

IELTS Writing

Task 1: Sentence Building and Practice

Worksheets W13 & W14

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Sentence Building

A key strategy

Effectively combines key **language elements**: (1) numbers & percentages (2) dates & time periods (3) language for change.

A powerful tool for effective sentences.

Used in detail paragraphs: paragraphs 3 & 4

Sentence Building: Checklist Approach

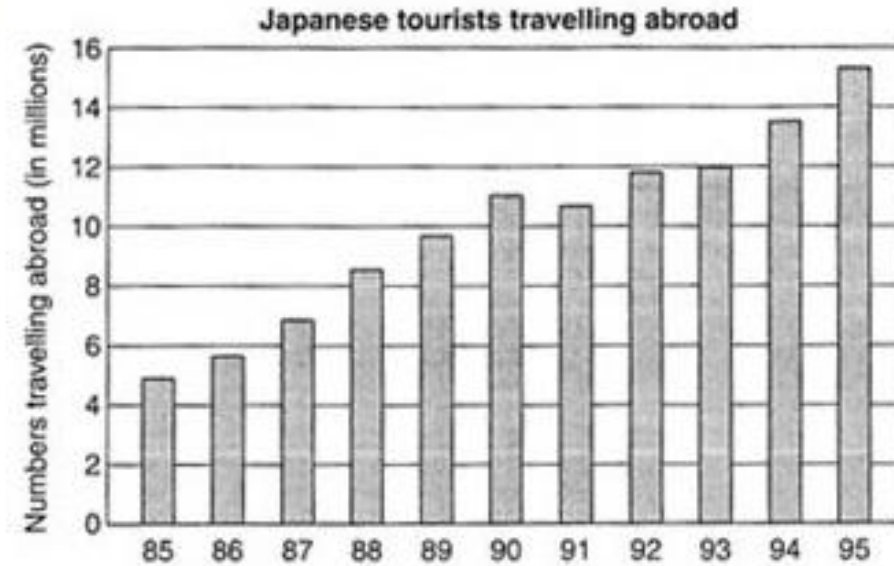
A simple but powerful tool for effective, error free, natural sentences.

Combines key language:

1. numbers
2. time periods
3. verbs and nouns for change
4. adverbs and adjectives of degree.
5. high value organising / cohesive language e.g. “This represents...”

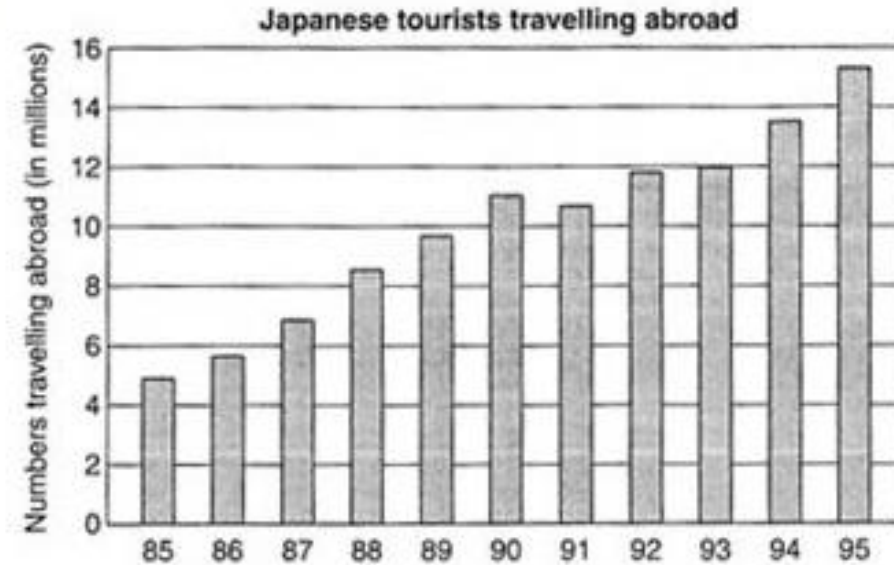
S-B: Example: Japanese tourists

Decide a basic fact you are going to describe.



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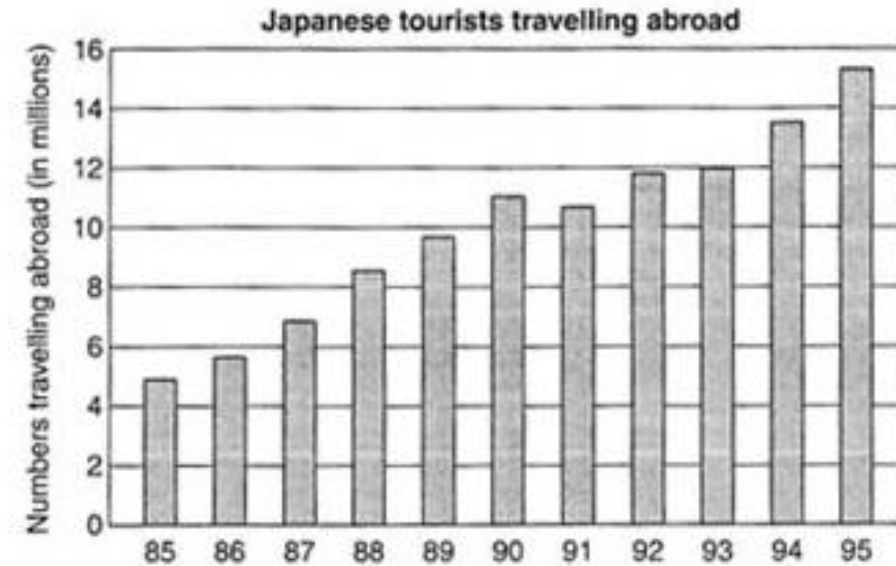


The number of Japanese tourists who travelled abroad increased from 5 million to 15 million.

S-B: Example: Japanese tourists

Decide a basic fact. And say it simply.

Then use the sentence building checklist to make the sentence more detailed and interesting.



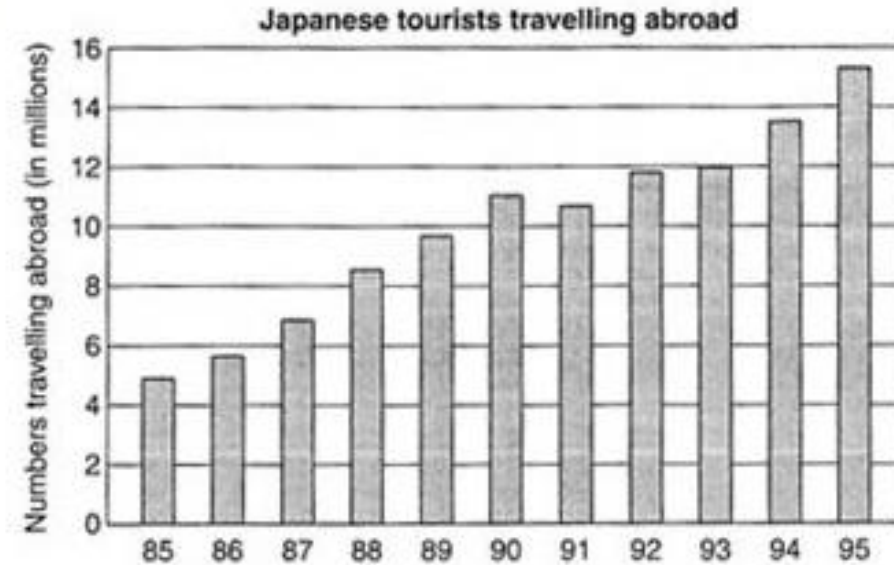
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When?



