

Graph description in depth

READING

LEVEL
Advanced

NUMBER
EN_BE_3808R

LANGUAGE
English

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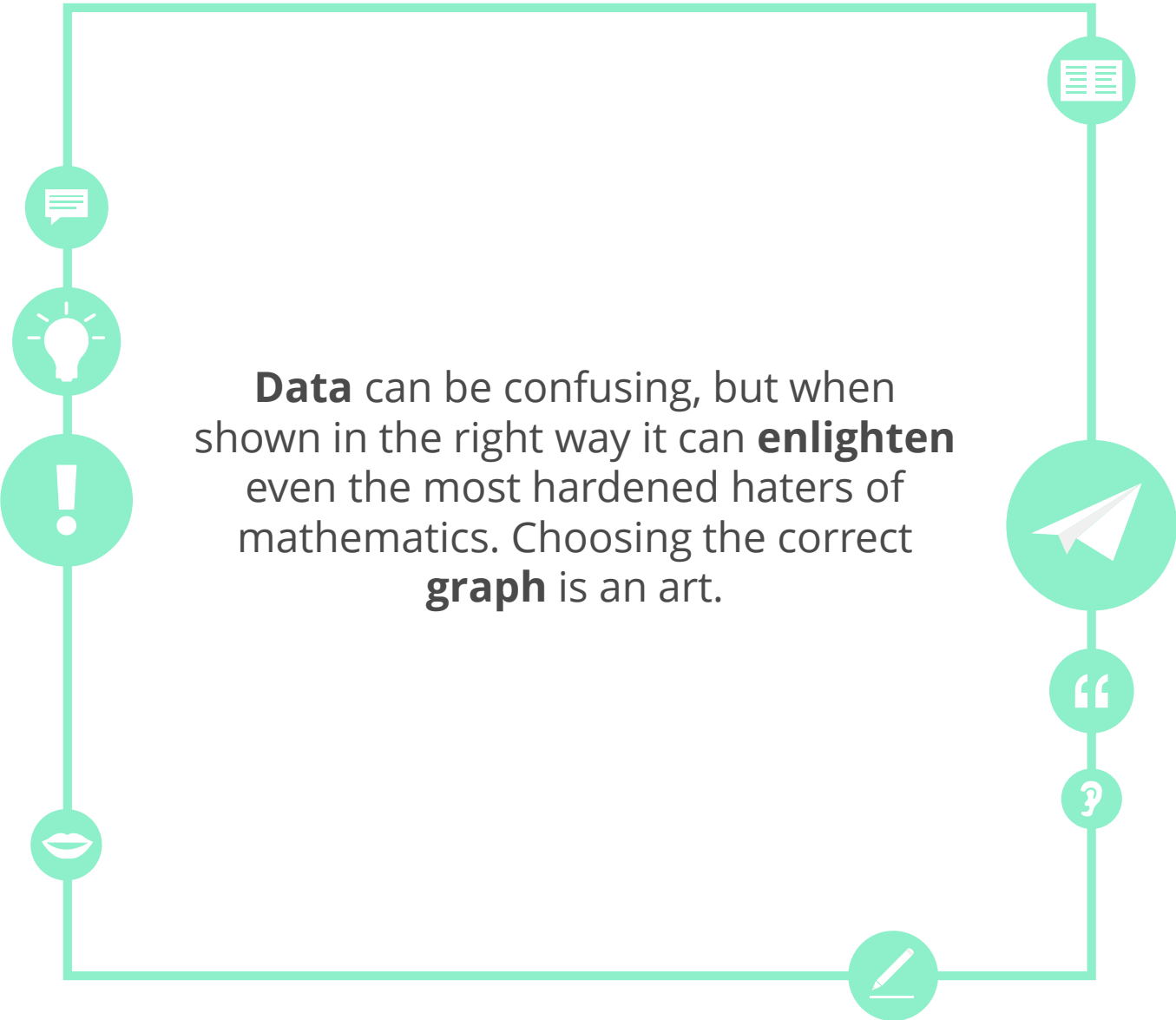




Goals

- Can recognise and recall a variety of technical terms used to label and describe a graph.
- Can accurately describe a graph or a set of more complex statistics to justify a point.



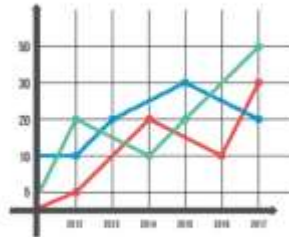


Data can be confusing, but when shown in the right way it can **enlighten** even the most hardened haters of mathematics. Choosing the correct **graph** is an art.



Graphs

**What different types of charts do you know?
Which ones do you find easiest to read?**





Charts and graphs

When and where do you see a lot of **charts** and **graphs**?
Which types of charts and graphs do you see the most often?





