Task 1: Bar Chart

Subject: The graph below shows the percentage of the population in 4 Asian countries living in cities from 1970 and 2020, with predictions for 2030 and 2040.
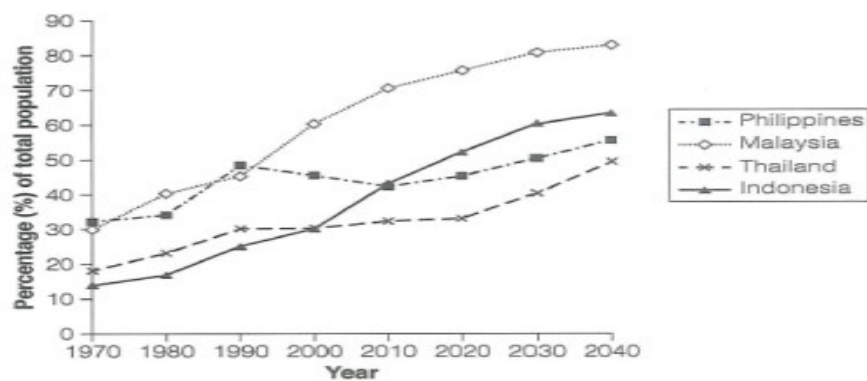
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The graph below gives information about the percentage of the population in four Asian countries living in cities from 1970 to 2020, with predictions for 2030 and 2040.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.

Percentage of the population living in cities

Model Answer #1

Response:

The line graph illustrates the percentage of the population living in urban areas in four Asian countries—Thailand, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Indonesia—between 1970 and 2020, with projections for 2030 and 2040. The data are presented in percentages, highlighting past trends and anticipated changes over a 70-year period. Overall, the graph indicates a significant increase in urban populations across all four countries by 2040.

Between 1990 and 2000, both Thailand and the Philippines experienced a decline in their urban populations. The decrease was particularly pronounced in the Philippines, where the proportion of city residents dropped by nearly 10%. However, while Thailand recovered quickly and reached a new peak by 2020, the Philippines only began to see growth again in the last decade.

Meanwhile, Malaysia and Indonesia have both exhibited fluctuations in their urban populations over time. Despite these variations, the overall trajectory in both countries has been one of steady growth. Malaysia, in particular, has consistently maintained the highest level of urbanization among the four nations since 2000. By 2040, the percentage of Malaysia's urban population is expected to be nearly three times what it was in 1970.

In summary, although some temporary declines have been observed, the general trend points toward increasing urbanization in all four countries. The forecasts suggest that by 2040, city populations in these nations will continue to rise, with Malaysia remaining the most urbanized.

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 (9): A wide range of sophisticated vocabulary is used accurately and appropriately

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

Model Answer #2

Response:

The line graph illustrates the percentage of urban dwellers in four Asian nations—Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, and Indonesia—over a 50-year span from 1970 to 2020, with forecasts extending to 2040.

Overall, the data indicate a consistent upward trend in urbanization across all four countries, albeit with varying rates of growth and distinct projections for the future.

In 1970, the Philippines exhibited the highest urbanization rate at 35%, followed closely by Malaysia at 30%. Thailand and Indonesia, conversely, lagged behind with urban populations of approximately 15% and 10%, respectively. Throughout the subsequent decades, the Philippines and Malaysia each experienced significant growth; and by 2000, Malaysia saw a marked increase, surpassing the Philippines with a rate of 65%. By 2020, the Philippines had escalated its urban population to 75%, while Malaysia reached 80%. Future predictions suggest an upward trajectory, with the Philippines expected to achieve 85% urbanization by 2040, and Malaysia projected to attain 90%.

Thailand's urbanization progressed from 15% in 1970 to 55% in 2020, with forecasts indicating it will rise to 75% by 2040. Conversely, Indonesia, despite recording the lowest initial urbanization rate, demonstrated a notable increase, climbing from 10% in 1970 to 55% by 2020, with projections of reaching 70% by 2040. This denotes a substantial transformation in urban living conditions; however, Indonesia's rate of increase remains lower than its counterparts, indicating a slower pace of urbanization relative to Thailand, the Philippines, and Malaysia.

Evaluation:

Overall Band Score: 9

Task Response (9): Excellent summary of all main features, comparisons, and projections. All parts of the task are successfully addressed.

Coherence & Cohesion (9): The report is exceptionally well-organized and easy to follow. The flow of information is natural and logical, with skillful use of cohesive devices.

Lexical Resource (8.5): A wide range of sophisticated vocabulary is used accurately and appropriately. The lexical choices enhance the clarity and precision of the report.

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

Model Answer #3

Response:

The provided line graph illustrates the proportion of the population residing in urban areas across four Asian countries between 1970 and 2020, with forecasts extending to 2030 and 2040.

Overall, the urban population percentages for all four countries increased steadily over the observed period and are projected to continue rising. Among these countries, Malaysia consistently recorded the highest urbanization rate, while Thailand had the lowest. Meanwhile, Indonesia and the Philippines remained in an intermediate range throughout the years.

