

TEST 3, WRITING TASK 1

SAMPLE ANSWER

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 6.5** score. Here is the examiner's comment:

This answer clearly presents and illustrates the key points of the information. The writer groups the data effectively and draws clear comparisons, although these could be more appropriately extended in the overview. Information is well organised across the response and a range of linking devices is used.

The opening paragraph, however, is an inadequate paraphrase of language given in the task, and although there are some appropriate collocations in the response, overall the range of vocabulary is rather restricted. Control is good, however, with few examples of error.

A variety of structures is used with some fluency. There are occasional errors in punctuation and there are also some omissions and errors in grammar, but these tend to be minor and do not reduce communication.

The chart gives information about the percentage change in average house prices in five different cities located in five different countries over 12 year period between 1990 and 2002 compared with the average house prices in 1989.

According to the chart, during the period from 1990 to 1995 the average prices of houses in three cities decreased significantly by five percent in New York (U.S.A) and about 7.5 percent in both Tokyo (Japan) and London (UK). While the average house prices increased slightly in two cities Madrid (Spain) and Frankfurt (Germany) by about 1.5 percent and 2 percent respectively.

As far as the next period (1996-2002) is concerned, it is clear that the average house prices decreased only in Tokyo (Japan) by 5 percent. In contrast the average house prices increased in the rest of cities. In New York it increased considerably by 5 percent, in Madrid it increased slightly by 4 percent, in Frankfurt it increased by 2 percent.

London has the largest increase in the average house price over the 6-year period from 1996 to 2002 as it increased dramatically by 11 percent.

All in all, there are a wide differences in house prices between the five cities which illustrated in this chart. These differences may be a result of the number of population or the number of houses required in a certain city.