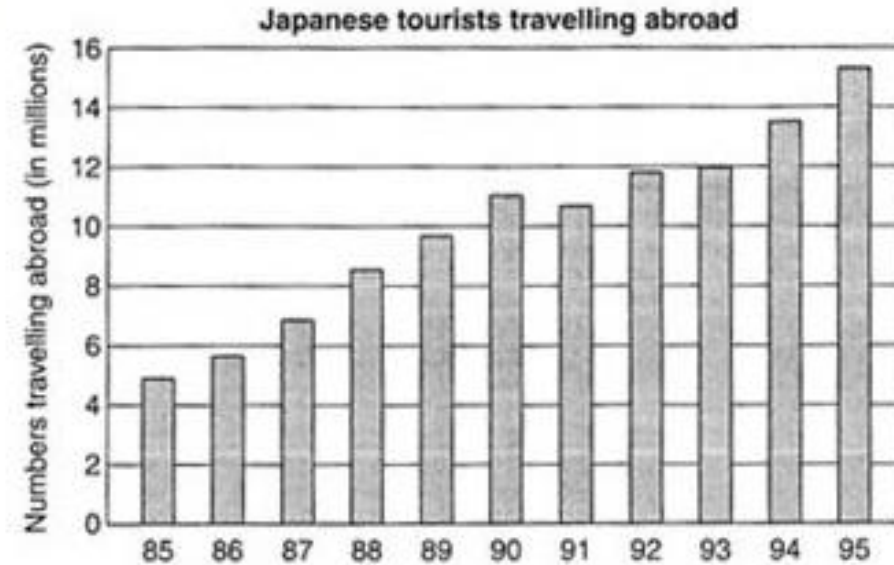
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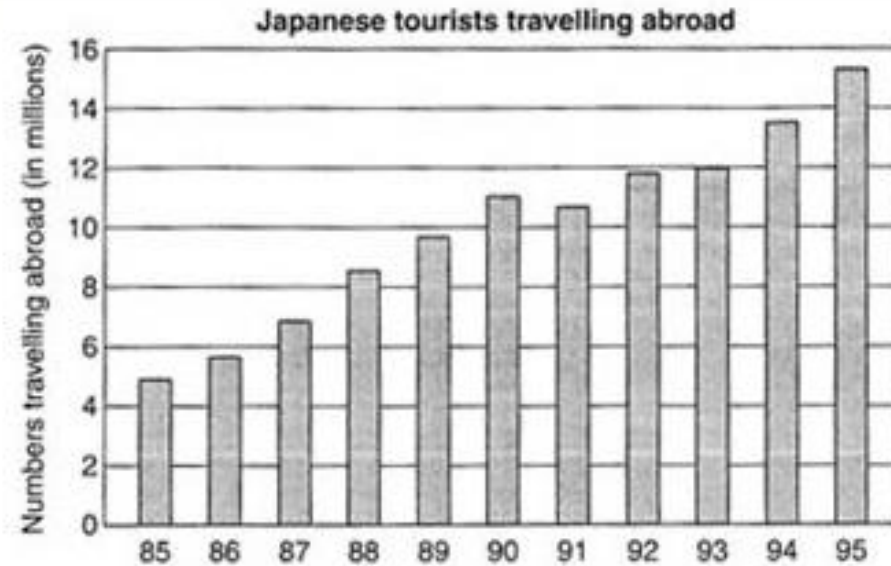
The number of Japanese tourists who travelled abroad increased from 5 million to 15 million **between 1985 and 1995.**

S-B: Example: Japanese tourists

Decide a basic fact. And say it simply.

Then use the sentence building checklist to make the sentence more detailed and interesting.

Is it exactly this number? Can we use our language for numbers?



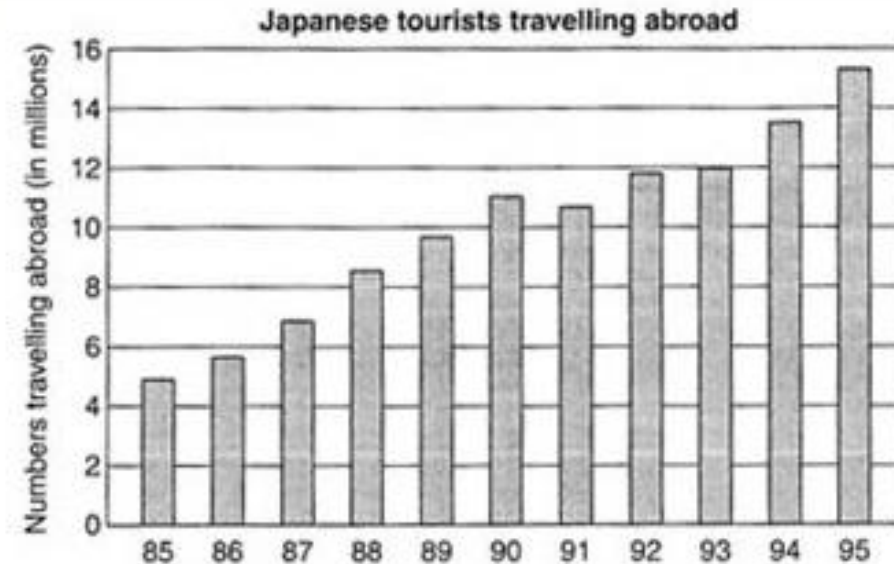
The number of Japanese tourists who travelled abroad increased from 5 million to 15 million between 1985 and 1995.