Describing the topic

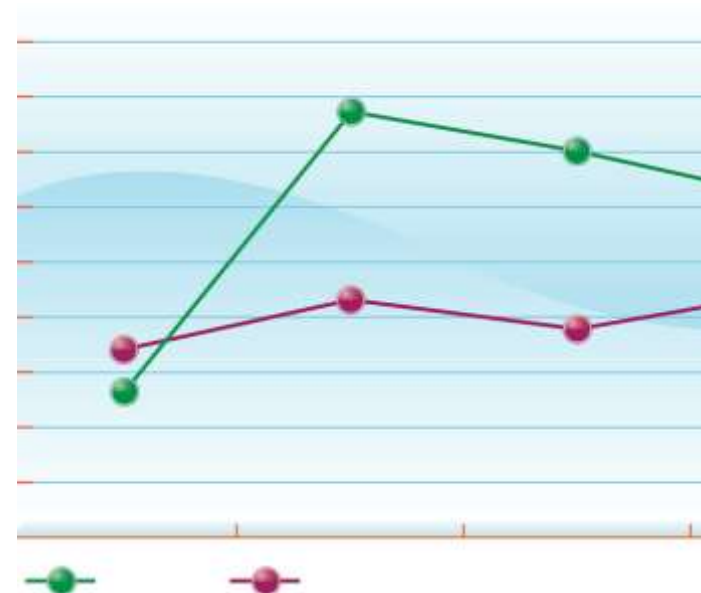
- Below are some **phrases** you can use to describe the **subject** of a **graph**.

The subject/topic of the graph is...

The diagram provides information on...

These statistics indicate...

The chart illustrates how...





Verbs to describe graphs

- Look at the **verbs** below that you can use to talk about **charts** and **graphs**.

depict	The chart depicts the changes in the market.
suggest	The graph suggests that sales have remained stable.
imply	The figures imply that there has been no real change.
conclude	We can conclude that sales figures will remain the same for the foreseeable future.
tell	The pie chart tells us that sales of fiction and non-fiction are equally divided.



Giving facts about the data

- Here are some phrases you can use to give facts about where the **data comes from** and how it is **displayed**.

The chart was published by...	The data is from the year...
The data is taken from the following source:...	The figures are given in per cent.
The table specifies...	This value is given in the form of a curve.
This value is displayed as a circle.	The data was collected by...



Reading the graph

- Here are some **phrases** that you can use when **interpreting data** on a **graph**.

- The graph shows the upward/downward trend of...
- The table shows the rising/declining development of...
- What the chart shows is a positive/negative trend...
- If you compare data point A and data point B...
- You can notice great similarities between...



Giving your opinion

- Using adjectives, you can give your opinion on the data in a graph.

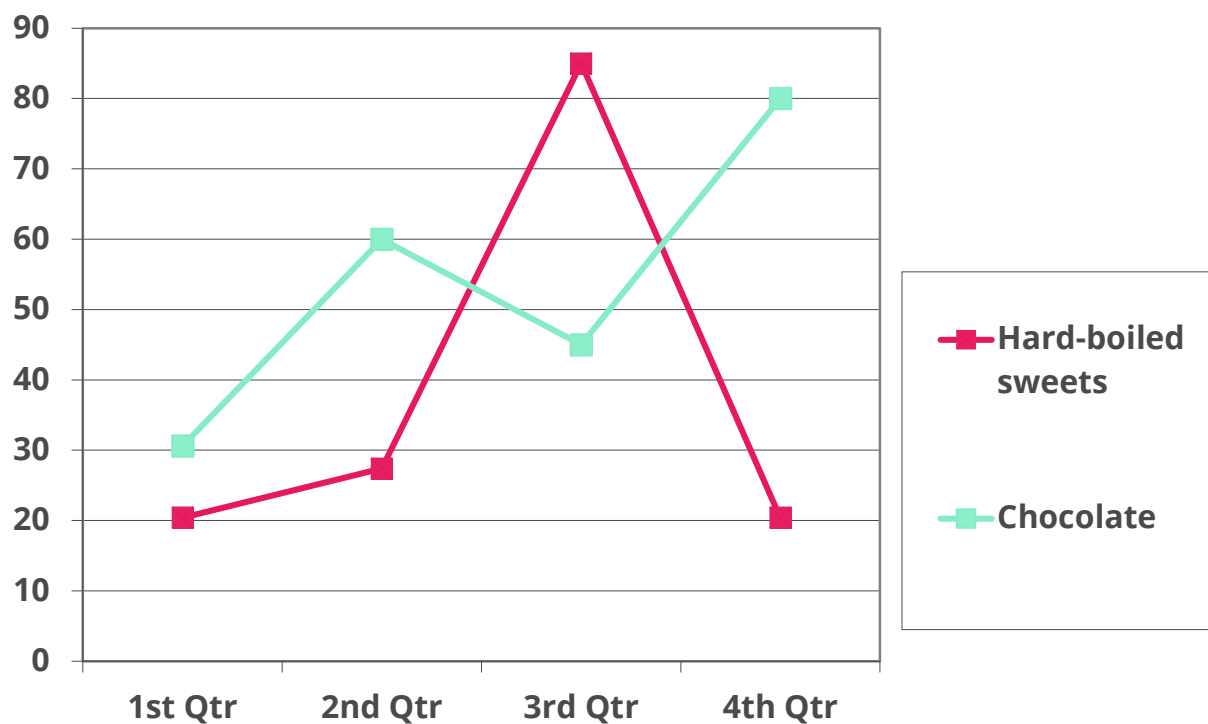
- What is **striking** is that...
- What is **surprising** is that...
- What is **astonishing** is that...





A line chart

Look at the chart on this page. It shows sales of hard-boiled sweets and chocolate in a shop in the USA during the year of 2016.





