

Double Graph Task

Often in the IELTS Task 1 academic exam, you are given two charts. With two charts you can structure the body of your report either with a paragraph for each chart or by the categories of each chart. Each one has advantages. Structuring the essay with a paragraph about each chart is an easy structure, and you have two clear body paragraphs. You focus mostly on the highest and lowest figures of each chart and the comparison usually comes in the overall summary. It is also quicker to write.

Structuring the essay by categories of the chart allows for more comparisons to be made and can result in a better coverage of the data. It can be more difficult for the reader to see your structure if it is not written carefully. It can be harder to get logical body paragraphs and can just end in one big body paragraph. Getting logical separation of data has to be done on a case by case basis depending on the data of the particular task. For instance, a paragraph could be written about the highest proportions and another one about the lowest proportions only if the highest and lowest proportions are the same in each pie graph.

I would pick ONE way, and always use this structure, so that you have it perfected before your exam. If your goal is 7 the safest way is by pie, but if you really want to get to 8 it could be worth the risk of going by category. Examples of both ways of writing the task are given below.