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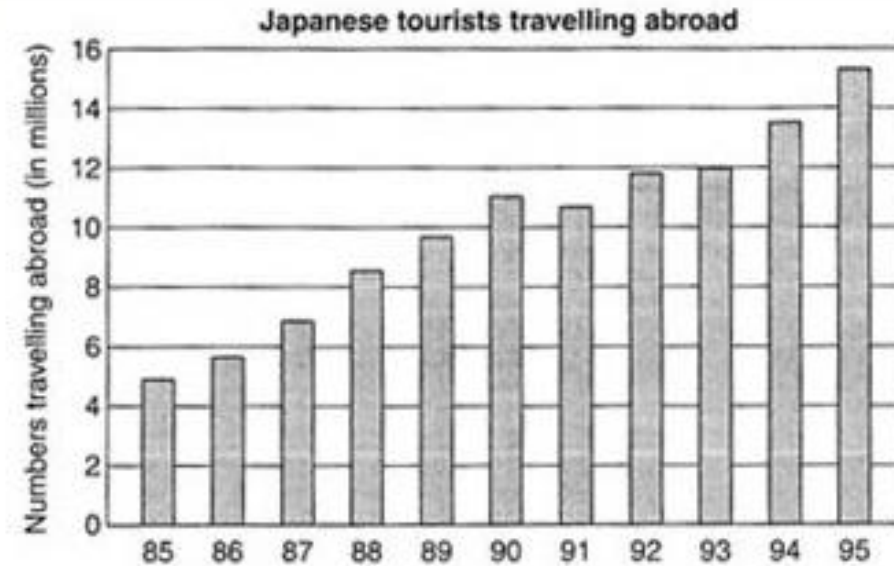
The number of Japanese tourists who travelled abroad increased from **just under** 5 million to **more than** 15 million between 1985 and 1995.

S-B: Example: Japanese tourists

Decide a basic fact. And say it simply.

Then use the sentence building checklist to make the sentence more detailed and interesting.

Adverb?



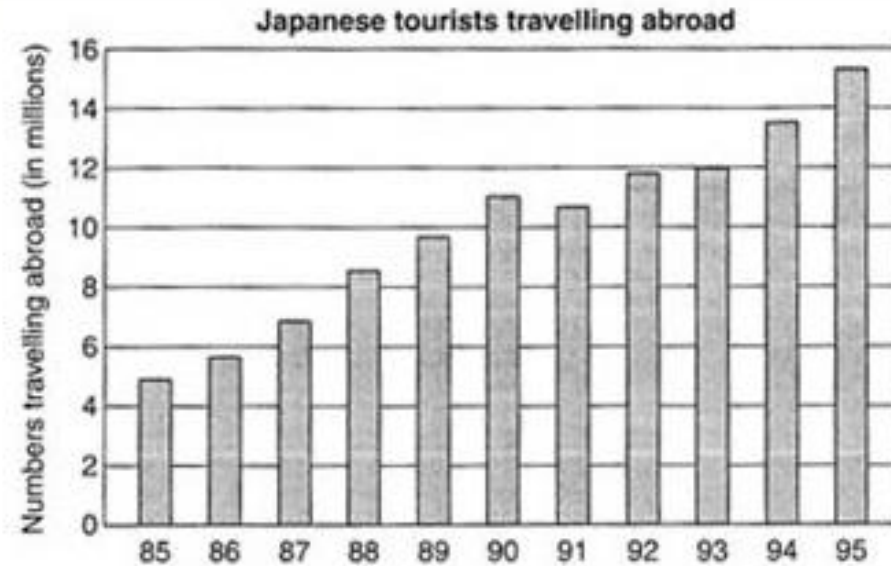
The number of Japanese tourists who travelled abroad increased from just under 5 million to more than 15 million between 1985 and 1995.

S-B: Example: Japanese tourists

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Adverb?



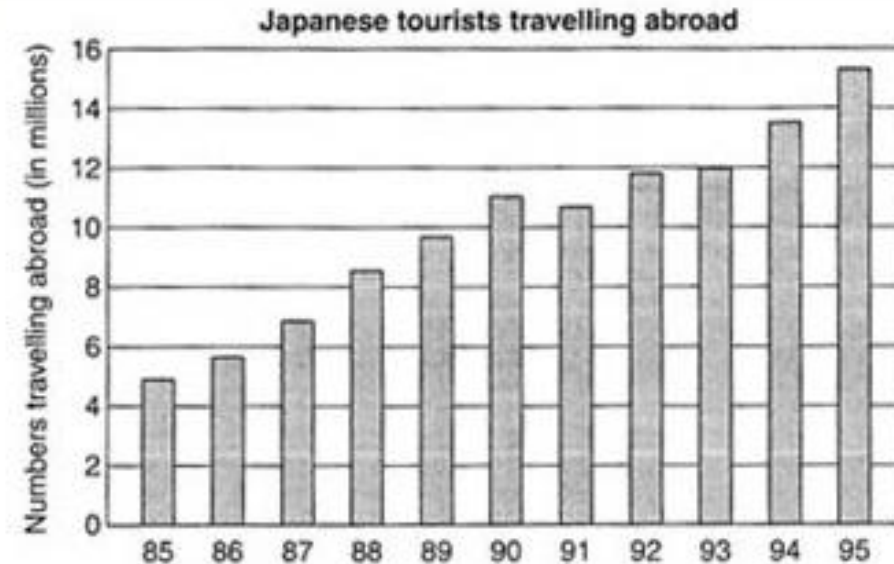
The number of Japanese tourists who travelled abroad increased **dramatically** from just under 5 million to more than 15 million between 1985 and 1995.

S-B: Example: Japanese tourists

Decide a basic fact. And say it simply.

Then use the sentence building checklist to make the sentence more detailed and interesting.

Add a second sentence using changes not specific numbers and dates.



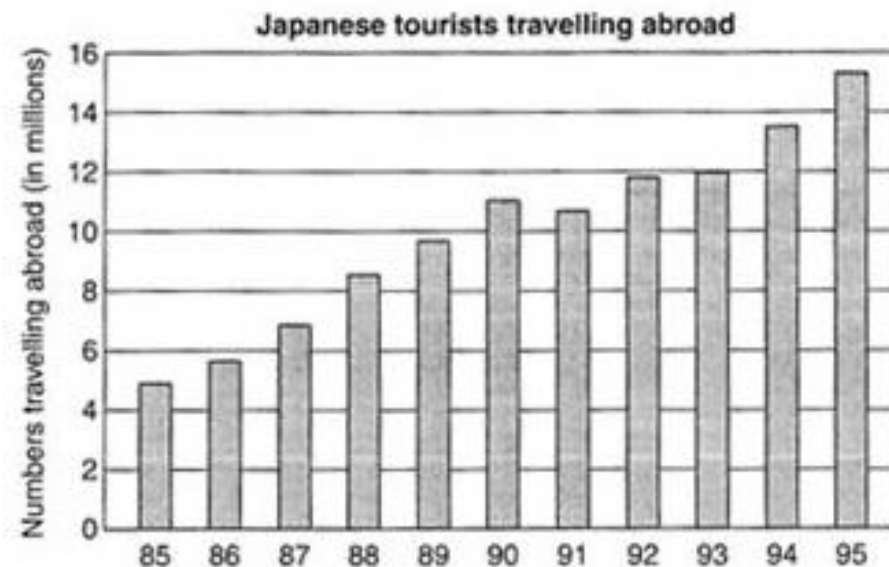
The number of Japanese tourists who travelled abroad increased **dramatically** from just under 5 million to more than 15 million between 1985 and 1995.

S-B: Example: Japanese tourists

Decide a basic fact. And say it simply.

Then use the sentence building checklist to make the sentence more detailed and interesting.

Add a second sentence using changes not specific numbers and dates.



