between 1996 and 2000.
3. People employed in public services between 1999 and 2000.
4. People employed in tourism between 1996 and 2000.
5. Unemployed between 1998 and 2000.
6. People employed in industry compared with those in retail in 1996.
7. People employed in industry between 1998 and 1999.



# **DESCRIBING & ANALYSING TABLES : ANSWER KEY**

## **Page 4 Describing & analysing tables answers**

- A. 1. Cilicia + Cappadocia 2. Cappadocia 3. Lycia 4. Moesia 5. Cappadocia 6. Moesia 7. Lycia 8. Moesia  
9. Lycia + Moesia 10. Lycia 11. Lycia 12. Cilicia 13. Cappadocia

The verbs *rise* and *increase* have the same meaning here. We can also say *climb*. These verbs can also be nouns.

The verbs *fall*, *drop* and *decline* have the same meaning here. These verbs can also be nouns.

The adverbs *steadily* and *noticeably* can have the same meaning here. They can also be adjectives (*steady*, *noticeable*).

The adverbs *sharply*, *rapidly* and *dramatically* can have the same meaning here. They can also be adjectives (*sharp*, *rapid*, *dramatic*).

### **B. Suggested answers.**

1. The number of people employed in industry rose / increased steadily / noticeably between 1996 and 2000 / over the five year period.  
Or  
There was a steady / noticeable rise / increase in the number of people employed in industry between 1996 and 2000 / over the five-year period.
2. The number of people employed in retail rose / increased slightly between 1996 and 2000 / over the five-year period.  
Or  
There was a slight rise / increase in the number of people employed in retail between 1996 and 2000 / over the five year period.
3. The number of people employed in public services remained constant between 1999 and 2000.  
Or  
There was a constant level of people employed in public services between 1999 and 2000.
4. The number of people employed in tourism fell / dropped / declined between 1996 and 1998, but rose / increased in 1999 and 2000.  
Or  
There was a fall / drop / decline in the number of people employed in tourism between 1996 and 1998, and then a rise / increase in 1999 and 2000.
5. The number of people unemployed between 1998 and 2000 remained constant.  
Or  
There was a constant level of unemployment between 1998 and 2000.
6. There was a considerable discrepancy between those working in industry and those working in retail in 1996.
7. The number of people employed in industry rose / increased slightly between 1998 and 1999.  
Or  
There was a slight rise / increase in the number of people employed in industry between 1998 and 1999.

### **Other words and expressions which you might find useful include:**

For things going up: rocket / jump / edge up / soar / creep up / peak (especially for numbers, prices, etc.)

For things going down: slump / plunge / slip back / slip down / plummet / drop / bottom out (especially when talking about prices)