**IELTS Writing Task 1 (Vocabulary)**

## ****Why is Vocabulary important?****

To help you **complete the IELTS writing task faster** it is very useful to know some **common expressions/ collocations** for the following reasons:

1. **This frees up some crucial time**, as you no longer need to think how to formulate your words you can **focus on other parts of the task**, like the actual analysing and comparing of the data.
2. Additionally, correct usage of collocations are important to **score high on your lexical resources**.

This means that you not only will be able to write faster, but also score higher on your lexical resources, **improving your overall score.**

## Vocabulary for the Introduction

For any of the IELTS writing tasks never copy word for word from the question, if you do, you will be penalised. You should**always paraphrase the introduction in your own words**. Here is some vocabulary to help you find some good synonyms to paraphrase the question in IELTS academic writing task 1 better:

* **The given:** **The given** pie charts represent the proportion of male and female employees  in 6 broad categories, divided into manual and non-manual occupations in Freedonia.
* **The supplied:** **The supplied**bar graph compares the number of male and female graduates in three developing countries, while the table data presents the overall literacy rate in these countries.
* **The presented:** **The presented** bar graph illustrates the money spent on different research projects while the column graph demonstrates the sources of the amount spent over a decade, commencing from 1981.
* **The shown: The shown** line graph delineates the proportion of male and female employees in three different sectors in Australia between 2010 and 2015.
* **The provided: The provided**diagram shows data on employment categories in the energy producing sectors in Europe starting from 1925 and till 1985.

## Vocabulary for the Type of Graph/Map/Process

* **Diagram:** **the diagrams**represent the time spend on different activities by teenagers.
* **Table: the table** shows information on the different expenditures over a 10 year period.
* **Figure:**the given **figure** represents the overall literacy rate during 3 different time periods, 1980,1990 and 2000.
* **Illustration**: the given **illustration** represents the process of making coffee.
* **Graph**: **the graph** represents the different forms of pollution.
* **Chart:** **The chart** gives information on the expenditures of 4 European countries on six consumer products namely Germany, Italy, Britain and France.
* **Flow chart:** the supplied **flowchart**illustrates the different internet connections according to different ages.
* **Picture:**the provided **picture**illustrates the natural process of photosynthesis
* **Pie chart:**the shown **pie charts**describe the amount of television watched according to different demographics.
* **Bar graph:** **The bar graph**and the table data depict the water usage in different sectors in five regions.
* **Column graph:**the supplied c**olumn graph**depicts the different ages when people get married.
* **Line graph:** the provided**line graphs**compare the different export products of Freedonia.
* **Data:**the supplied **data** represents the products bought in supermarkets by different ages groups.
* **Information:** the given **information** compares the crime rate in 3 different cities.
* **Process diagram:** the supplied **process diagram**illustrates the natural process of pregnancy.
* **Map:** The two provided **maps**compare the development of a residential area over a 10 year period.

## Verbs for the Introduction

* **Shows :** the graph **shows** the different abilities of
* **Represents:** the data**represents** the annual holiday destinations of
* **Depicts:** the illustration **depicts**the natural process of birth
* **Illustrates:**the provided picture **illustrates** the man made process of making coffee
* **Presents:**The data **presents**an overview of the different shopping habits according to the sexes.
* **Gives:**the line graph **gives** information on the CO2 levels of different cars.
* **Provides:** The pie chart **provides** data on different petty crimes in 2 different cities.
* **Describes:** The line graph **describes** the evolution of the production of goods in a given factory.
* **Compares:** The graphs **compare** how leisure time is spent differently according to different ages.
* **Indicates:** The 2 maps **indicate** the changes the island has gone through over time.
* **Gives/provides data on:** The table **gives data on** the overall consumption of fruits during a 30 year time period.
* **Gives/provides information on:** the bar chart **provides information on** the production of different kinds of phones.

