

IELTS Writing

Task 1 Key Language

Round Numbers: Worksheet WK11

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Task 1 Key Language: Main Paragraphs

Key Language to prepare to prepare: accuracy, naturalness, variety

1. Numbers
2. Percentages
3. Dates & time periods
4. Language of change
5. Location
6. Language for Location
7. Comparisons (similar or different): trends / overall – this language can also help to select the data to write about. : SEE SEPARATE WORKSHEETS

Numbers: use the nearest “round” number

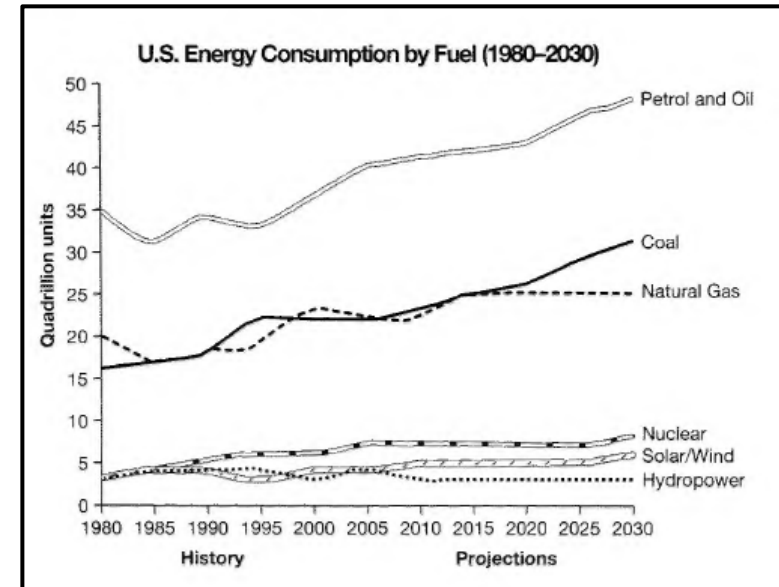
Numbers:	Use:
approximately	about (can be more or less)
(just) over /more than	higher number
just under / nearly / fewer (c) / less than (u)	lower number “ just ” emphasises small amount
NOTE: “only” before a NUMBER (directly) indicates a SMALL number: eg “ <i>only</i> 10% of people were divorced”	

Shows a good / natural range of language:

Country	Food/Drinks/ Tobacco	Clothing/ Footwear	Leisure/ Education
Ireland	28.91%	6.43%	2.21%
Italy	16.36%	9.00%	3.20%
Spain	18.80%	6.51%	1.98%
Sweden	15.77%	5.40%	3.22%
Turkey	32.14%	6.63%	4.35%

Use (1): when the detail / precise number or percentage is not important

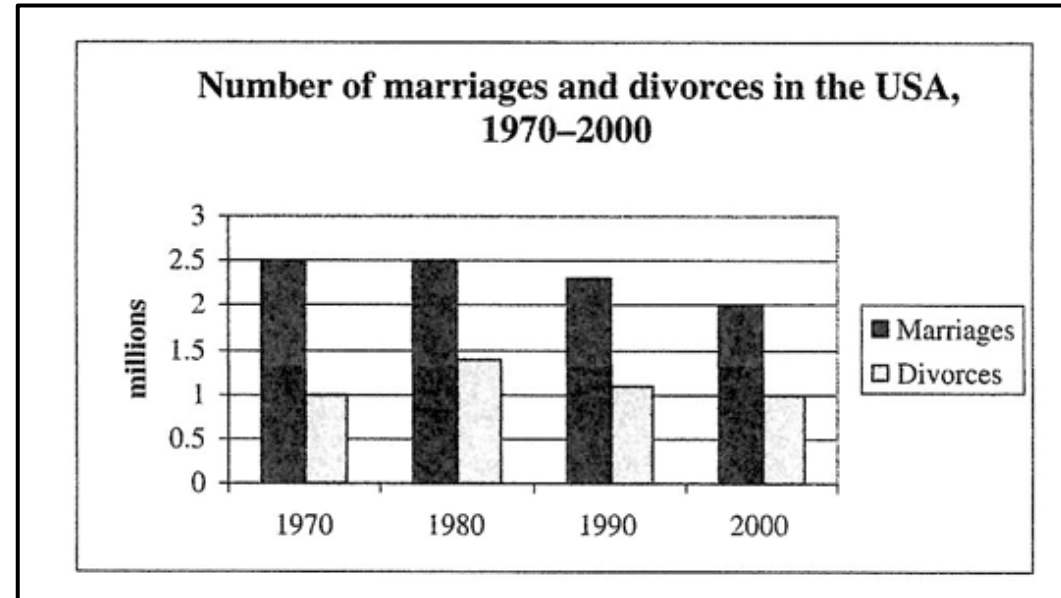
Shows a good / natural range of language:



Use (2): when the detail / precise number or percentage is not clear

Q2A

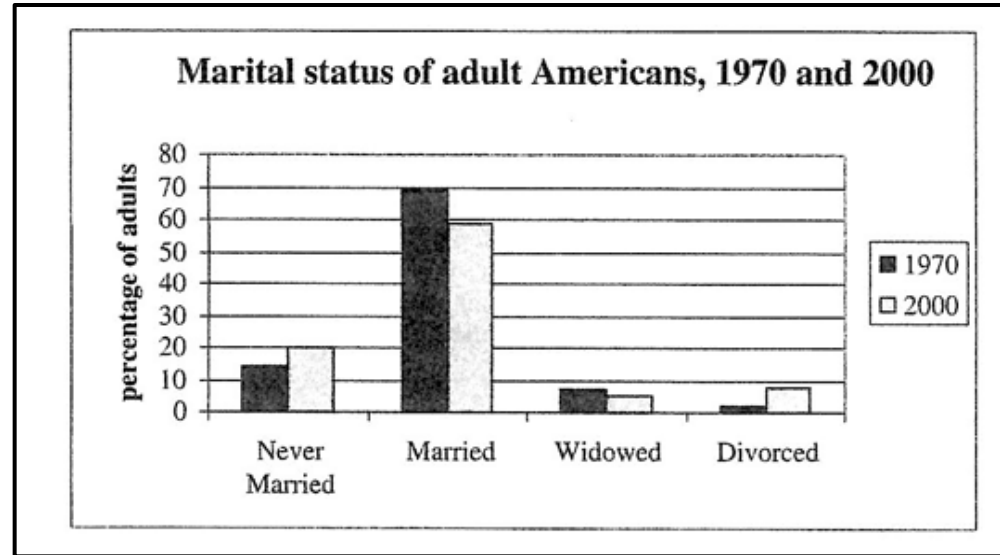
The top chart gives information about the USA marriage and divorce rates between 1970 and 2000, and the bottom chart gives information about the marital status of adult Americans in two of the years.



Note (1): if the number is already exactly a round number (e.g. 2m) we cannot use these approximate structures (e.g. approximately 2m is wrong).

Q2B

The top chart gives information about the USA marriage and divorce rates between 1970 and 2000, and the bottom chart gives information about the marital status of adult Americans in two of the years.



Note (2): when you use percentages you MUST make clear percent of **what** – that is, **what is the total (100%) that we are describing.**

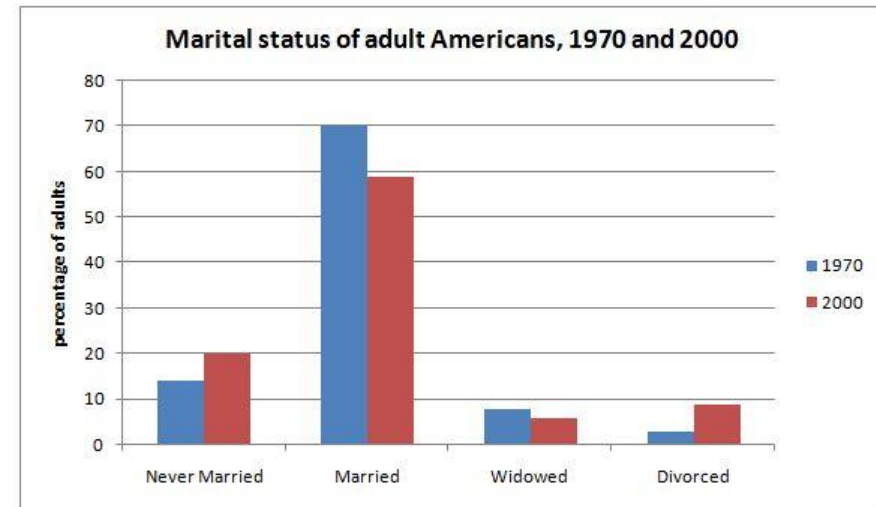
For example:

Just under 60% **of American adults** were married in 2000.

Shows a good / natural range of language:

The difference in *use* between *nearly* and *fewer than* or *less than*

Use “nearly” to suggest *large* number / percentage and “fewer / less than” to suggest *small* – this depends on *context* and what I want to communicate



Example:

In 2000 *nearly* 60% of Americans were married. (Suggestion: large percentage)

In 2000 *fewer than* 60% of Americans were married. (Suggestion: getting smaller – compared with 1970)

I choose the language depending on the point I am trying to express (1) still large (2) declining

Numbers

Quiz

How do you write: 3 alternatives...

Three ways:

1. 6.2% -

Three ways:

1. 6.2% - just over 6% / approximately 6% / more than 6%

Three ways:

1. 6.2% - just over 6% / approximately 6% / more than 6%
2. 14,900,000 -
3. 15,100,000 -
4. 13,100 -
5. 980 -
6. 28.9% -
7. 52% -

Three ways:

1. 6.2% - just over 6% / approximately 6% / more than 6%
2. 14,900,000 - nearly 15m / approximately 15m / just under 15m
3. 15,100,000 – more than 15m / approximately 15m / just over 15m
4. 13,100 – more than 13,000 / just over 13,000 / approximately 13,000
5. 980 – nearly 1000 / fewer than 1000 / approximately 1000 / just under 1000 / less than 1000
6. 28.9% - nearly 30% / approximately 30% / just under 30% / less than 30% / fewer than 30%
7. 52% - more than 50% / just over 50% / approximately 50%

Q3

The table gives information on consumer spending on different items in five different countries in 2002.

