

### Talking Stats: The Talker and the Listener

#### A) DESCRIBING

1. The **Talker** looks at a chart very carefully and then describes to the **Listener** what s/he sees. The **Listener** draws the chart on squared paper. – The **Talker** must make sure that the **Listener** draws and writes down what s/he, the **Talker**, sees. The **Listener** may ask for clarification and the **Talker** will answer but does not gesture or point.
2. The **Talker** and the **Listener** compare their two charts, the original and the new one. They correct and/or complete the new chart together.

#### B) ANALYSING [‘----]

Now working in pairs or on your own, find out what these charts mean and put it into complete sentences. Use the terms and phrases in the boxes below. Make sure you get the tenses right, e.g. in 1970 ⇨ past tense; since 1970 ⇨ present perfect.

Opening phrases: This chart... / this table / this line graph is about... It was published by... (newspaper, magazine / organisation) in (month, day, year).

Closing phrases: A first look at this chart seems to suggest that... / Looking more closely, however, shows that... / The facts suggest that... / The conclusion to be drawn is...

#### Line Graphs

	↗ Up?		↘ Or down?	How?	By how much?
↗	to <b>increase, rise, go up</b> , grow by x%; to peak at...	↘	to <b>drop, fall, decrease, go down</b> , shrink by x%, to bottom out at...	...gradually <b>slowly</b> , over time...	...by a (relatively) good, steady, healthy, strong x%
↗↗	to <b>jump</b> , shoot up, explode, soar, skyrocket...	↘↘	to <b>crash</b> , plummet, dive, collapse,...	...quickly, fast, rapidly, dramatically	... <b>by a lot</b> ; by a surprising, staggering, massive 17%
→→	to remain the same / to flatline, level off, plateau (out) [ ‘ - - ] at...	~~~~~	to come in waves / to ebb and flow...	...more or less, evenly	...(by) (very) <b>little</b> , by a very small amount
⌵	to <b>fluctuate</b> , double-dip, zigzag, wobble		<b>wildly</b> , dangerously, worryingly	... by a huge, a shocking, a staggering sum of or amount of... 70%...	
∩	a <b>dent</b> , a <b>dip</b> ; a U-shaped (V-shaped) dip, a <b>downturn</b> followed by an <b>upswing</b> – a trough (rhymes with ‘off’)				

FIGURES		FRACTIONS	
12, 13, 15, 35, 44, 100	twelve, thirteen, fifteen, thirty-five, forty-four, one hundred	1/2, 1/3, 2/3, 3/5	half a..., one third, two thirds, two fifths
<u>Time:</u> month, quarter, year, decade, century, a thousand years (= a millennium), one million, a <u>billion</u> years; <u>for</u> three days, <u>since</u> Thursday			1/12, 1/4, 1, 10, 10 <sup>2</sup> , 10 <sup>3</sup> , 10 <sup>6</sup> , 10 <sup>9</sup> years

TENSES			
past	present perfect	present	future
Millennia <u>ago</u> , / <b>in the past</b> , there <b>were</b> few people around.	<b>The number of</b> / the amount of... <b>has been rising</b> <u>for</u> decades / <u>since</u> 1760... Since... there has been an increase in...	<b>Right now</b> the situation <b>looks</b> ... settled / unstable...	Birth rates <b>will probably fall</b> ... / Prices / ... levels will go up. / The sooner..., the better...
EXPLAINING CHARTS		This <b>line chart</b> shows how... has changed since 2012; for the last few weeks.	
<p>price per barrel of crude oil</p> <p>Jan Feb Mar Apr 2013</p>		<p>In January prices were still rising by as much as... Back then the <b>growth rate</b> slowed down to 1,5% with prices levelling off at x \$ / with prices <b>falling to a (new) low</b> of..., when prices <b>reached a high</b> (point) of..., a <b>turning point</b> in February..., before <b>falling to a (record) low</b> of... So, it becomes clear that...; it follows that...</p> <p><b>The more</b>... markets worry, <b>the higher</b> prices rise... <b>Too little supply / too much demand</b> makes prices rise. The outlook for the future is... gloomy, bright... We can <b>draw the conclusion</b> that... <b>the gap between</b> demand and supply is widening... prices have risen disproportionately...</p>	

COMPARISONS	
of pie charts and bar diagrams, vertical and horizontal	
<p>■ renewable ■ fossile</p>	<p>■ renewable ■ fossile</p>
# source: Co <sub>2</sub> al International	* source: Wishful Thinktank
<p>This <b>pie chart</b> shows how... <b>While</b> in 2000 <b>the biggest share</b> of... was..., the share of... will grow / is expected to grow in the future because... By 2040 the share of... / will provide a <b>bigger</b> proportion of global demand <b>than</b> expected...</p>	

<p>■ 2nd language ■ native speakers</p>	<p>...This <b>horizontal bar chart</b> illustrates the fact that in our globalizing world English is spoken mostly as a second language <b>whereas</b> only 60 years ago the majority of speakers were American or British...</p>
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