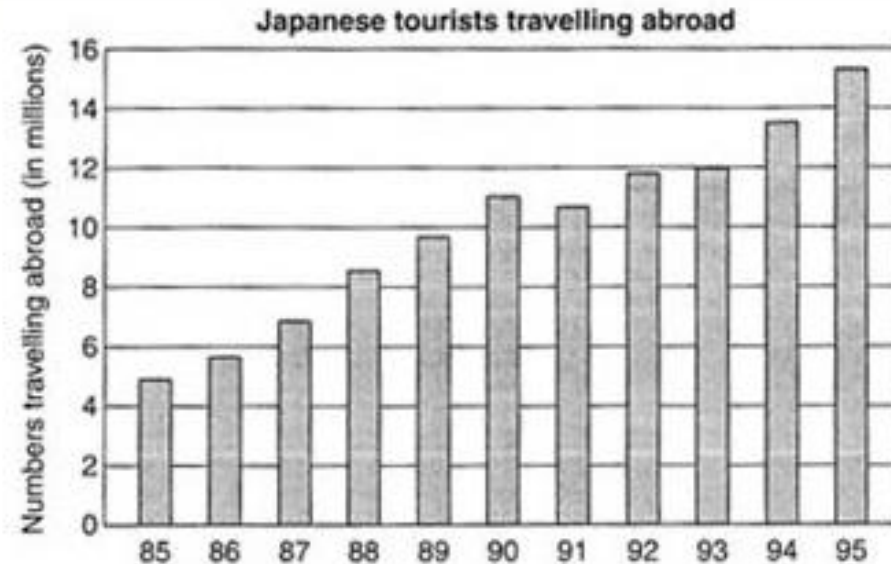
The number of Japanese tourists who travelled abroad increased dramatically from just under 5 million to more than 15 million between 1985 and 1995. This represents an increase of more than 10 million in a 10 year period.

S-B: Example: Japanese tourists

Decide a basic fact. And say it simply.

Then use the sentence building checklist to make the sentence more detailed and interesting.

Add a second sentence using changes not specific numbers and dates.



The number of Japanese tourists who travelled abroad increased dramatically from just under 5 million to more than 15 million between 1985 and 1995. This represents an increase of more than 10 million in a 10 year period.

Note: an alternative for “This represents...” is “This amounts to...”

S-B: Example: Japanese tourists

Alternatives

It is possible to use a noun rather than a verb in the main sentence.

There was a dramatic increase in the number of Japanese tourists who travelled abroad from just under 5 million to over 15 million between 1985 and 1995. This amounts to a rise of more than 10 million in 10 years.

Note the structure:

There [was] an [increase] in the [number] of [something] who did s/t

There [was] an [increase] in the [sales] of [something]

There [was] an [increase] in the [quantity] of [electricity] that was produced from s/t

Sentence Building

Checklist:

1. Basic fact
2. Time (When?)
3. Numbers? (Exact?)
4. Can we use an adverb?
5. Add a second sentence rephrasing the change e.g. amount of change not absolute numbers.
6. Alternative is to begin with a noun (There was a...)

Sentence Building Practice

Putting it all together

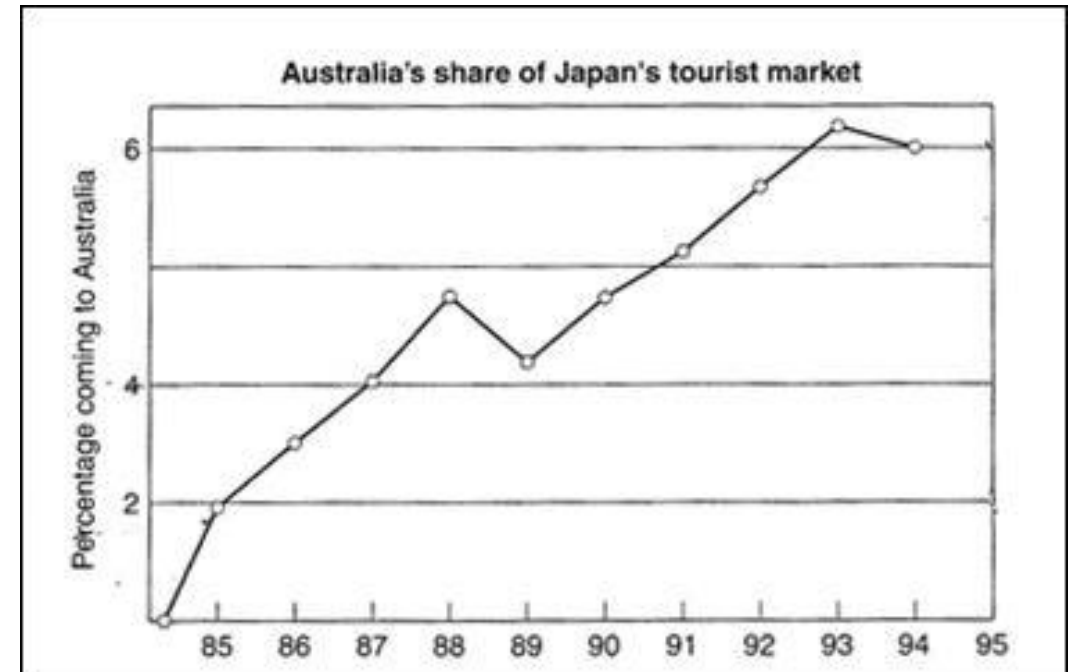
Sentence Building Example (2)

Data:

Australia's share of Japan's tourist market

Content / communication goal:

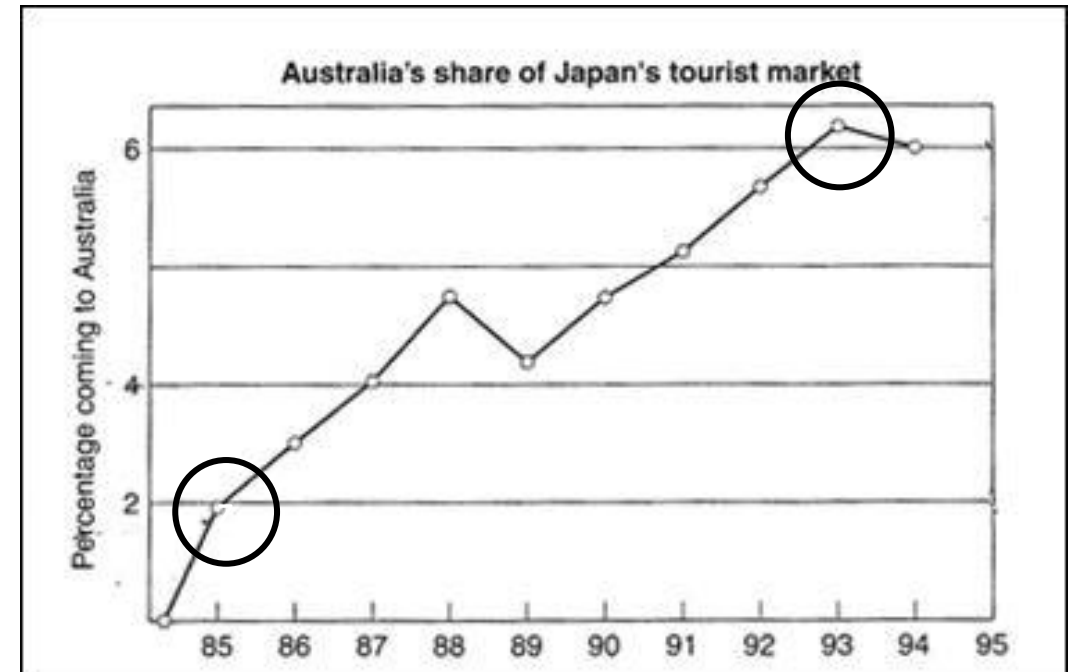
I want to describe the change 1985-1993.