Find the mistakes

Now read a description of the chart. Find 5 incorrect observations and correct them.

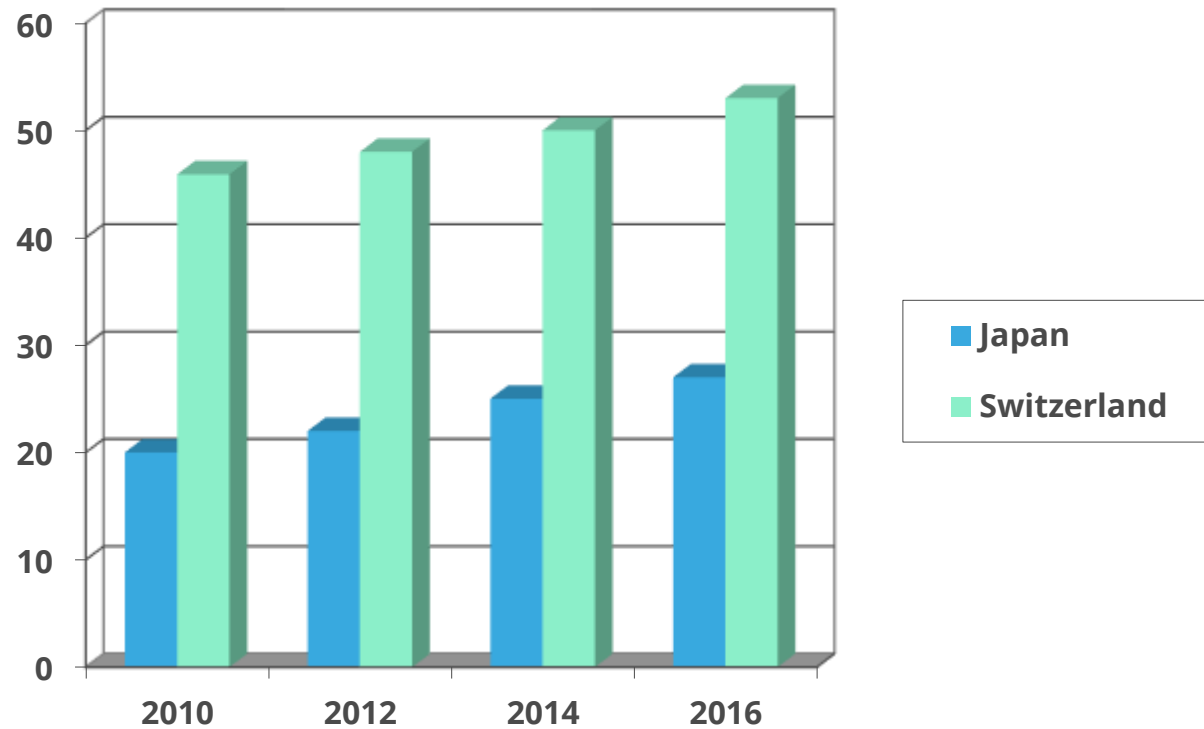
The graph shows a shop's sales of chocolate and hard-boiled sweets over four quarters of one year. The data was collected in 2017. The figures tell us that there is little variation in sales across the year. If we compare hard-boiled sweets to chocolate, we can see that the best quarter for hard-boiled sweets is the third, while the best for chocolate is the second. This implies that events happening in the year have a small impact on sales. Hard-boiled sweets show a huge rise in sales in the third quarter. Perhaps Americans are preparing for Halloween in October? Chocolate is clearly the most popular choice in the fourth quarter, when Christmas is celebrated. What is really striking is the dominance of hard-boiled sweets over chocolate for the Christmas season.





A bar chart

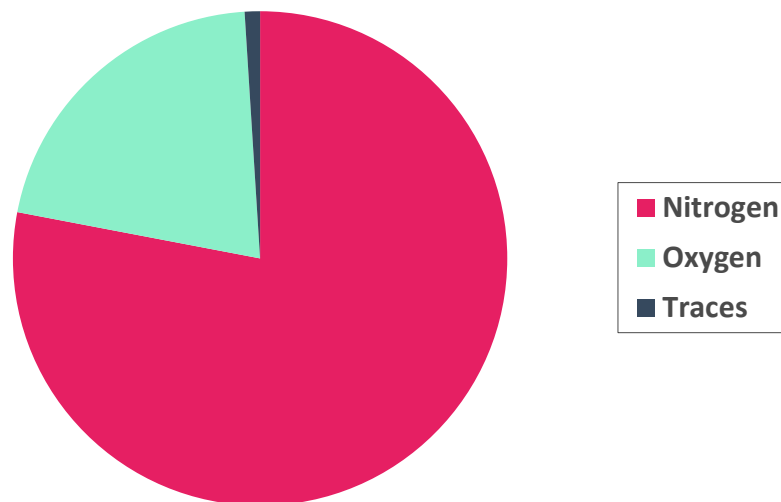
Look at the bar chart below showing recycling percentages in Japan and Switzerland. Describe what you can see for each country.