Country	Food/Drinks/ Tobacco	Clothing/ Footwear	Leisure/ Education
Ireland	28.91%	6.43%	2.21%
Italy	16.36%	9.00%	3.20%
Spain	18.80%	6.51%	1.98%
Sweden	15.77%	5.40%	3.22%
Turkey	32.14%	6.63%	4.35%

1. _____ 30% of total spending was spent on food, drinks and tobacco in Ireland.

Q3

The table gives information on consumer spending on different items in five different countries in 2002.

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Turkey	32.14%	6.63%	4.35%

1. Nearly 30% of total spending was spent on food, drinks and tobacco in Ireland.

Q3

The table gives information on consumer spending on different items in five different countries in 2002.

Country	Food/Drinks/ Tobacco	Clothing/ Footwear	Leisure/ Education
Ireland	28.91%	6.43%	2.21%
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Sweden	15.77%	5.40%	3.22%
Turkey	32.14%	6.63%	4.35%

1. Nearly 30% of total spending was spent on food, drinks and tobacco in Ireland.
2. _____ 5% of total spending was spent on clothing and footwear in Sweden.
3. _____ 30% of total spending was spent on food, drinks and tobacco in Turkey.
4. _____ 10% of total spending was spent on clothing and footwear in Italy.
5. _____ 2% of total spending was spent on leisure and education in Spain.

Q3

The table gives information on consumer spending on different items in five different countries in 2002.

Country	Food/Drinks/ Tobacco	Clothing/ Footwear	Leisure/ Education
Ireland	28.91%	6.43%	2.21%
Italy	16.36%	9.00%	3.20%
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Sweden	15.77%	5.40%	3.22%
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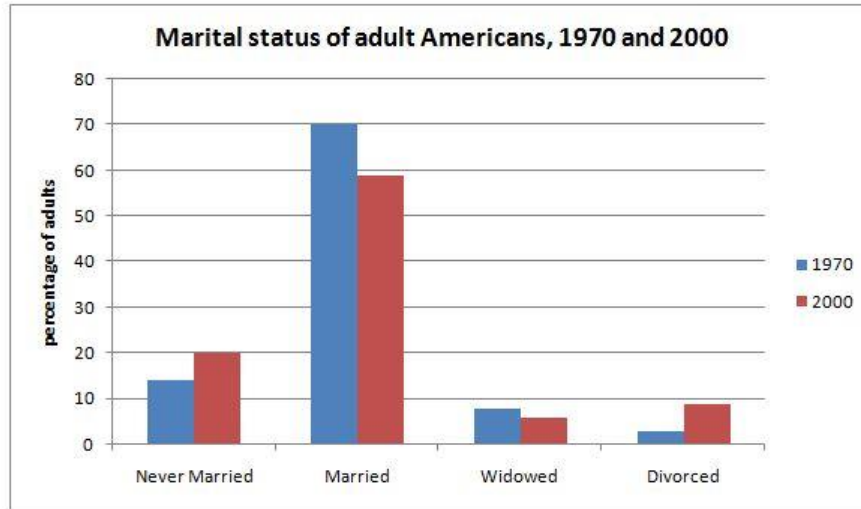
1. Nearly 30% of total spending was spent on food, drinks and tobacco in Ireland.
2. More than 5% of total spending was spent on clothing and footwear in Sweden.
3. Just over 30% of total spending was spent on food, drinks and tobacco in Turkey.
4. Just under 10% of total spending was spent on clothing and footwear in Italy.
5. Approximately 2% of total spending was spent on leisure and education in Spain.

Percentages

Quiz

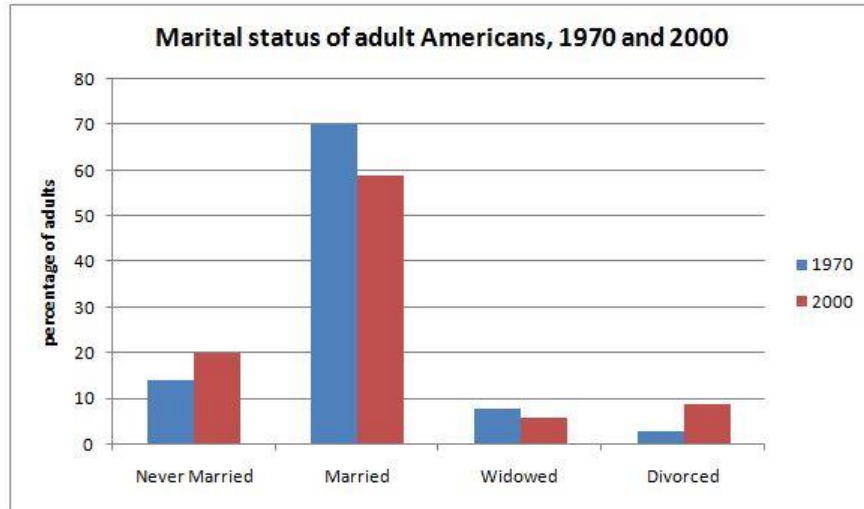
How can we write...