## Vocabulary for the General overview

The General statement are **the first sentences you write after your introduction** and a **crucial** part of your task. Here are some expression to help you with this:

* **In general: In general,** the employment opportunity has increased till 1970 and has dropped downwards from then on.
* **Generally speaking:** **Generally speaking,** the USA had a far higher standard of living than all the other 4 mentioned countries. Generally speaking, in New York more men were engaged in managerial positions in 1987 than that of women.
* **Overall: Overall,** the leisure hours enjoyed by males regardless of their employment status was much higher than that of women.
* **It is obvious:**At first glance**it is obvious that** in all age categories, men are better paid than women.
* **As is observed: As is observed,**the figures for imprisonment in the five mentioned countries show no overall pattern of increase or decrease, rather they show a considerable fluctuation from country to country.
* **As a general trend: As a general trend**, we can notice the large differences between the different age groups when it come to shopping online.
* **As can be seen: As can be seen,** the highest number of passengers use the London Underground station at 8:00 in the morning and at 6:00 in the evening.
* **As an overall trend: As an overall trend,** the number of crimes reported increased fairly rapidly until the mid-seventies, remained constant for five years and finally, dropped.
* **As is presented: As is presented**, the map provides an overview of the city Freeville.
* **It can be clearly seen that:It can be clearly seen that** a higher percentages of native university pupils violated regulations and rules than did foreign students.
* **At the first glance: At first glance,**it is clear that a higher percentages of native university pupils violated regulations and rules than did foreign students.
* **It is clear that: It is clear that**, the forecasted exports are expanding, except for 1, beef.
* **At the onset: At the onset,** it is clear that drinking in public as well as drink-driving were the most common reasons for US citizens to be arrested in 2014.
* **A glance at the graphs reveal that: A glance at the graphs reveal that**the population in all the different countries is decreasing and will further decrease in the future.

**Cardinal directions:**

* The forest **to the south of** the river was completely cut down.
* A school was constructed **to the north-east of** the station.
* The houses**in the south-west of**the town were demolished to make space for the new car park.
* The green fields**to the south-west of**the hospital were redeveloped as a park.
* The airport in the centre of the city was relocated **to the north-east of** the river.
* The school **to the south-east** was knocked down and a new one was built **to the north of** the forest.

**Prepositions of place**

You will also have to **use prepositions of place**, e.g. **at/in/on/by/beside/to/of/from/…**, to describe where the things are.

**Examples:**

* Dramatic changes**took place in** the village centre.
* **To the south of** the town, there is a recreational park **surrounded by** trees.
* A new playground was built **next to** the swimming pool.
* The old road **running from north to south** was replaced by a brand new motorway.
* A completely new marina **was built on** the river banks.

**Buildings:**

* **Demolished: The industrial estate was demolished and developed into a sports ground by the local community.**
* **Knocked-down:** The shops **were knocked-down** and replaced with a skyscraper.
* **Flattened:** The factory in the city centre **was flattened** and relocated to the north of the city.
* **Replaced with:** The old warehouses **were replaced wit**h new hotels.
* **Renovated:** The old buildings **were completely renovated**.
* **Built:** A new factory **was built** north of the residential area.
* **Constructed:** A harbor **was constructed** at the edge of the river.
* **Reconstructed:** The school **was completely reconstructed** after the passing of the hurricane.
* **Developed into:** the industrial estate was demolished and **developed into** a sports ground by the local community.
* **Extended:** The school **was extended** by adding 2 more buildings.
* **Expanded:** The residential area **expanded** south-east by constructing 3 more homes.
* **Relocated to:** The factory in the city centre was flattened and **relocated to** the north of the city.
* **Converted into:** The factory **was converted into** apartments.
* **Modernized:** The infrastructure **was modernized** by converting the dirt roads into concrete streets.