A pie chart

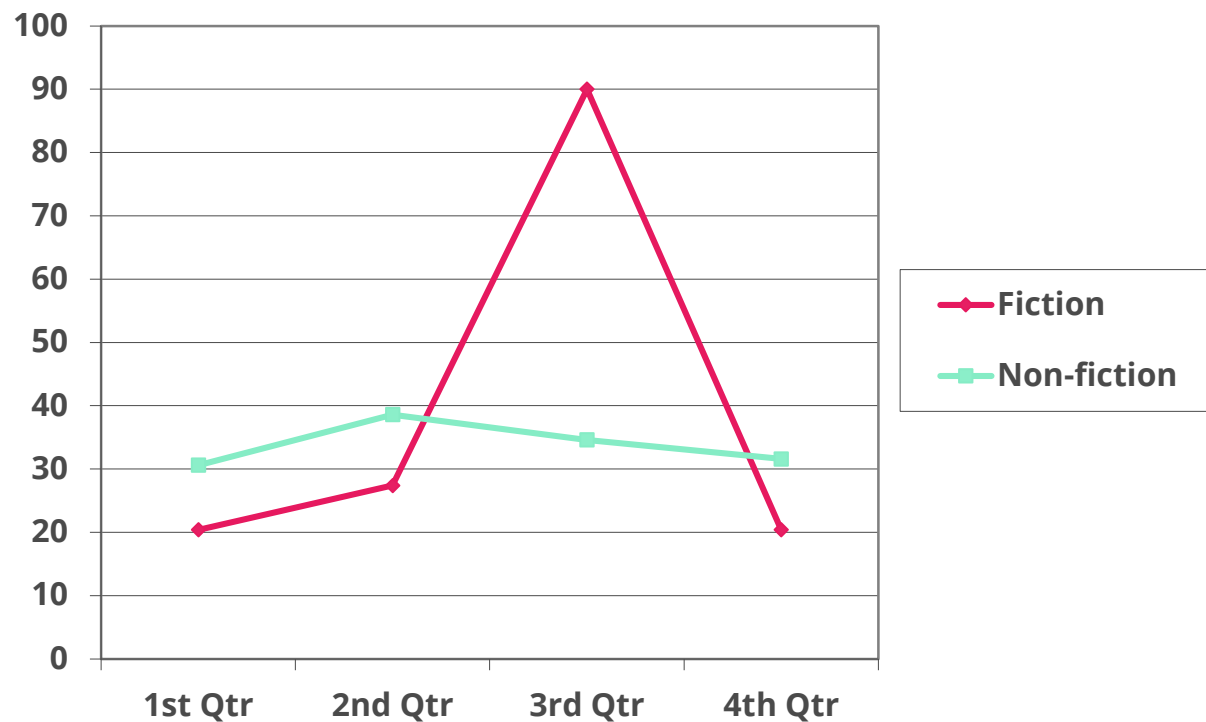
Look at the pie chart below which shows the components of air.
Describe what you can see.





A line graph

Look at the line graph below showing sales of fiction and non-fiction in a bookshop. Describe what you can see.





Writing

Choose one of the three graphs on the previous pages and write a description of it here. Use some of the phrases from the lesson.

upward trend

decline

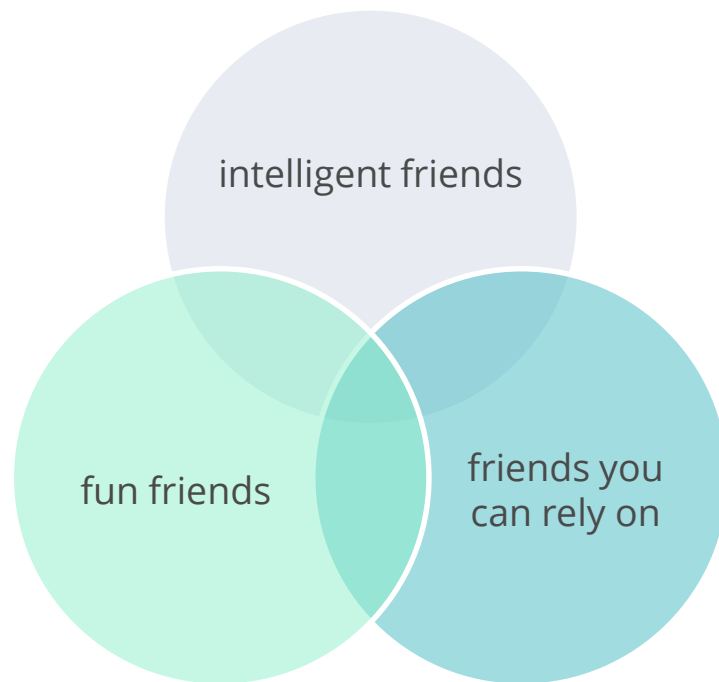


A blank sheet of lined paper with a spiral binding on the left side, intended for writing a description of a graph.