Example:

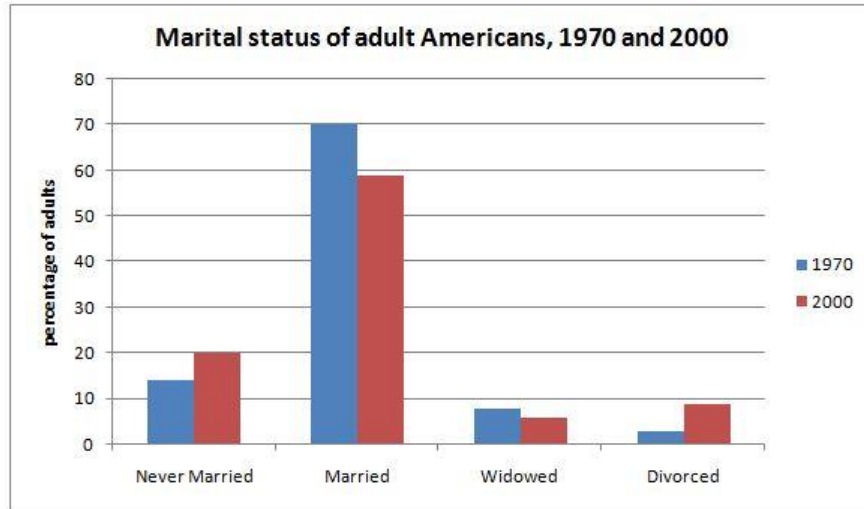


Widowed - 1970

Just under 10% of adult Americans were widowed in 1970.

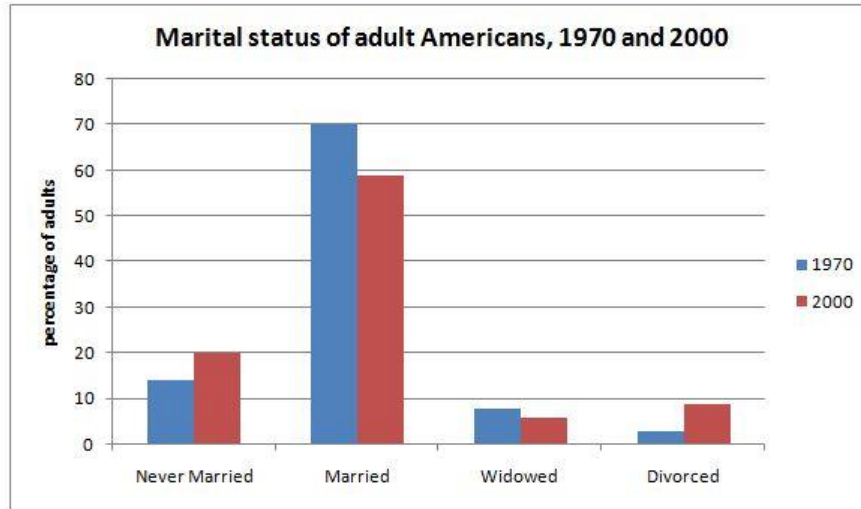


Married - 1970 / Married - 2000



Married - 1970 / Married - 2000

Seventy percent **of** adult Americans were married in 1970.



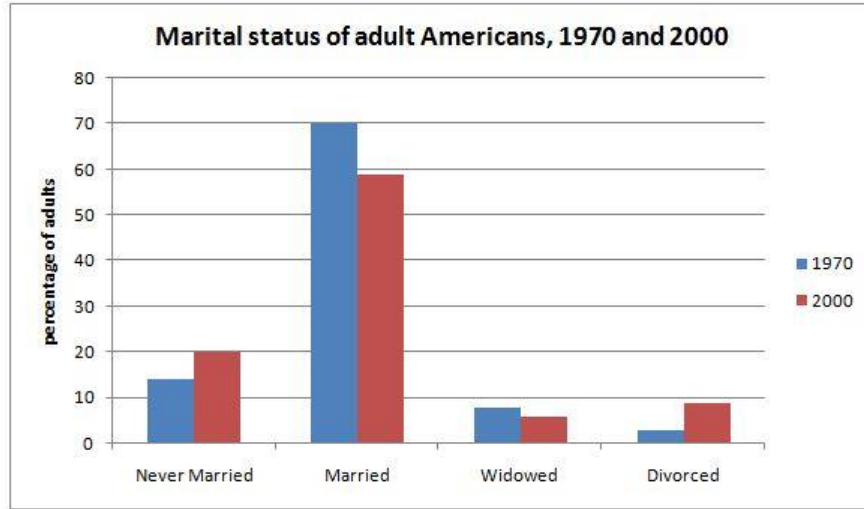
Married – 1970 / Married - 2000

Seventy percent **of** adult Americans were married in 1970.

