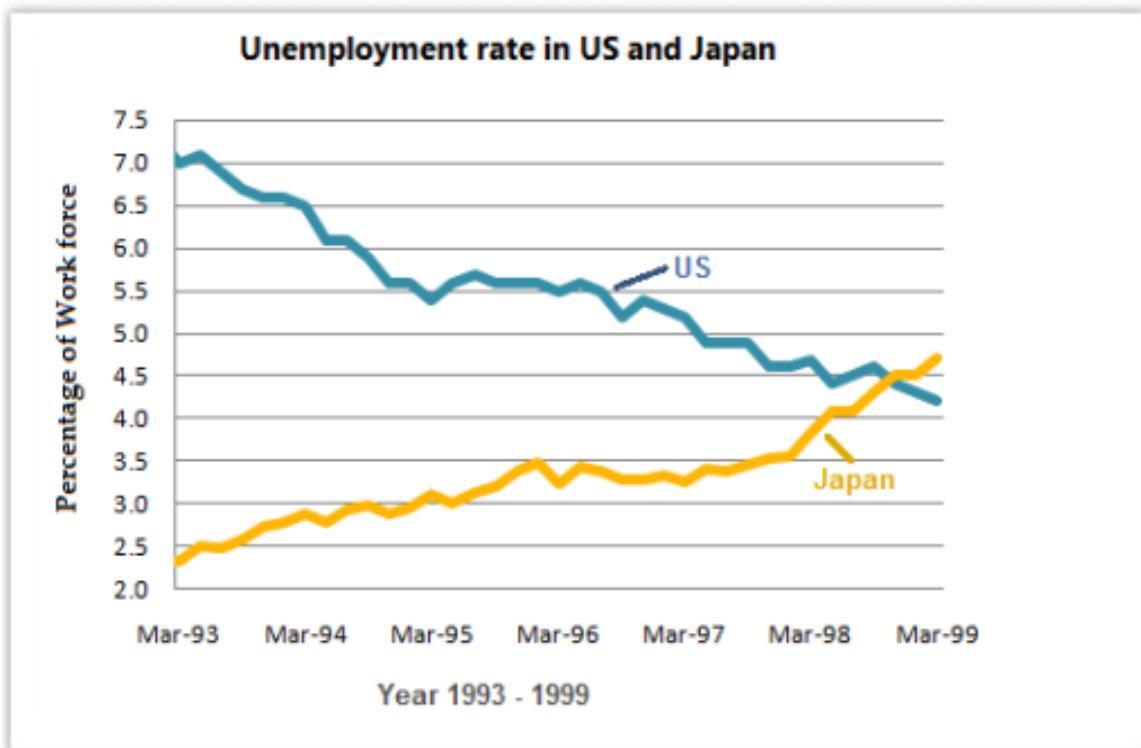


## Task 1: Line Graph

**Subject:** The graph below shows the unemployment rates in the US and Japan between March 1993 and March 1999.



## **Model Answer #1**

### **Response:**

The provided line graph illustrates the unemployment rates in the United States and Japan over a six-year period from March 1993 to March 1999, expressed as percentages of the respective workforces.

Overall, it is apparent that the United States experienced a significant and consistent decline in unemployment rates, while Japan's rates exhibited a gradual increase, ultimately converging with those of the United States by the end of the observed period.

In the United States, the unemployment rate began at approximately 7.5% in March 1993 and demonstrated a steady decline throughout the subsequent years. By March 1995, this figure had decreased to around 5.5%, although a slight uptick to approximately 5.7% was observed shortly thereafter, which persisted for over a year. Nevertheless, this was followed by a marked decrease, resulting in the unemployment rate reaching about 4.5% by March 1999, illustrating a substantial improvement in the employment landscape during this timeframe.