Australia's share of Japan's tourism: 89-93

Checklist:

1. **Basic fact.**
2. Time (When?)
3. Numbers? (Exact?)
4. Can we use an adverb?
5. Rephrase change with the range of change.
6. Sometimes begin main sentence with noun.

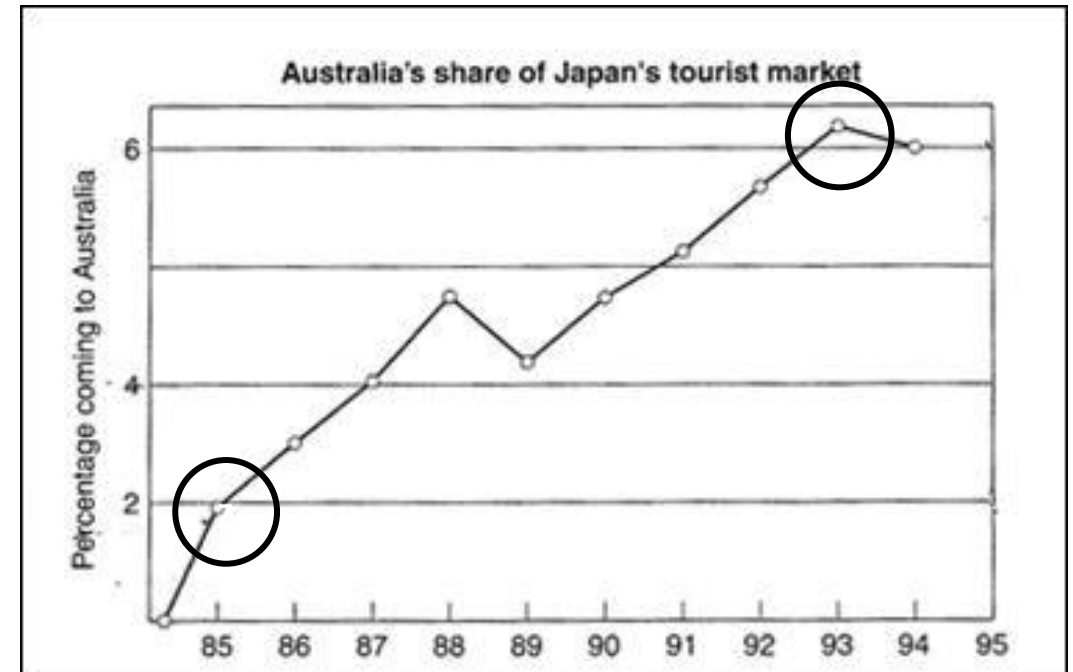


The percentage of Japanese tourists who went to Australia increased from 2% to 6.2%.

Australia's share of Japan's tourism: 89-93

Checklist:

1. Basic fact.
2. Time (When?)
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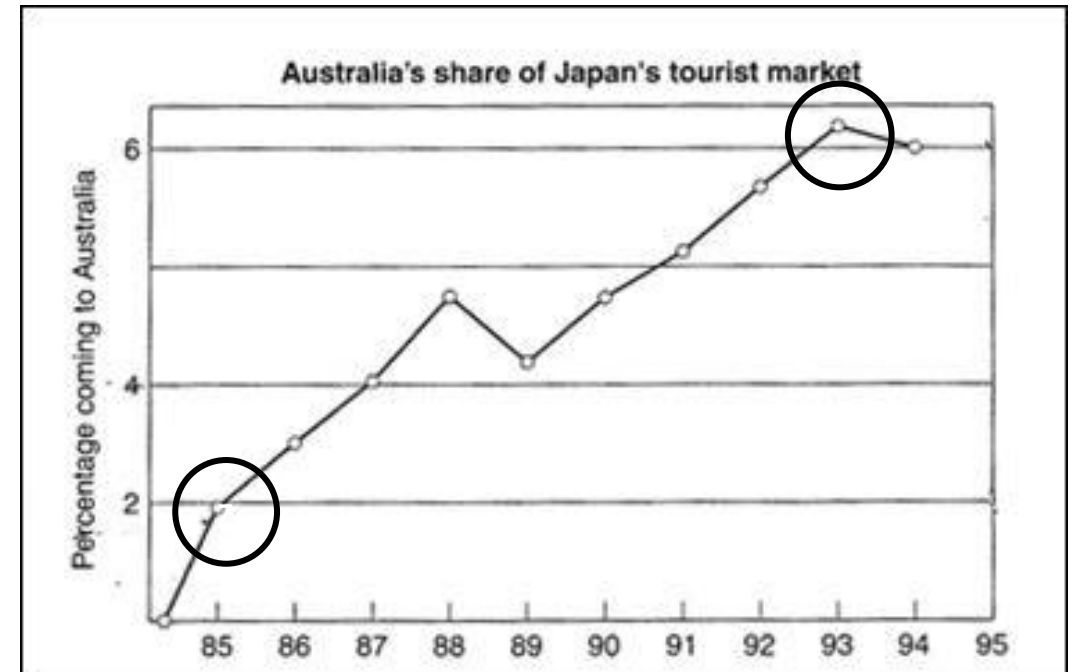