In greater detail, Indonesia and Thailand both experienced steady growth in urbanization rates, with their figures converging at approximately 30% in the early 2000s. Following this intersection, Indonesia surpassed Thailand and is expected to maintain a higher urbanization rate in the years ahead.

Similarly, Malaysia and the Philippines began with urbanization levels of about 30% in 1970. By 1990, their rates aligned at roughly 50%, after which Malaysia's growth significantly outpaced that of the Philippines. This trend is projected to persist, with Malaysia reaching the highest proportion of urban dwellers—around 80% by 2040—compared to the other countries.

In conclusion, while all four countries exhibit increasing urbanization, Malaysia stands out as the most urbanized, with Thailand trailing behind, and the Philippines and Indonesia showing moderate but steady growth.

Evaluation:

Overall Band Score: 9

Task Response (9): Excellent overview of the main trends and comparisons. All key features are accurately described and compared.

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

Lexical Resource (8.5): A wide range of sophisticated vocabulary is used precisely and naturally. The language is highly effective in conveying the information.

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

Model Answer #4

Response:

The line graph presents an analysis of urban population percentages in four Asian countries—Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, and Indonesia—ranging from 1970 to 2020, with projections extending to 2030 and 2040.

In general, the data illustrates a progressive urbanization trend across all four countries, with Malaysia maintaining the highest proportion of urban dwellers by 2020, a trend projected to continue into the future.

Examining the data from 1970 to 2020, the Philippines initially had the highest urban population at 35% in 1970, experiencing a steady rise to 75% by 2020, with a forecasted increase to 85% by 2040. Conversely, Malaysia, which started at 30% in 1970, surpassed the Philippines by 2000, reaching approximately 80% in 2020 and is projected to achieve 90% by 2040. Thailand's urban populace exhibited a more gradual increase, evolving from 15% in 1970 to 55% by 2020. It is anticipated that Thailand will rise further to 75% by 2040. Indonesia, which had the lowest urbanization rate starting at only 10% in 1970, showed a significant increase to 55% by 2020, with expectations of reaching 70% by 2040.

The predictions beyond 2020 indicate a continuing upward trajectory for urban populations across all four nations. Malaysia is expected to maintain its lead, forecasted to exceed 80% by 2040. Meanwhile, Indonesia is projected to advance to around 70%, further closing the gap with Thailand, which is likely to see substantial growth but will remain behind at approximately 65%. Interestingly, while the Philippines is anticipated to revert to its prior rate of urbanization, placing it in a competitive position between Indonesia and Thailand, it will not regain its former leadership in urban population percentages.

Evaluation:

Overall Band Score: 9

Task Response (9): Excellent overview of the main features and comparisons. All parts of the task are successfully addressed.

Coherence & Cohesion (9): The report is exceptionally well-structured 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. The language is precise and effective.

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

Model Answer #5

Response:

The line graph delineates the percentage of the population residing in urban areas in four Asian countries, namely the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, and Indonesia, spanning the years from 1970 to 2020, and making projections for 2030 and 2040.

Overall, there has been a consistent upward trend in urbanization across all four countries. The Philippines and Malaysia displayed the highest urban population percentages, while Thailand and Indonesia exhibited lower initial rates but significant increases over the years. Projections indicate further urbanization for all countries by 2040.

Notably, the Philippines experienced a substantial urbanization shift, starting at 35% in 1970 and steadily rising to 75% by 2020, with a projected increase to 85% by 2040. On the other hand, Malaysia's urban population began at 30% in 1970, surpassing the Philippines by 2000, and reaching 80% by 2020, with an expected ascent to 90% by 2040.

In contrast, Thailand and Indonesia displayed lower initial urban population percentages. Thailand's urban population grew from 15% in 1970 to 55% in 2020, with a forecasted rise to 75% by 2040. Similarly, Indonesia started at 10% in 1970, climbing to 55% by 2020, and is projected to reach 70% by 2040, signifying substantial urbanization in both countries.

Evaluation:

Overall Band Score: 9

Task Response (9): The report fully addresses the task by providing a clear overview of the information presented in the graph, including the trends and projections for urban population percentages in the four Asian countries over the specified time period. The key features are accurately summarized, and the report effectively covers all the necessary details.

Coherence & Cohesion (9): The report is exceptionally well-organized and coherent. The information is presented in a logical sequence, with clear and appropriate paragraphing. The use of cohesive devices and linking words enhances the overall coherence, making the report easy to follow. There are no noticeable lapses in coherence or cohesion.

Lexical Resource (9): The report demonstrates an outstanding command of lexical resources. A wide range of vocabulary is used with precision and accuracy, conveying the intended meaning effectively. The language used is natural and sophisticated, contributing to the overall clarity and coherence of the report.

Grammatical Range & Accuracy (9): The report exhibits a high level of grammatical range and accuracy. A variety of complex structures is used with full control, and there are no errors in punctuation or grammar. The sentences are well-constructed, contributing to the overall fluency and

coherence of the report.