**Trees and Forests:**

* **Cleared: The trees were cleared to make way for a new residential area.**
* **Cut-down:** The forest **was cut-down** and made space for a shopping centre.
* **Chopped-down:** The forest was entirely **chopped-down** to make way for a new highway.
* **Removed:** Some of the trees **were removed** to build a new playground.
* **Planted:** A new forest **was planted** west of the factory

**Roads, Bridges and Railway lines:**

* **Constructed: A new railroad was constructed next to the village.**
* **Built:** A new bridge **was built** to replace the old one.
* **Extended:** The main road **was extended** and a new bridge built over the river.
* **Expanded to:** The main road **was expanded to** the north to connect to the other town.
* **Removed:** The railway lines **were removed** and replaced by a metro line.

**Leisure facilities:**

* **Opened: A brand new sports centre opened just north of the school.**
* **Set up:** A brand new skate park **was set up** close to the swimming pool.
* **Developed:** A playground **was developed** next to the school.

## Vocabulary Dealing with Change

## Fractions

**4%: A tiny fraction:**Only **a tiny fraction** of the total household budget is spent on luxury products.

**24%: Almost a quarter: Almost a quarter** of the total population in between 25 and 35 years old.

**25%: Exactly a quarter: Exactly a quarter**of the women works in call centres.

**26%: Roughly one quarter: Roughly one quarter** of the market share belongs to Mango Co.

**27%: Just over a quarter: just over a quarter** of the total New Zealand online sales are movies..

**32%: Nearly one-third, nearly a third: Nearly a third** of the complaints recorded are the 35 to 45 year old category.

**49%: Around a half, just under half: Around half**of the cheese produced in the USA is mozzarella.

**50%: Exactly half: Exactly half** of the population living in London loves their city.

**51%: Just over half:**Just over half of the people interviewed could not answer the questions asked**.**

**73%: Nearly three quarters.**Nearly three quarters of the waste produced is plastic.

**77%: Approximately three quarter, more than three-quarter.**The demand for fixed phone lines dropped by **Approximately three quarter.**

**79%: Well over three quarters: Well over three quarters**of the smartphones bought were no longer in use 3 years later.

## Proportions

**2%: A tiny portion, a very small proportion:**Overall only **a tiny proportion** of the training hours is spent on health and safety.

**4%: An insignificant minority: An insignificant minority** of the people go camping every year.

**17%: A small minority:**A small minority of the new job openings in Australia are for research.

**70%: A large proportion:**A large proportion of the people of the people going on holidays book a hotel in advance.

**81%: A significant majority: A significant amount**of the complaints received by the bank of America are from the public.

**89%: A very large proportion:** **A very large proportion** of the rice eaten in Europe is imported.

## Approximations (almost)

**Approximately:**Scotland exports for **approximately**10 billion pounds worth of chemicals to the rest of the world.

**Nearly: Nearly 60%**of the 30 to 39 year olds choses university for career reasons.

**Roughly:** In Canada r**oughly 1 million people** used the train in 2001

**Almost:**The length of a travel Youtube add is **almost 30 seconds**.

**About:** Lunch sales on a Saturday afternoon are **about 2000$.**

**Around: around 300** women work in Manufacturing.

**More or less:**Unemployed men have **more or less 80 hours** of leisure time a week.

**Just over: Just over 700** men work in the retail sector.

**Just under: Just under 70%**of the people in the US have a landline.

**Just around: Just around 15 million**people visited Australia in 1985.

**Just about:**Team spirit affects **just about 60%** of people’s work performance.

**Just below: just below 20.000**of the people interviewed visited Western-Europe.

**A little more than:**Tokyo has **a little more than 150 km** of subway systems.

**A little less than:**in 1972 a little less than 90% of the British households had a vacuum cleaner.

## Dates, Months & Years

**From 1990 to 2000: From 1990 to 2000** just about 30% of the male population in Britain bought pop albums.

**Commencing from 1980: Commencing from 1980** the production cost of cars decreased dramatically.

**Between 1995 and 2005: Between 1995 and 2005** the male employment rate in Australia went up by just over 10%.

**After 2012: After 2012** the world illiteracy rates dropped significantly.

**By 1995:**The on toys had doubled **By 1995**

**In 1998: In 1998** the life expectancy of Canadian males was 76 years.

**In February: In February**the imprisonment rates went down slightly.

**Over the period: Over the period**the overall share price of Coca Cola fluctuated significantly.

**During the period: During the period** the car as a means of transportation to go to work increased tremendously. 

**During 2011: During 2011**the consumption of fast food increased steadily.

**In the first half of the year: In the first half of the year** the gold sales went up.

**For the first quarter: For the first quarter**the amount of visitors to the website fluctuated slightly.

**The last quarter of the year: The last quarter of the year** the amount of Japanese tourist travelling to Australia went up slightly.