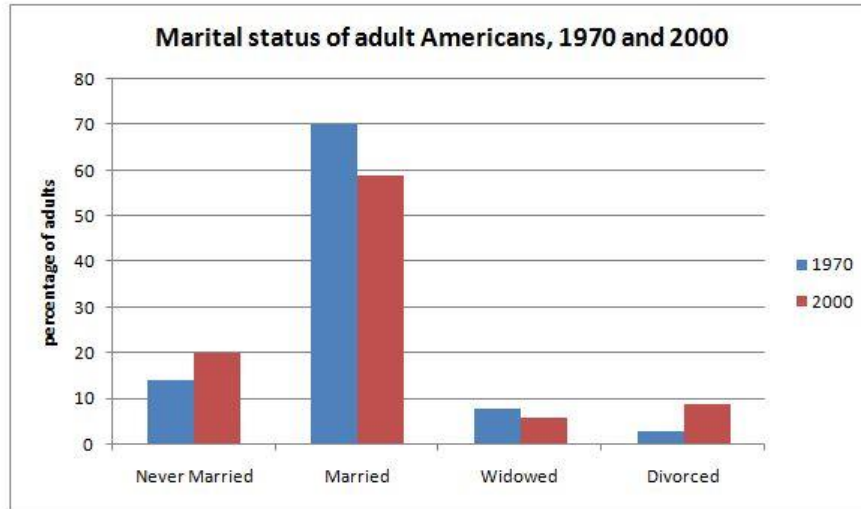
Just under 60% **of** adult Americans were married in 2000.

(compare: **Fewer than 60% of...** / **Nearly 60% of...**)

6

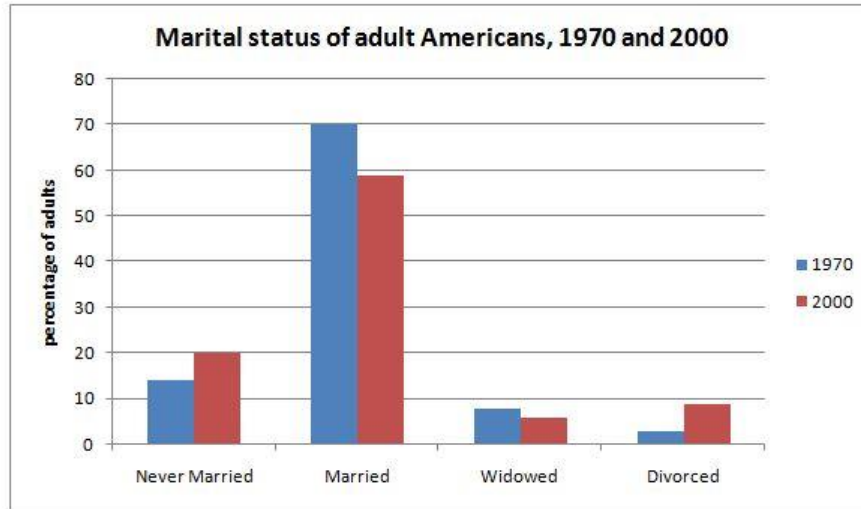


Divorced - 1970 (emphasise small) / Divorced - 2000



Divorced - 1970 (emphasise small) / Divorced - 2000

Fewer than 5% of adult Americans were divorced in 1970.

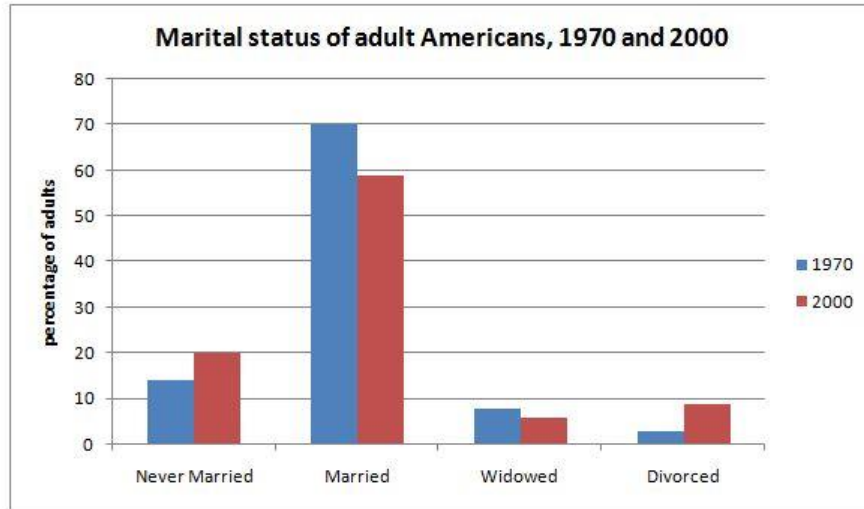


Divorced - 1970 (emphasise small) / Divorced - 2000

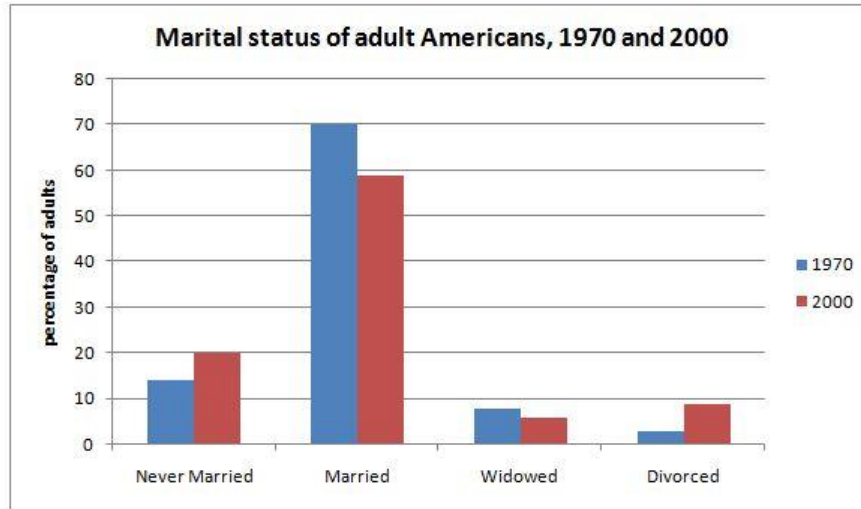
Fewer than 5% of adult Americans were divorced in 1970.