Venn diagram

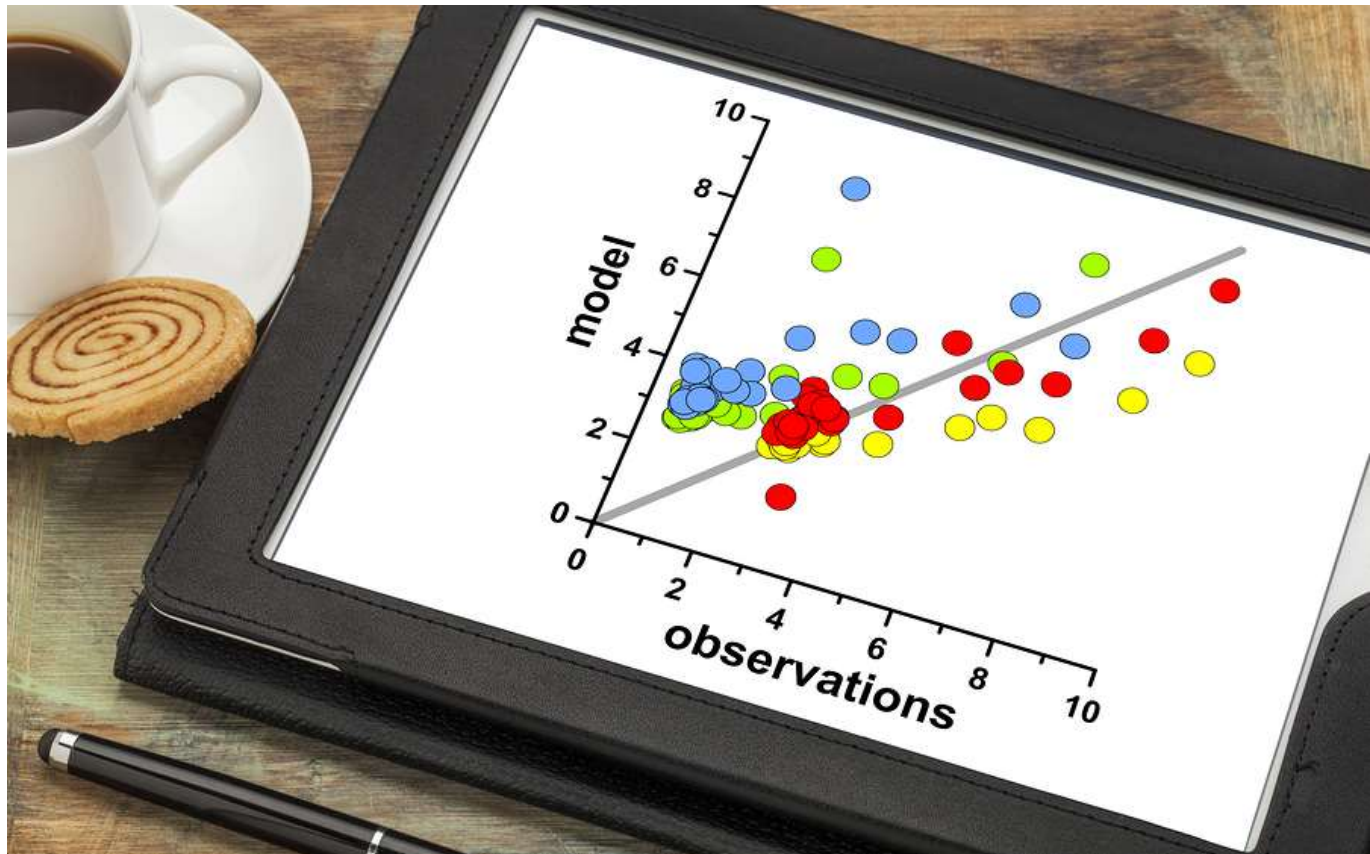
This is a Venn diagram. It shows overlapping data. When do you think they are most useful? When do you use them?





Scatter chart

Below is a scatter chart. Have you seen these used before? Where?

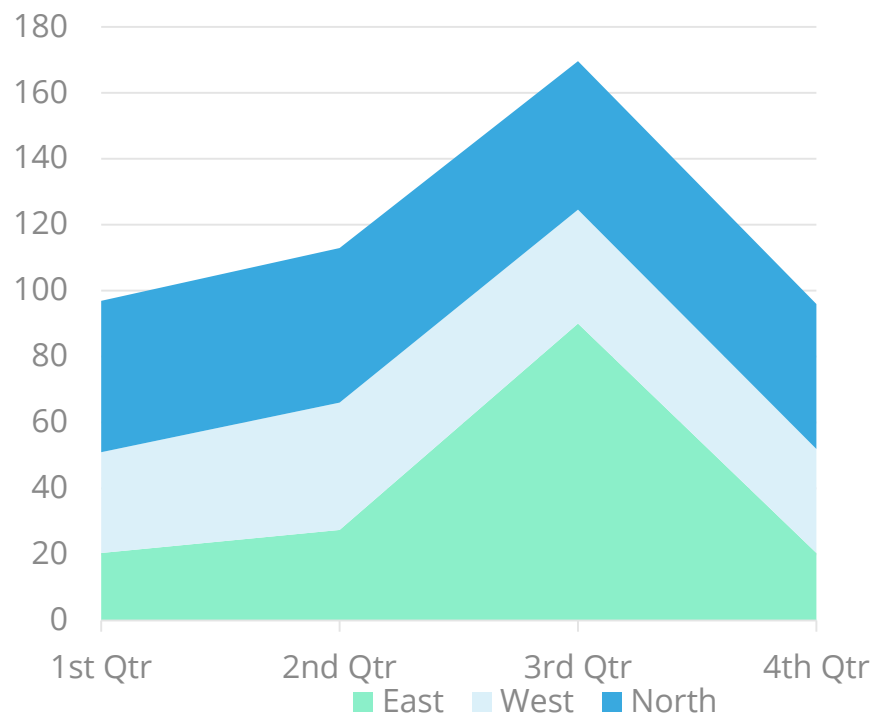




Area chart

Here we have an area chart. An area chart is used to show *cumulated* totals. In other words, it shows how different parts combine to make a whole amount.

