Population Aged 65 and over

According to the graph we can see that aged people who are 65 years old or older are becoming more and more in all of the three countries. Generally, in 1940 they as a whole accounted for less than ten percent but are keeping on increasing to over 20 percent in 2040.

The aged population takes proportion of 7 percent, 9 percent in Sweden and USA respectively in 1940 and increased steadily/gradually to the year of 1980. Then there is a minor fall on the curves after that for both countries. However, it rises dramatically after 1990 and falls again after around 2018 in Sweden. Finally, the number of the aged people increases sharply until 2040. Whereas, the number decreases gradually until 2019 in USA and then increases steeply after that year.

In Japan, the aged people is becoming fewer and fewer from 1940 to 1985 and only accounts for less than 5 percent before 2005. Then there is a turning point in 1985. After years of gradually increasing, the number increases dramatically in 2030 and the proportion is even over 25 perent in 2040.

**TEST 1, WRITING TASK 1**

**MODEL ANSWER**

*This model has been prepared by an examiner as an example of a very good answer. However, please note that this is just one example out of many possible approaches.*

The graph shows the increase in the ageing population in Japan, Sweden

and the USA. It indicates that the percentage of elderly people in all three

countries is expected to increase to almost 25% of the respective

populations by the year 2040.

In 1940 the proportion of people aged 65 or more stood at only 5% in Japan,

approximately 7% in Sweden and 9% in the US. However, while the figures

for the Western countries grew to about 15% in around 1990, the figure for

Japan dipped to only 2.5% for much of this period, before rising to almost

5% again at the present time.

In spite of some fluctuation in the expected percentages, the proportion of

older people will probably continue to increase in the next two decades in the

three countries. A more dramatic rise is predicted between 2030 and 2040 in

Japan, by which time it is thought that the proportion of elderly people will be

similar in the three countries.