**During the first decade: During the first decade**the amount women smoking more than doubled.

**In the 80s: In the 80s** the expenditure on health and education rose slightly.

**In the 1980s: In the 1980’s**15 percent of the food budget was spent on eating out.

**During the next 6 months: During the next 6 months** the amount of people infected with the flu virus steadily declined.

**In the mid-70s:In the mid-70s** about 175 million was spent on researching a cure for tropical diseases.

**The next 10 years: In the next 10 years** the expenditure on cars almost doubled going from 23% to 45%

**The previous year: The previous year**the oil production was slightly less.

**The next year: The next year**the amount of time calling by cell phone grew slightly.

**Between 1980 – 1990: Between 1980 – 1990** the amount of people living below the poverty line grew tremendously.

**Within a time span of ten years: Within a time span of ten years** agriculture water use more than tripled

**Within five years: Within five years**the total population of Asian elephants dropped dramatically.

**The next month: The next month**the amount of passenger embarking from the airport increased moderately.

**The next quarter: The next quarter**alcohol related deaths went down moderately.

**The next year: The next year**the amount of houses built was almost identical as the previous year.

**The previous month: The previous month**the amount of visitors to the museum was slightly more.

**The previous year: The previous year** the total expenditure budget had gone down.

**Since: Since 1998**the amount of waste recycled grew substantially.

**Then: Since 1998**the amount of waste recycled grew substantially, then it stabilized.

**From: From 1986 till 1996**the amount of women studying Maths at University went down dramatically.

# Academic IELTS Writing Task 1 Vocabulary

## Graphs Dealing with Change

## Going up

### Nouns

**A rise (of) :**  there was **a slight rise of** prices in November.

**An increase (in)**: overall, there was **a substantial increase in** oil production.

**A growth (in):** there was **a substantial growth in** unemployment.

**A peak (in**): after **a peak in** production, there was a substantial fall.

**A surge (in)**:in 1990 there was **a short surge in** car production.

**An improvement:**After the second world war there**a significant improvement**in the overall standard of living.

**A climb:**after a slight dip there was **a considerate climb** in the export rates.

### 

### Verbs

**To rise:**the death toll **rose slightly.**

**To increase:**the overall consumption **increased significantly.**

**To grow:**the production in coffee **grew steadily**.

**To peak:**the consumption of pizza **peaked** in the 90’s

**To go up:**after a small dip the inflation **went up** dramatically.

**To climb:**the production of smartphones **climbed steadily**. 

**To improve:** the export of food will **improve substantially** in the next decade.

**To recover (go back up again):**the economy **recovered gentilly** after the enormous drop.

## Going up a lot

### Verbs

**To rocket:**the sales in electronics **rocketed** just before December.

**To skyrocket:**the prices in consumer goods **skyrocketed**

**To soar:**petrol and diesel prices **soared** to a new record high

**To shoot up :**the overall interest rate **shot up** **by** 50% in the given period

**To leap (past:leapt):**Air Macau’s profit **leapt** 243 percent to 70 million yuan last year

**To surge (going up fast):**Cryptojacking, the process of hijacking computers to mine cryptocurrency, **surged**in the last quarter of 2017 as the price of bitcoin shot up.