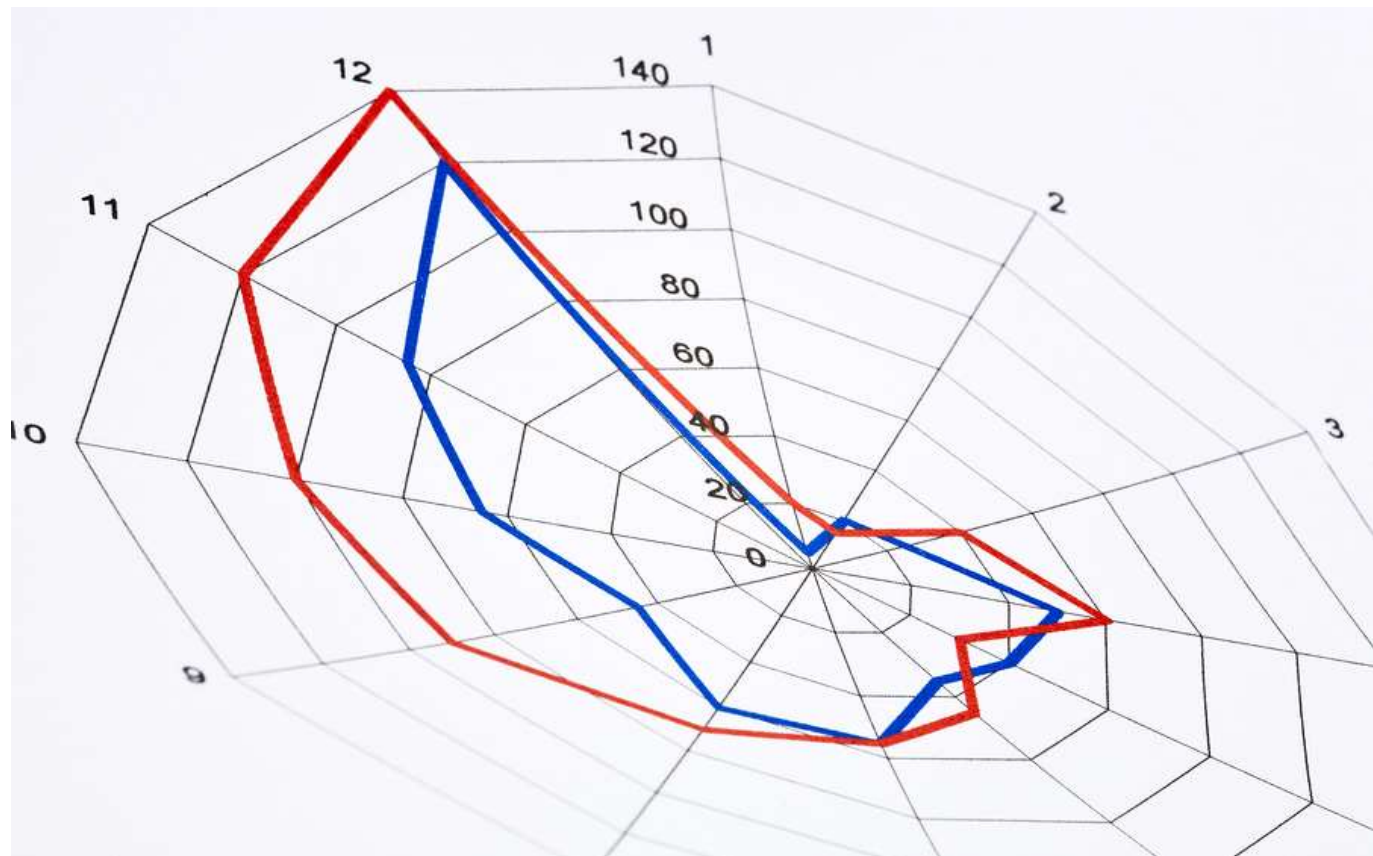
Do you find this sort of graph easy to read? Why?





Radar chart

A radar chart like the one below is used to compare multiple quantitative variables. The axis starts in the centre. Have you seen one before?





Choose a chart

Of all of the charts depicted on the previous pages, which would you choose to display the following data? Discuss your answers with your teacher or classmates.

