

Active IELTS
Writing Correction

This is a Task 1 question about a pie chart showing fast food consumption amongst Australian teenagers. Here is an example of an answer from a candidate with our comments.

The graph shows a 25 years period of different kind of fast food consumed by Australian young people (14-16 year old) since 1975 and 2000.

Comment [PK1]: 'a 25 year period', not 25 years

Comment [PK2]: 'different kinds'

Comment [PK3]: 'young Australian people'

There are three different trends that shows the number of times of three kind of fast food eaten per year starting in the mid 70s and early 2000.

Comment [PK4]: 'from 1975 to 2000' – this is important

In 1957 fish and chips were eaten around a 100 of times per year. This amount sharply fall by 1980 and suffered a dramatic decrease over a 25 year period. By 2000 the number of times of fish and chip eaten dropped to almost 24.

Comment [PK5]: '3 different patterns' – then identify the trends

Comment [PK6]: 'and continuing to 2000'

On the other hand the hamburger's trend developed a slightly changes curve, starting with almost 0 fast food's consumption by the early 70s, and this number kept steadily on 100 by 2000.

Comment [PK7]: 'a 100 times per year'

Comment [PK8]: 'falls sharply by'

The pizza's trend suffered an exponential growth until keeping in a 100 constant amount in early's 2000.

Comment [PK9]: avoid saying 'suffers' – this is for people. You can use 'experiences' instead

It is interesting that unlike pizza's and hamburger's trends, fish and chips consume is been decreasing since 1975, however it will be a good change in teenagers consumption habits if they start eating healthy food instead of that much fast food.

Comment [PK10]: 'a slightly changes curve' is unclear – how about 'a slight curve'?

Comment [PK11]: 'in the 70s' rather than 'by' – this is important. 'By' means 'before'

Comment [PK12]: Careful with spelling of 'steadily'

General

Answering the question

Generally good. You identified the main trends well and used enough specific data. Your conclusion is good too.

Comment [PK13]: 'showed exponential growth'

Comment [PK14]: 'staying at 100 in the period 1995 to 2000'

How easy is it to read?

OK. There is a good range of connecting words in and between sentences and the writing is easy to follow. However, you could join the first two sentences together into a paragraph to make it clearer.

Comment [PK15]: 'the trend in pizzas and hamburgers...' is better word order

Comment [PK16]: 'consumption' rather than 'consume'

Vocabulary

A few problems here with word forms, e.g. consume, and word choice, e.g. suffer, by instead of in.

Grammar

Again, a few problems, e.g. word order and tenses ('is been decreasing' should be 'has been decreasing', 'sharply fall' should be 'sharply fell'). This affects meaning.

In an exam: The problems with this answer are at a language level – vocabulary and grammar – rather than how you answered the question. Look at my comments on language carefully and see if you can correct the mistakes. In an exam this would probably not get you the mark you need because of the language.