Just under 10% of adult Americans were divorced in 2000.

(compare: Just under... / Approximately...)

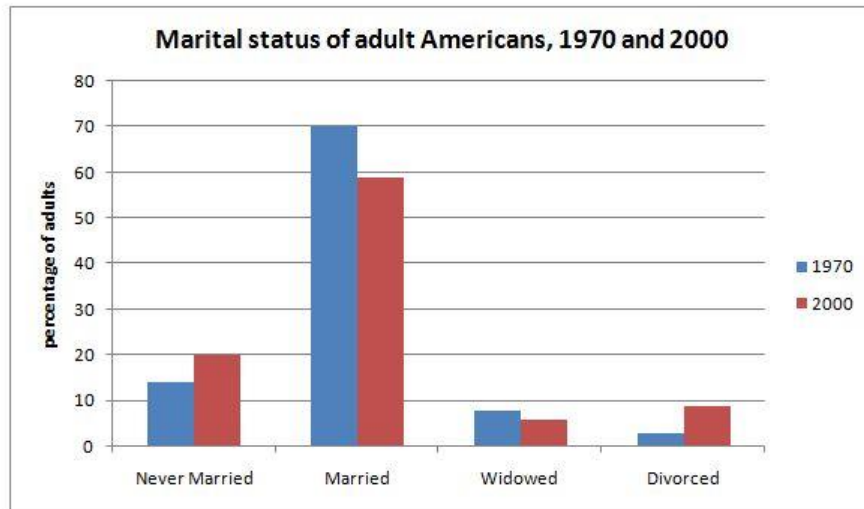


Never married - 1970

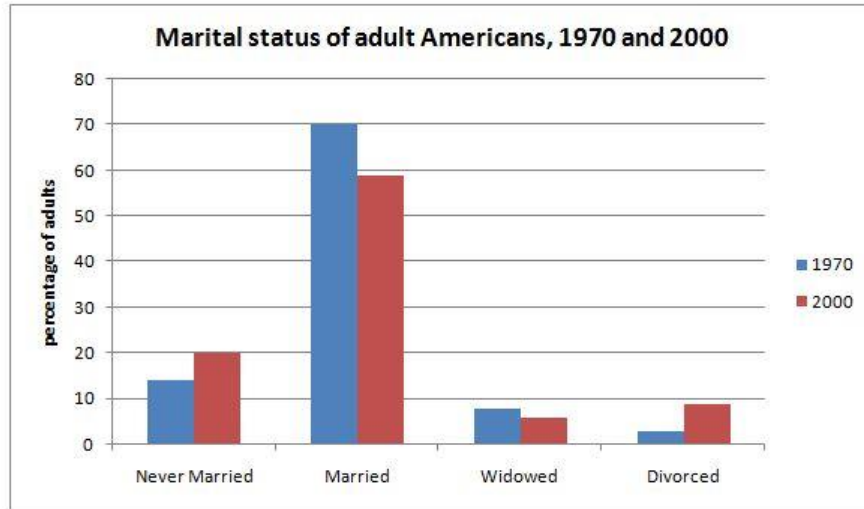


Never married - 1970

Approximately 15% of adult Americans had never been married in 2000.



Never married - 2000

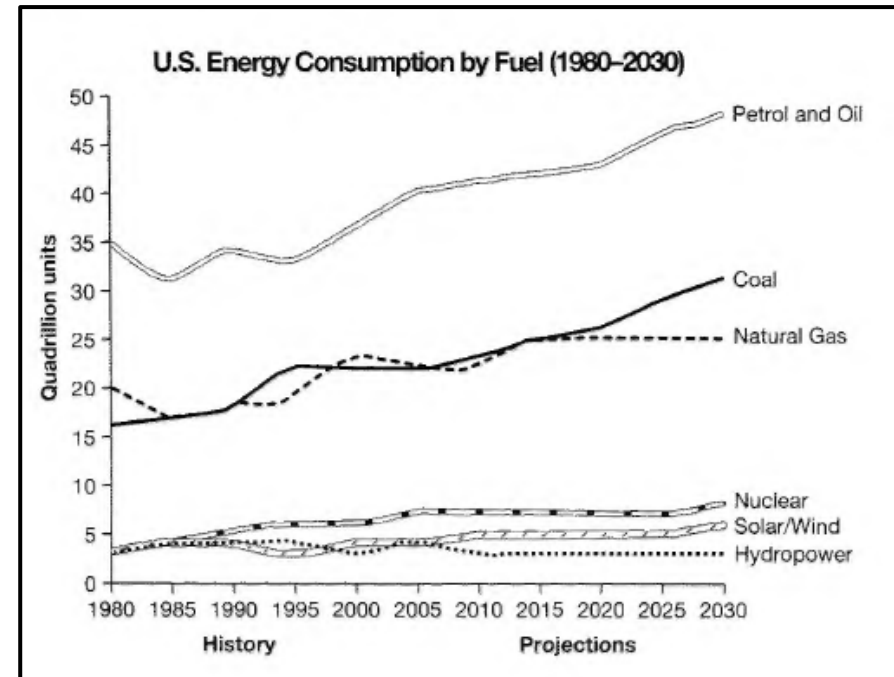


Never married - 2000

Twenty percent **of** adult Americans had never been married in 2000.