a chart showing
profit made in 4
stores owned by
the same person

a chart showing
creatures with two
legs and creatures
which can fly

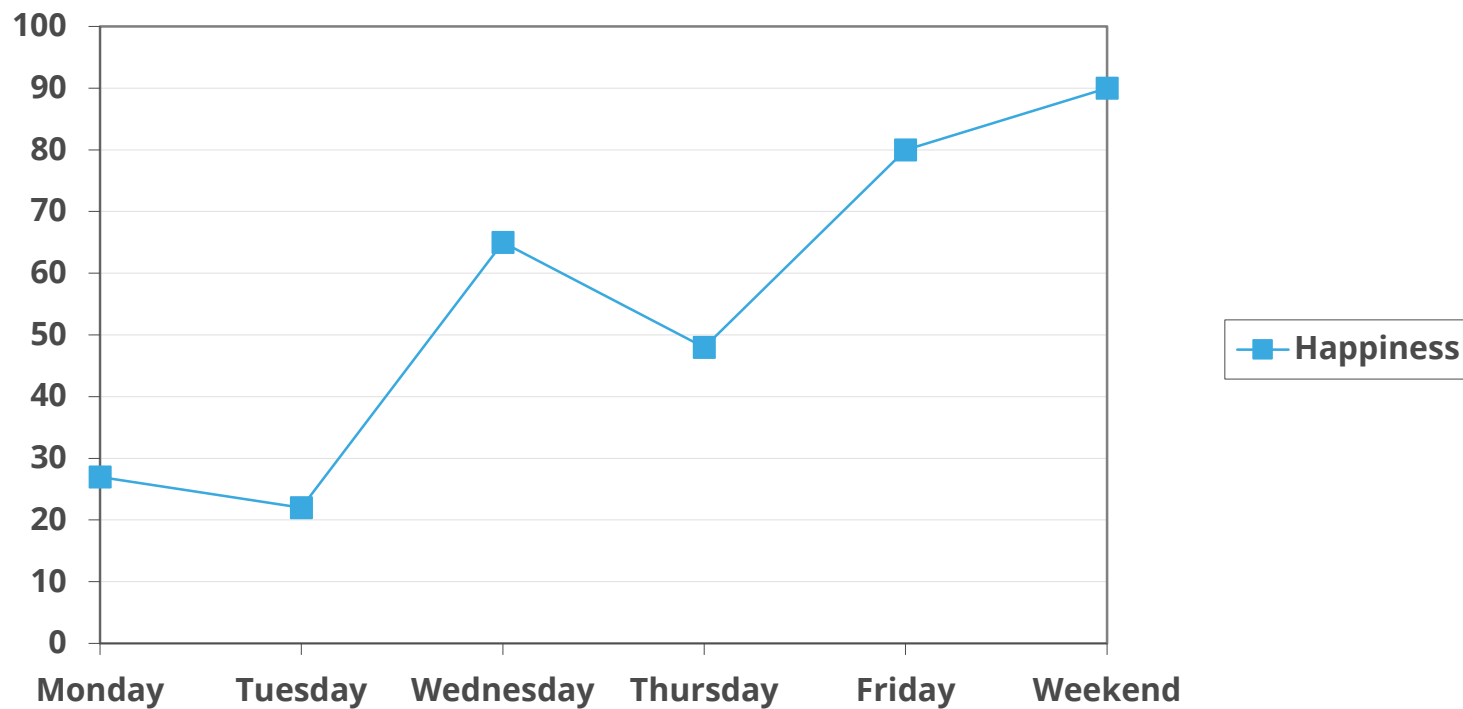
a chart showing
the average height
and weight of
children in
different countries

a chart showing a
person's
recommended diet
according to
different food intake



Happiness

The chart below shows a person's happiness level throughout the week on a scale from 0% to 100%. Describe it.





Happiness

Use the chart below to draw your own happiness levels throughout the week. A line graph works best here.





Speaking

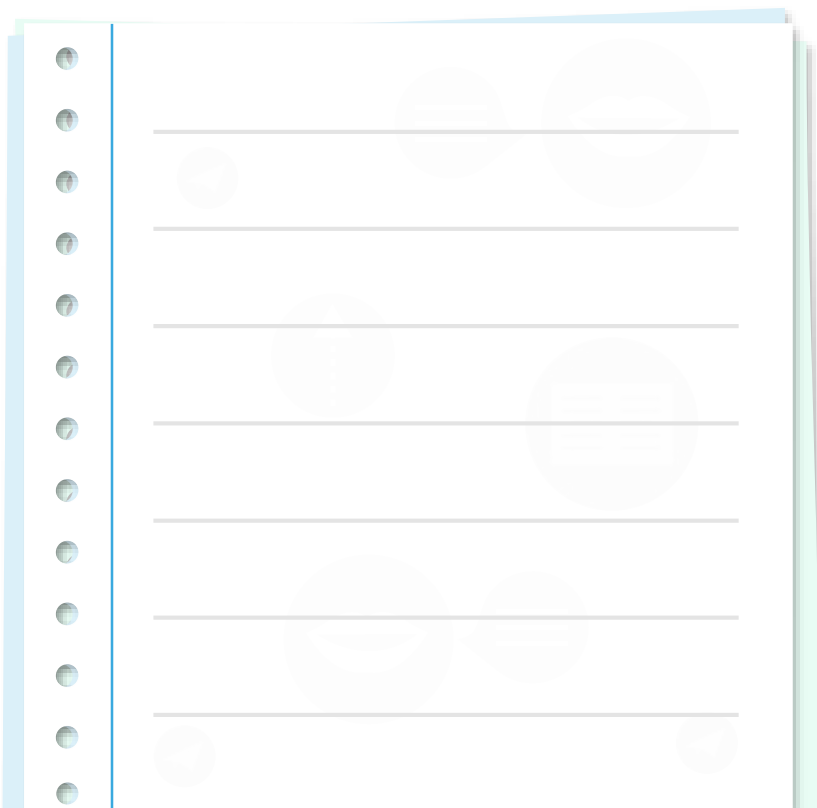
Describe the line chart that you have drawn on the previous page to your teacher or classmates.