## Going up steadily

### ****Noun phrases****

**An upward trend:**Generally, we can see **a steady upward trend** in smartphones’ sales.

**An upward tendency:** in the 90’s there was **an upward tendency** in crime rates.

**To move upward:**the share in apple**moved upward** modestly after March.

## Going down

### Nouns

**A fall (in):** after an initial increase in the production of cars there was **a significant fall**

**A decrease (in):** the **initial decrease in** workload was later on compensated

**A decline (in)** there was **a slight decline in** transport after 2010

**A reduction (in):**overall there was**a significant reduction in**death and disability from chronic diseases

**A drop:** the yearly return would see **a meaningful drop** from 9.2 to 5.4 percent.

**A downfall:**there was **a substantial downfall** of 13.7% in shares

### 

### Verbs

**To fall:**the birth rate**fell slightly**

**To decrease:** after an initial increase the overall consumption **decreased dramatically.**

**To decline:**California vehicle thefts **declined spectacularly**  in 2017

**To drop:**the overall profit **dropped suddenly** after a steady rise.

**To reduce:**the company reduced about 7% of its expenses in 2015

**To go down:**Property taxes went down slightly.

**To slide:**Amazon shares**slid modestly by**2 percent.

## Going down a lot

### Verbs

**To plummet:**prices **plummeted** more than 30% in April.

**To dive:**oil prices **dove significantly** in the late 2000’s

**To plunge:** the export of wood **plunged** to 6%.

**To take a nosedive:**Chinese investment in U.S. commercial real estate **took a nosedive** in 2017

**To go into free-fall:**American coal industry**went into free fall.**

**To collapse:**the overall demand in meat **collapsed**

**To deteriorate:**the production **deteriorated.**

## Going down steadily

### ****Noun Phrases****

**A downward trend:**Gun violence in Chicago continues steadily on **a downward trend**

**A downward tendency:**cargo traffic carried by Russian airlines showed **a downward tendency** for the first time since since October 2016.

## Going up and down

### Nouns

**A dip (in)**: in 1967 there was **a small dip in** sales  
**A fluctuation (in)**: there were **enormous fluctuations in** precipitation over the whole period.

### 

### Verbs

**To fluctuate:**The number of visits to the Site fluctuated dramatically between 20,000 and 40,000 in the first eleven days.

**To vary:**The overall sales figures **varied slightly** on a daily basis.

**To dip:** The employee satisfaction score **dipped slightly** in 2012 and remained at this level for the next three years.

## Staying the same

### Nouns

**A constant:**The expenditure of the office **remained constant for** the last 6 months but the profit rose by almost a quarter.

**A plateau:** According to the line graph, in the United Kingdom the CO2 emissions **reached a plateau** at about 11 metric ton.

### 

### Verbs

**To level out:**the data show that church membership in the United States **has leveled out**

**To level off:**accidental deaths **leveled off** over the four years

**To remain constant :** The expenditure of the office **remained constant for** the last 6 months but the profit rose by almost a quarter.

**To stay constant:**Goods transported using pipeline in the UK from 1974 and 2002 **stayed constant** at 20 million tonnes during 1994 up to 2002

**To remain unchanged:**The population of the country **remained almost unchanged** in the last 3 years.

**To stay unchanged:**the number of crimes reported **stayed fairly unchanged** for five years.

**To remain steady:** The number of fishers **remained steady** in South America with an average of 3 million

**To plateau:**China decelerated its carbon emissions during its 12th five-year plan in 2011-2015 and **plateaued** emissions in the current 13th plan of 2015-2020.

**To reach a plateau:** According to the line graph, in the United Kingdom the CO2 emissions **reached a plateau** at about 11 metric ton.