Conversely, Japan commenced with a significantly lower unemployment rate of about 2.5% in March 1993; however, its trajectory was less favorable. After initially hovering below 3.0%, the unemployment rate began to rise, surpassing the 3.5% threshold by March 1996. Despite experiencing brief fluctuations, this upward momentum was maintained, and by March 1999, the unemployment rate escalated to approximately 4.7%. This shift not only underscores the challenges faced by Japan's labor market but also highlights the convergence of unemployment rates between the two nations.

### **Evaluation:**

#### **Overall Band Score: 9**

**Task Response (9):** The report fully addresses all parts of the task and provides a comprehensive overview of the data presented in the graph. The analysis is thorough and insightful.

**Coherence & Cohesion (9):** The report is exceptionally well-organized and easy to follow. The logical flow of ideas is clear and consistent, with excellent use of cohesive devices to create a smooth and coherent narrative.

**Lexical Resource (8.5):** A wide range of sophisticated vocabulary is used accurately and appropriately throughout the report. The lexical choices are precise and enhance the overall clarity and impact of the writing.

**Grammatical Range & Accuracy (9):** The report demonstrates a wide range of grammatical structures used with complete accuracy and fluency. The writing is grammatically impeccable.



## **Model Answer #2**

### **Response:**

The line graph delineates the unemployment rates in the United States and Japan from March 1993 to March 1999.

Overall, the data demonstrates a marked decline in the unemployment rate in the United States, while Japan experienced a gradual increase over the same period.

In March 1993, the unemployment rate in the United States stood at approximately 7.5%. This figure exhibited a consistent decrease over the subsequent years, diminishing to around 5.5% by March 1995. Following this period, the rate continued to decline, ultimately reaching approximately 4.5% by March 1999. This downward trend signifies an improvement in the labor market within the country throughout the observed timeframe.

Conversely, Japan's unemployment rate commenced at a modest 2.5% in March 1993. The rate then displayed slight fluctuations, with a gradual increase over the following years. By March 1999, Japan's unemployment rate escalated to around 4.5%. Notably, despite this rise, Japan's unemployment figures remained significantly lower than those of the United States for the initial years; however, they converged by the end of the observed period, highlighting a notable shift in the employment landscape.

### **Evaluation:**

#### **Overall Band Score: 9**

**Task Response (9):** Excellent response to the task. All key features are accurately described

**Coherence & Cohesion (9):** The report is exceptionally well-organized and easy to follow. The flow of information is natural and logical

**Lexical Resource (8.5):** A wide range of sophisticated vocabulary is used accurately and appropriately

**Grammatical Range & Accuracy (9):** The grammar is flawless. A wide range of grammatical structures is used with complete accuracy

## **Model Answer #3**

### **Response:**

The line graph presents a comparative analysis of the unemployment rates in the United States and Japan from March 1993 to March 1999.

Notably, the trends exhibited by both countries are distinctly divergent, with the United States showcasing a significant decline in unemployment rates, while Japan's rates displayed a more moderate yet upward trajectory.

In March 1993, the unemployment rate in the United States stood at approximately 7.5%. Over the subsequent six years, this figure witnessed a consistent decline, ultimately reaching about 4.5% by March 1999. Throughout this period, the US unemployment rates experienced some fluctuations, remaining within the range of 5% to 7% until around March 1998, after which they stabilized, culminating at approximately 4.5%. This marked decline underscores a more favorable employment landscape in the US during the observed timeframe.

Conversely, Japan began with an unemployment rate of around 2.5% in March 1993, which exhibited notable fluctuations before incrementally rising to approximately 4.5% by March 1999. Initially, the rate ascended to 3% shortly after the initial measurement, before fluctuating moderately between 1994 and 1995. Subsequent to March 1995, there was a gradual increase in the unemployment rate that culminated in a peak coinciding with that of the United States at 4.5% in March 1998. By March 1999, Japan's unemployment rate stabilized at this level, illustrating a concerning trend as compared to its starting figure.

### **Evaluation:**

#### **Overall Band Score: 9**

**Task Response (9):** The report provides a comprehensive and accurate summary of the data presented in the graph. All key features are described clearly and concisely.