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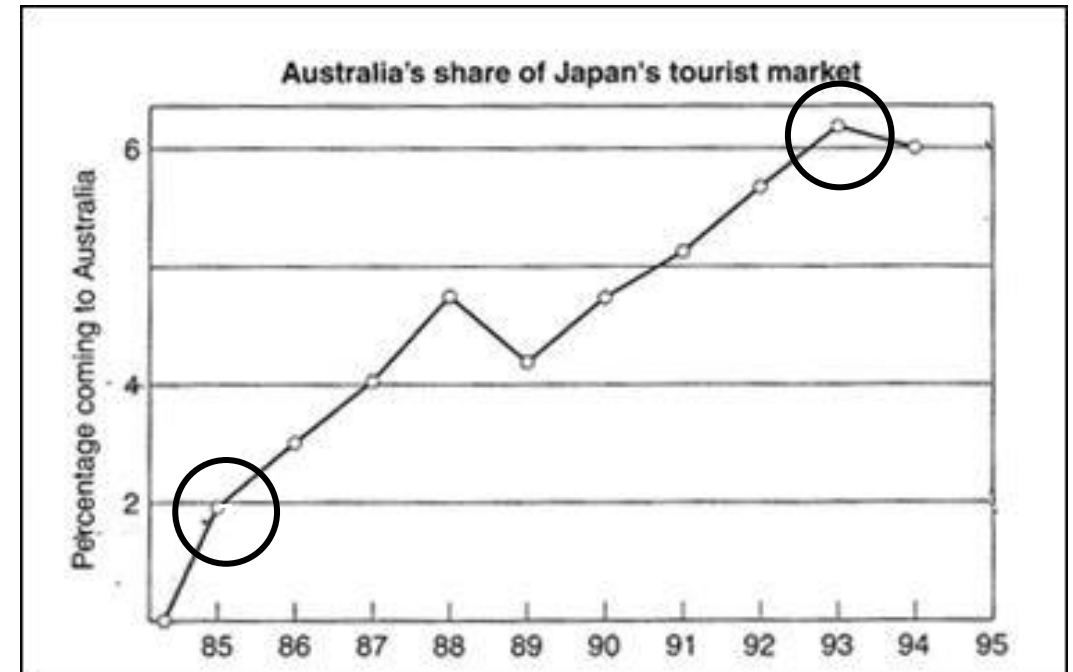


The percentage of Japanese tourists who went to Australia increased from 2% to 6.2% **between 1985 and 1993.**

Australia's share of Japan's tourism: 89-93

Checklist:

1. Basic fact.
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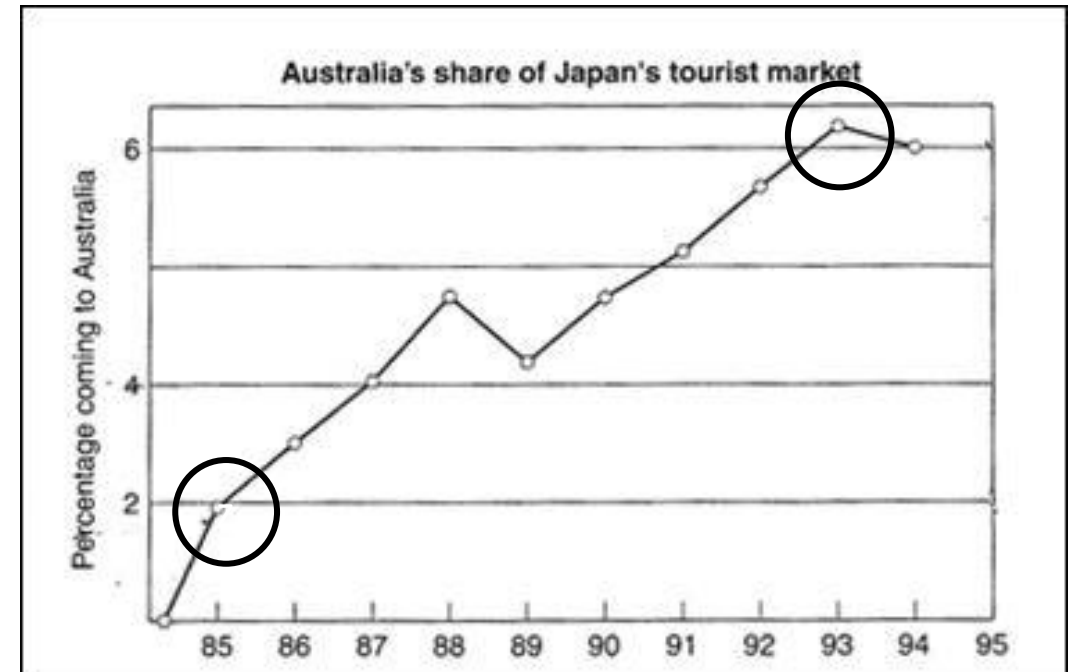


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Australia's share of Japan's tourism: 89-93

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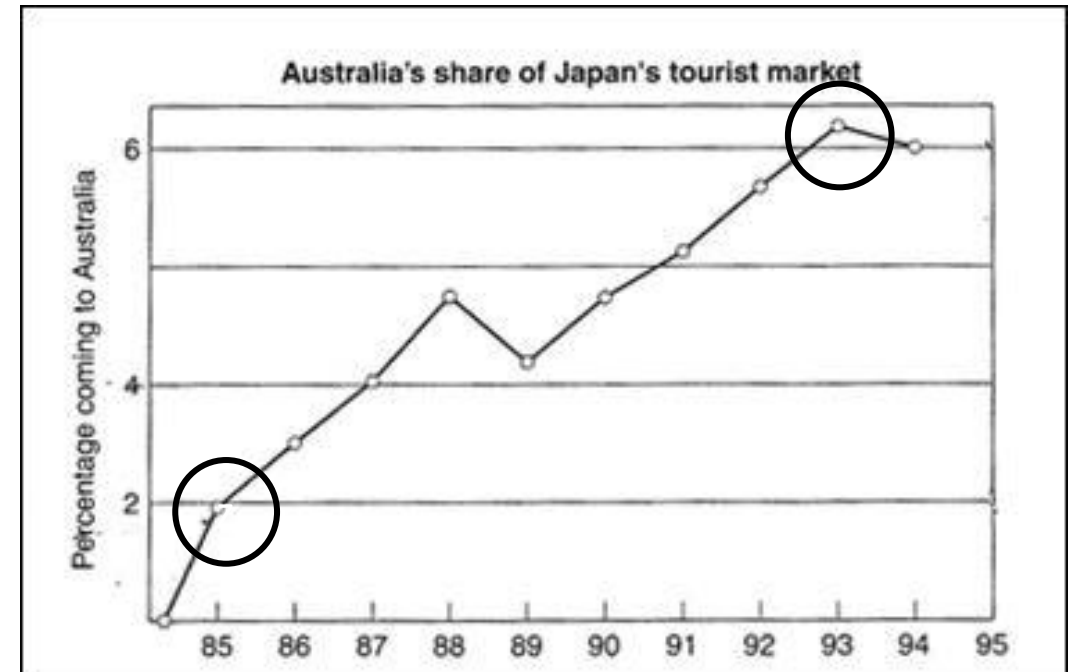


The percentage of Japanese tourists who went to Australia increased from **2%** to **just over 6%** between 1985 and 1993.

Australia's share of Japan's tourism: 89-93

Checklist:

1. Basic fact.
2. Time (When?)
3. Numbers? (Exact?)
4. Can we use an adverb?
5. Rephrase change with the range of change.
6. Sometimes begin main sentence with noun.