Writing

Now write a description of your line chart using as many of the phrases from the lesson as you can.





Reflect on this lesson

Take a moment to review any new **vocabulary, phrases, language structures** or **grammar points** you have come across for the first time in this lesson.

Review them with your teacher one more time to make sure you don't forget!





Answer key

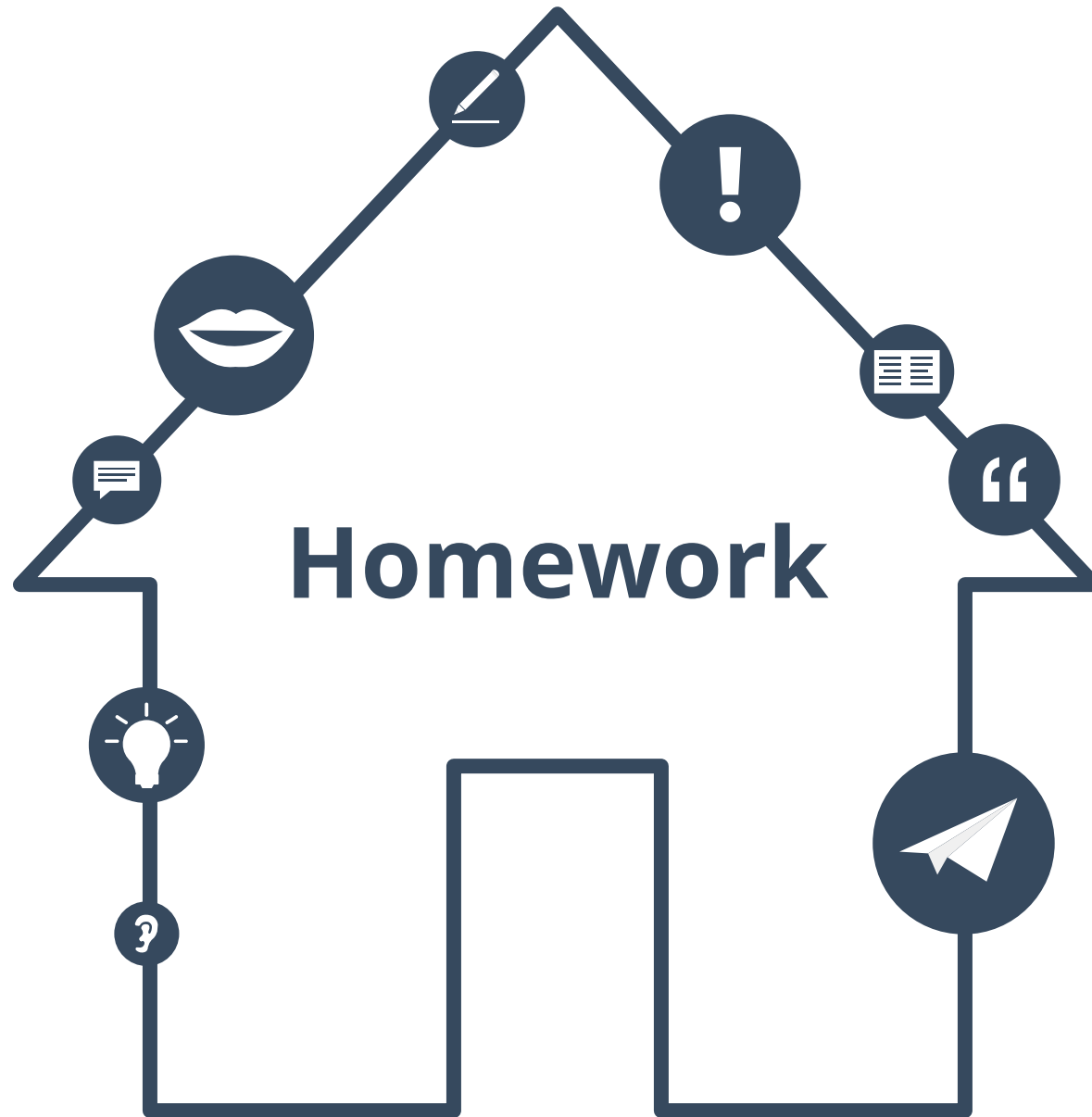
Exercise p. 12

The graph shows a shop's sales of chocolate and hard-boiled sweets over four quarters of one year. The data was collected in **2017 (2016)**. The figures tell us that there is **little (a large)** variation in sales across the year. If one compares hard-boiled sweets to chocolate, we can see that the best quarter for hard-boiled sweets is the third, while the best for chocolate is the **second (fourth)**. This implies that events happening in the year have a **small (big)** impact on sales. Hard-boiled sweets show a huge rise in sales in the third quarter, when Americans celebrate Halloween, while chocolate is clearly the most popular choice in the fourth quarter, when Christmas is celebrated. What is really striking is the dominance of **hard-boiled sweets over chocolate (chocolate over hard-boiled sweets)** for the Christmas season.

Exercise p. 21

Answer can vary but you can suggest:

- an area chart for the stores
- a Venn diagram for the creatures
- a scatter plot for the children
- a pie chart for the diet





Draw a pie chart showing the things you do when you are at work.



[illegible]



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