**Coherence & Cohesion (9):** The report is exceptionally well-organized and easy to follow. The information flows logically, with clear transitions between paragraphs and ideas.

**Lexical Resource (8.5):** A wide range of sophisticated vocabulary is used accurately and appropriately. The language is precise and effective in conveying the information.

**Grammatical Range & Accuracy (9):** The grammar is impeccable. A wide range of grammatical structures is used accurately and fluently.

## **Model Answer #4**

### **Response:**

The line graph illustrates the rates of unemployment in the US and Japan from March 1993 to March 1999.

Overall, it is evident that during this six-year period, the unemployment rates in the US decreased, whereas more people consistently became jobless in Japan.

During March 1993, 7 percent of the workforce in the United States was unemployed, which was the highest proportion within the period. This figure then declined rapidly over the next two years and by March 1995, it reached a low of approximately 5.4 percent and remained relatively stable around this number for the following years until 1997, when it continued to fluctuate downwards. By March 1999, it had plummeted to roughly 4.1% of the workforce.

On the other hand, unemployment rates in Japan started off at around 2.3 percent in 1993 and continuously rose over the period with minor fluctuations. Ultimately, the proportion of jobless Japanese citizens peaked at 4.7% by March 1999.

### **Evaluation:**

#### **Overall Band Score: 9**

**Task Response (9):** The report provides a clear and accurate summary of the main features of the graph, highlighting the key trends and making relevant comparisons between the US and Japan.

**Coherence & Cohesion (9):** The report is well-organized and easy to follow. The information is presented logically and smoothly, with clear transitions between paragraphs and sentences.

**Lexical Resource (9):** The report demonstrates a wide range of vocabulary, using precise and appropriate language to describe the trends and make comparisons. The language is sophisticated and natural.

**Grammatical Range & Accuracy (9):** The report is grammatically accurate and uses a variety of sentence structures effectively. Punctuation is used correctly throughout.

## **Model Answer #5**

### **Response:**

The provided visual representation portrays the changes in unemployment rates in the United States and Japan from March 1993 to March 1999.

The graph compares the percentage of the workforce without jobs in the US and Japan over the specified period. While the US experienced a substantial decrease in unemployment from 7.5% in March 1993 to 4.5% by March 1999, Japan's rate fluctuated slightly from around 2.5% in March 1993 to about 4.5% in March 1999.

In the US, the unemployment rate peaked at 7.5% in March 1993 and significantly dropped to 4.5% by March 1999. The decline was most notable between 1993 and 1995, with a minor increase in 1996. Conversely, Japan saw a steady increase in unemployment until 1996, reaching 3.5%, followed by a period of stagnation until 1998 before a sharp rise. The US recorded its highest unemployment rate of 7.1% in March 1993, whereas Japan peaked at 4.6% in March 1999.

After March 1998, both countries experienced a similar unemployment rate of about 4.4%. The graph indicates an intersection point where the lines representing the US and Japan's unemployment rates converge during this period, highlighting the comparable joblessness levels in these nations.

Word Count: 196

### **Evaluation:**

#### **Overall Band Score: 9**

**Task Response (9):** The report fully addresses the task by describing the changes in unemployment rates in the US and Japan from March 1993 to March 1999, as shown in the graph. The word count exceeds the minimum requirement, providing a detailed analysis.

**Coherence & Cohesion (9):** The report is well-structured with clear paragraphs that logically present the information. Transition words are effectively used to connect ideas, making the report easy to follow. The overall coherence and cohesion are excellent.

**Lexical Resource (9):** The report demonstrates a wide range of vocabulary related to describing trends and data, such as 'substantial decrease,' 'fluctuated slightly,' 'notable,' 'stagnation,' and 'intersection point.' The vocabulary is precise and enhances the overall quality of the report.

**Grammatical Range & Accuracy (9):** A variety of grammatical structures is used accurately throughout the report. The sentences are complex and well-constructed, showcasing the writer's command of grammar. Punctuation is correctly applied, contributing to the overall clarity of the report.