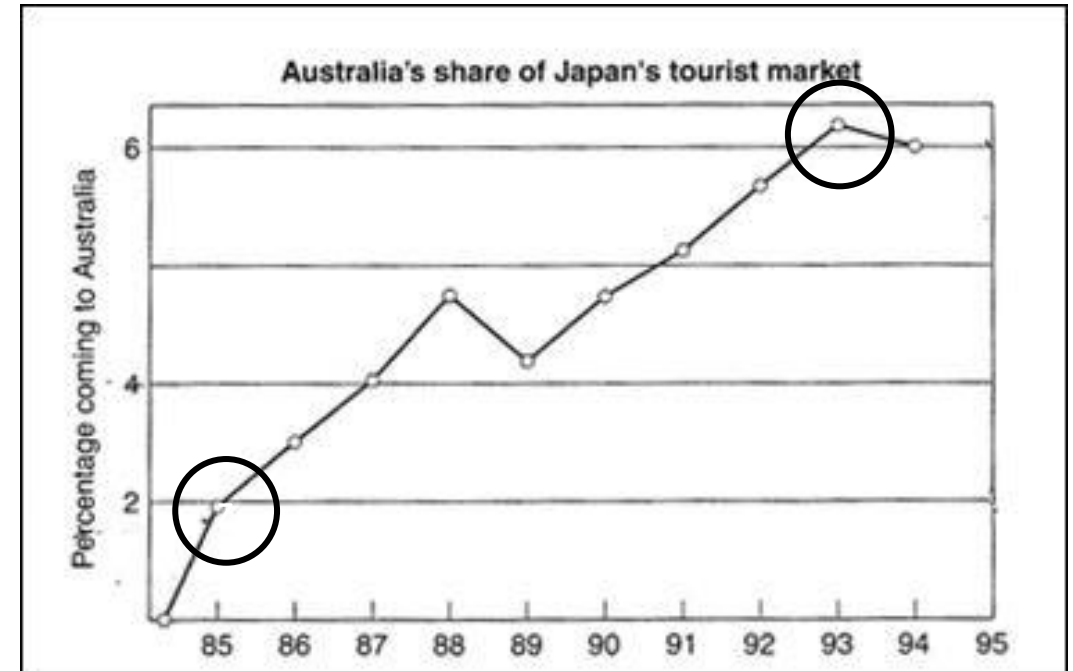


The percentage of Japanese tourists who went to Australia increased from **2%** to **just over 6%** between 1985 and 1993.

Australia's share of Japan's tourism: 89-93

Checklist:

1. Basic fact.
2. Time (When?)
3. Numbers? (Exact?)
4. **Can we use an adverb?**
5. Rephrase change with the range of change.
6. Sometimes begin main sentence with noun.

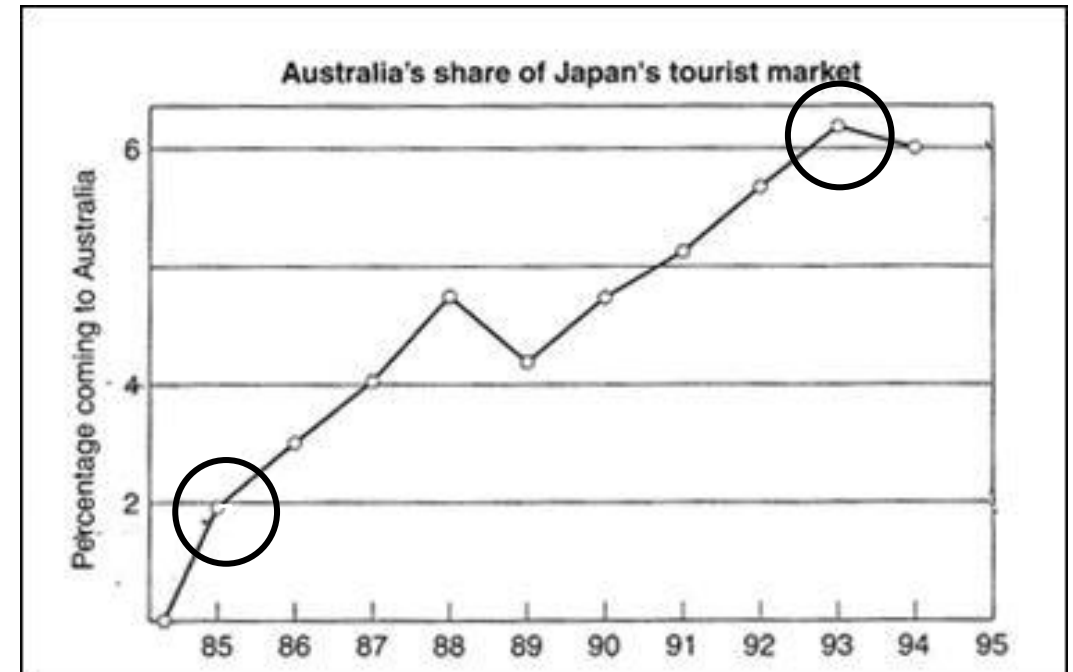


The percentage of Japanese tourists who went to Australia increased **significantly** from 2% to just over 6% between 1985 and 1993.

Australia's share of Japan's tourism: 89-93

Checklist:

1. Basic fact.
2. Time (When?)
3. Numbers? (Exact?)
4. Can we use an adverb?
5. **Rephrase change with the range of change.**
6. Sometimes begin main sentence with noun.

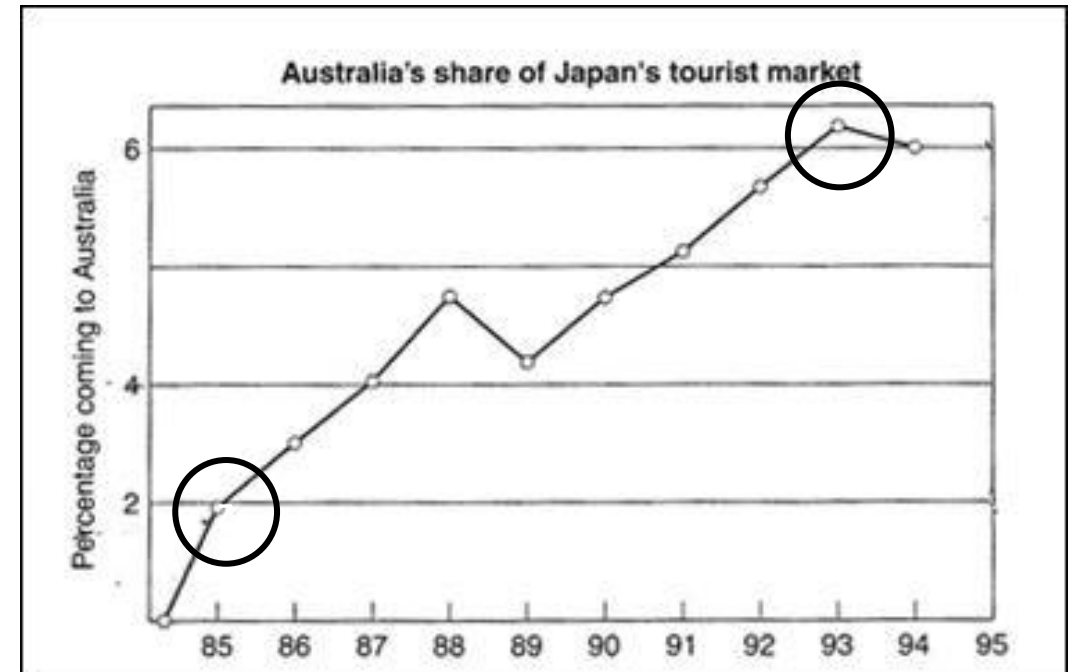


The percentage of Japanese tourists who went to Australia increased **significantly** from 2% to just over 6% between 1985 and 1993.