Q7

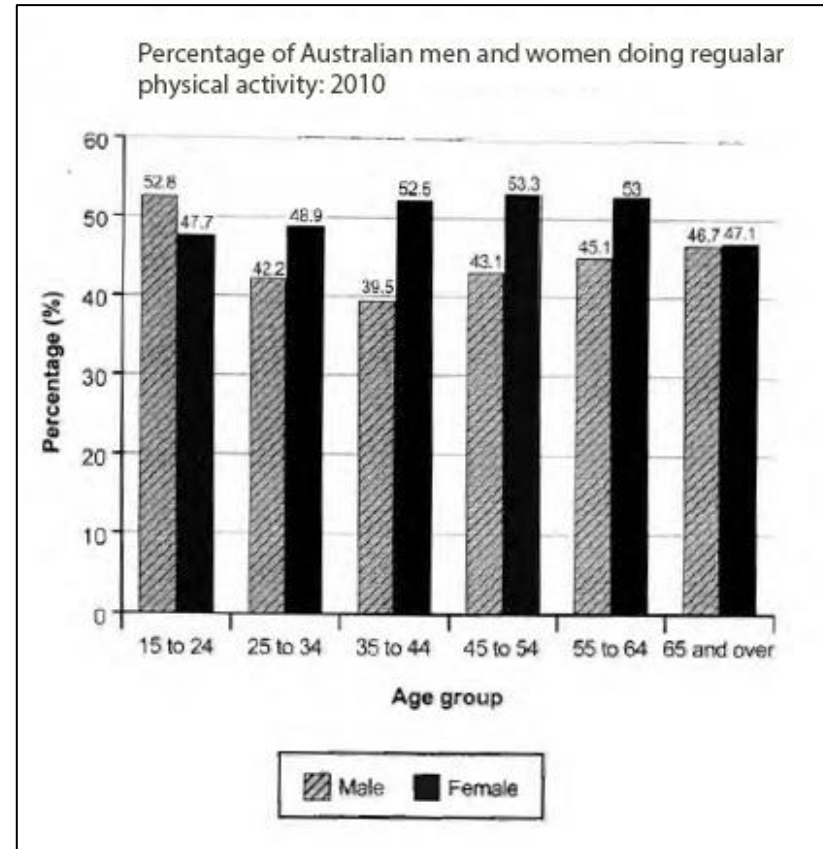
The graph gives information from a 2008 report about consumption of energy in the USA since 1980 with projections until 2030.



_____ of energy is forecast to be produced from petrol and oil in 2030.

Q8

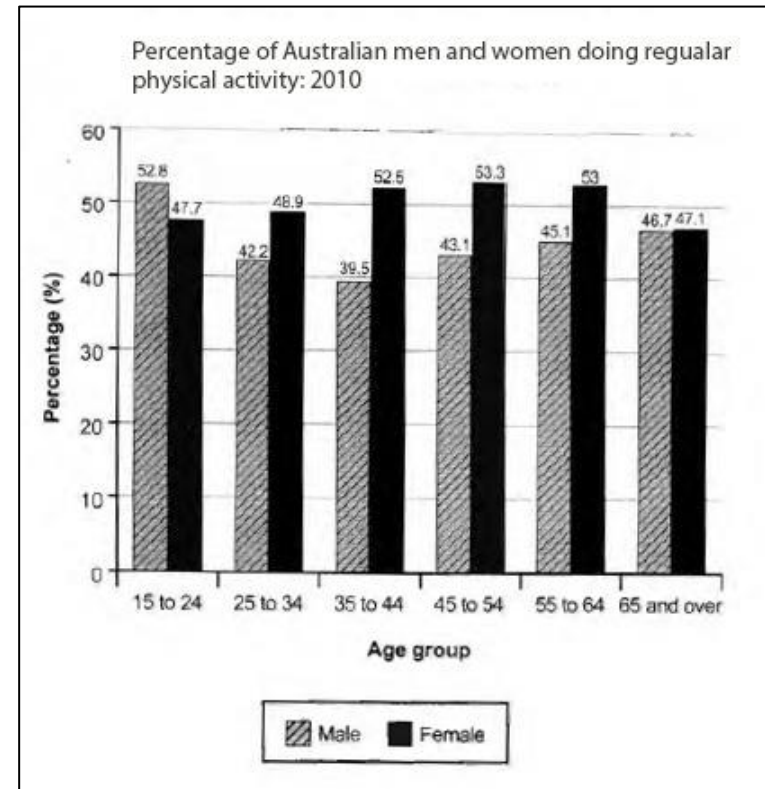
The bar chart shows the percentage of Australian men and women in different age groups who did regular physical activity in 2010.



The percentage of women who did regular exercise reached a peak of _____ in the 45 to 54 age group.