**To remain the same:**  The trends of more oil production **remained the same** in all countries in 2005 except in Qatar

**To stay the same:** the production of energy from hydroelectric power stayed the same (i.e. 5%) in both decades.

**To remain stable:**The number of men in this sector **remained mostly stable** over the period.

**To stay stable:**the number of Marriage **remained stabl**e but the cases of divorce increased by roughly 0.4 million.

**To remain static:**Afterwards, revenue dropped and in next two years remained static at approximately 3.8 billion

**To stay static:** the number of Indonesia students remained static between 1992 and 1995 at 10,000 students **To stabilize:**the number of cases **stabilized** until 1984

### 

### Adjective

**Unchanged:**the number of male employees in these sectors had remained **largely unchanged.**

## Big changes

### Adverbs

**Sharply:** The population in the UK **increased sharply** from the 1850 onward

**Suddenly:**The waste recycling rates in the US **increased suddenly** in 1985

**Rapidly:**The waste recovery rate **grew rapidly** from 16.7 million tons on 1985 till…

**Abruptly:** The birth rate **dropped abruptly** at the beginning of the 20th century.

**Dramatically:**The clean energy investment **rose dramatically** in 2009

**Significantly:**The number of train passengers **increased significantly** in 2001

**Considerably:**The number of people taking the car to get to work **increased considerably** in the last 50 years

**Markedly:**Overall, the population over the age of 65 **grew markedly** in the last half a century.

**Substantially:**In the last 20 years the size of the global robotic market **rose substantially**.

**Noticeably:**The total amount of internet users in Vietnam**grew noticeably** in the last 15 years.

### Adjectives

**Sharp:**There was a **sharp increase** in the in-person enquiries over the mentioned period.

**Sudden:**There was a **sudden drop** in the American GDP in 2012

**Rapid:**There was a**rapid decrease** in the consumption of butter in 1986

**Abrupt:** In 1993 there was an **abrupt drop** in car thefts for the UK

**Dramatic:** In the 3rd quarter there was a**dramatic drop** in the sales figures for Zed runner.

**Steep:**Overall, there was a **steep decrease** in the total honey production over the given period.

**Significant:**There is a **significant difference** between the overall spending habits of men and women.

**Considerable:** Generally, there is a **considerable increase** in hours spend by teachers doing other activities that do not involve teaching.

**Marked:**There is a **marked difference** between the amount of clothes importer from China over the 2 periods.

**Substantial:**There was a **substantial decrease** in the amount of unemployed women in 1997

**Spectacular:**The population **grew spectacularly** in Bombay in 2010. **Sharp:**Overall, there is **sharp contrast** between the different expenditures in the different countries.

**Noticeable:**Rent prices **increased noticeably** in the last two decades.

**Overwhelming:**There is an **overwhelming difference** between peak and off peak usages of the metro line.

## Small changes

### Adverbs

**Slightly:**The amount of internet connections **increased slightly** in the cities.

**Gently:**The time spend eating out **increased gently** over the provided period.

**Modestly:**The percentage of people never married **increased modestly** over the measured time period.

**Marginally:**The total amount of people employed in the company **increased marginally.**

**Moderately:**The amount of franchised restaurants **grew moderately** the last 2 years.

**Slowly:**The amount of money spend on books **rose slowly** between 1976 and 1983

### 

### Adjectives

**Slight:**there was a **slight increase**in the amount of steel produced in July.

**Gentle:** Overall, there was a **gentle increase**in the prices of apples over the provided period.

**Modest:**Over the given period there was a **modest increase** on the money spent on books.

**Marginal:**There was **a marginal reduction** of the amount of tourists visiting Malaysia after 2001

**Moderate:**There was a **moderate reduction** in the amount of people immigrating.

**Slight:**in 2003 there was a **slight surge** in the amount of ice cream consumed.

## Similar changes over a longer period of time

### Adverbs

**Gradually:**The total water usage**grew gradually** over the past three decades.

**Steadily:**The total of books borrowed from the library **dropped steadily** over the given period.

**Consistently:** The measured temperature in Antarctica **grew consistently** over the past century.

### 

### Adjectives

**Gradual:**There was a **gradual decrease** in the time spent preparing food over the last three decades.

**Steady:** Over the past decades there has been a **steady growth** in the IT sector.

**Consistent:**Between 1976 and 1996 there was a **consistent growth** in the amount of pasta consumed in Europe.

\*\*Source: ieltsassistance