Australia's share of Japan's tourism: 89-93

Checklist:

1. Basic fact.
2. Time (When?)
3. Numbers? (Exact?)
4. Can we use an adverb?
5. **Rephrase change with the range of change.**
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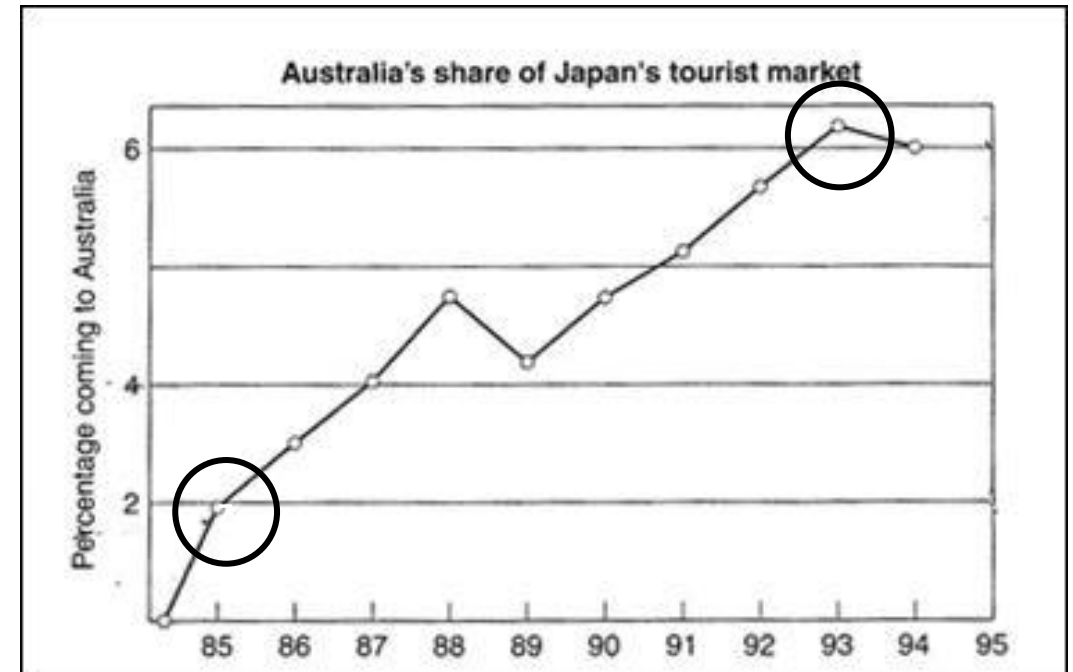


The percentage of Japanese tourists who went to Australia increased significantly from 2% to just over 6% between 1985 and 1993. **This represents an increase of more than 4% of the total number of Japanese tourists in an 8 year period. (Or: This amounts to an...)**

Australia's share of Japan's tourism: 89-93

Checklist:

1. Basic fact.
2. Time (When?)
3. Numbers? (Exact?)
4. Can we use an adverb?
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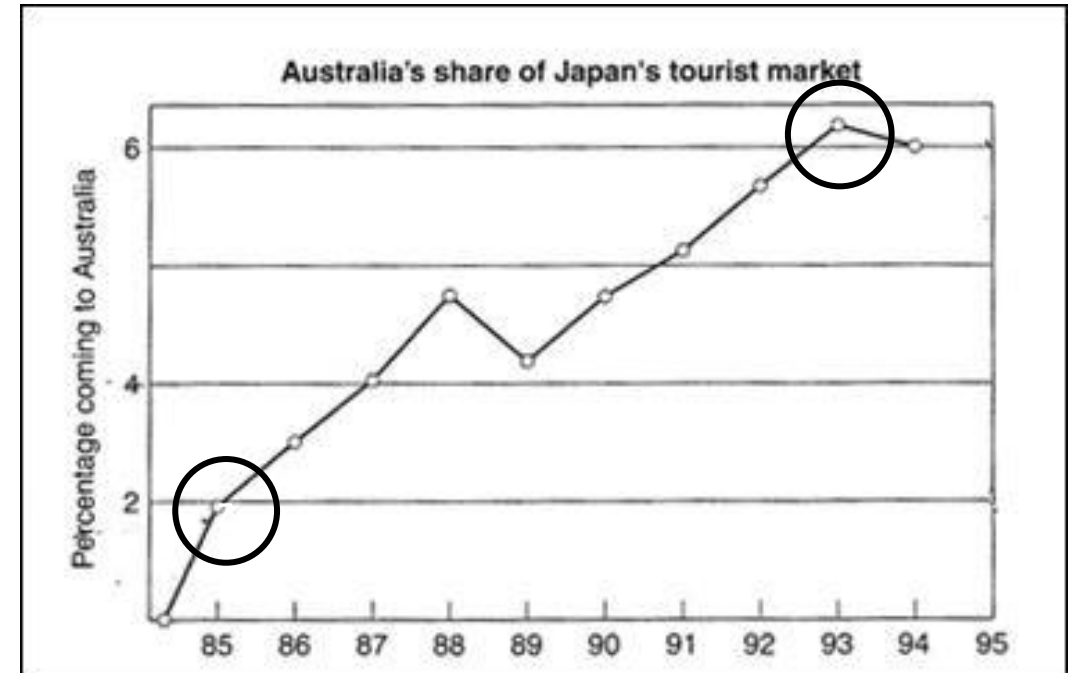


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Australia's share of Japan's tourism: 89-93

Checklist:

1. Basic fact.
2. Time (When?)
3. Numbers? (Exact?)
4. Can we use an adverb?
5. Rephrase change with the range of change.
6. Sometimes begin main sentence with noun.



There was a significant increase in the percentage of Japanese tourists who went to Australia from 2% to just over 6% between 1985 and 1993. This represents an increase of more than 4% of the total number of Japanese tourists in an 8 year period. (Or: This amounts to an...)

Perfect: no mistakes / language variety!

The percentage of Japanese tourists who went to Australia increased from 2% to 6.2%.

1. The percentage of Japanese tourists who went to Australia increased significantly from 2% to just over 6% between 1985 and 1993. This represents an increase of more than 4% of the total number of Japanese tourists in an 8 year period. (Or: This amounts to an...)
2. There was a significant increase in the percentage of Japanese tourists who went to Australia from 2% to just over 6% between 1985 and 1993. This represents an increase of more than 4% of the total number of Japanese tourists in an 8 year period. (Or: This amounts to an...)