Q8

The bar chart shows the percentage of Australian men and women in different age groups who did regular physical activity in 2010.



The percentage of men who did regular exercise reached a low of _____ in the 25 to 44 year old age group.

Q3

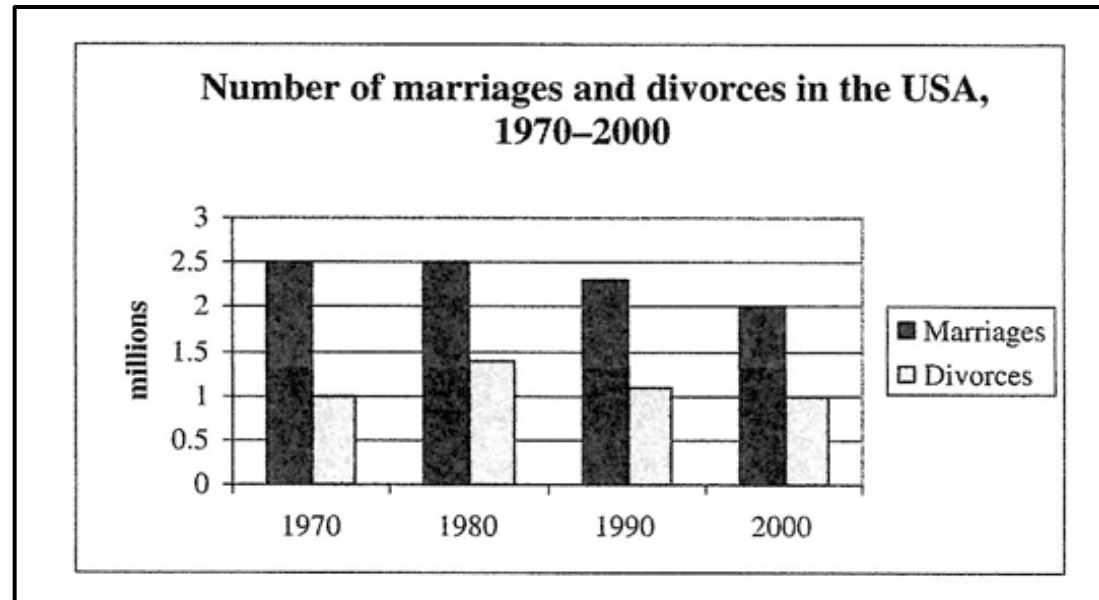
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There was a wide range in the percentage of total spending that was spent on food, drinks and tobacco from _____ in Turkey to _____ in Sweden

Q2A

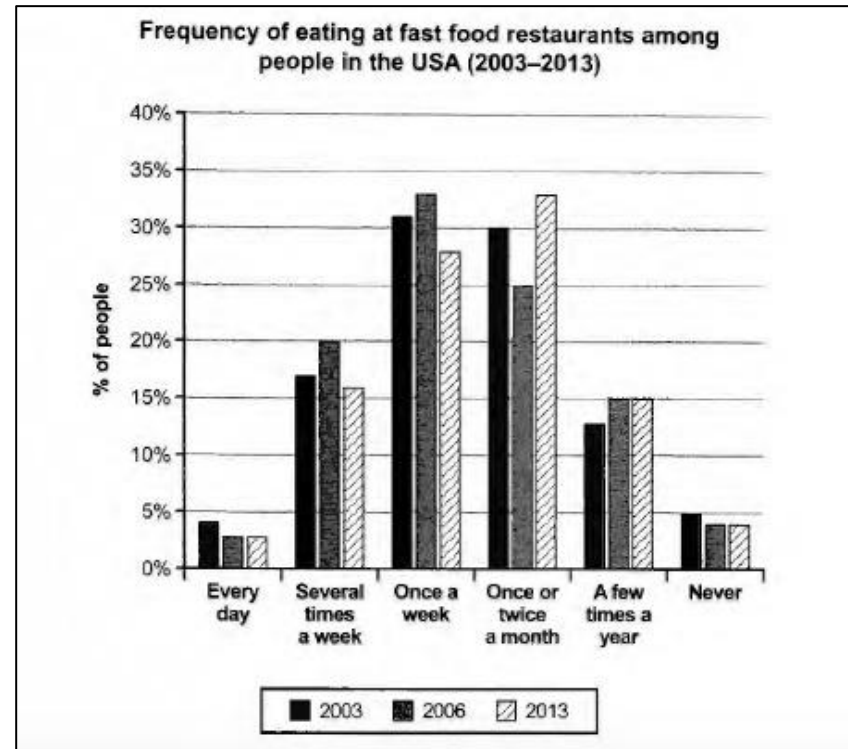
The top chart gives information about the USA marriage and divorce rates between 1970 and 2000, and the bottom chart gives information about the marital status of adult Americans in two of the years.



The number of couples who got married fell significantly from _____ in 1970 and 1980 to _____ in 2000. This represents a decline of _____ in 20 years.

Q11

The chart shows how frequently people in the USA ate in fast food restaurants between 2003 and 2013.



Throughout the entire period _____ of adult Americans ate in fast food restaurants between once a week and once a month.

Q3

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The percentage of total spending that was spent on leisure and education ranged from _____ in Spain to _____ in Turkey.

