

Academic Writing Sample Task

E145

Sample answer

In the table we can see information about the numbers of students enrolling at Manchester University in the three years, 1937, 1967 and 2017. It compares the percentages of females and males, and also students from abroad and those from within 40 miles of the city.

The most noticeable changes concern the overall growth of student numbers, from 327 in 1937 to 6254 in 2017, and the proportions of local students, who constituted 55% of the total in 1937, but only 1-2% in 2017.

It is surprising to note that the percentage of female enrolments did not rise steadily, but dropped between 1937 and 1967. However, at the same time, the percentage of the student population who came from abroad remained almost unchanged between 1937 and 1967, being 6% and 7% respectively, but rose markedly after that, so that by 2017 foreign students represented 32% of the total.

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E-146

Sample answer:

This graph shows the kinds of activities done by old people in their spare time, covering a period from the 1980s to now in the United States. We can see that generally the activities listed have been increasing in popularity amongst the elderly, with hiking increasing steadily throughout the years, and watching TV being the most popular overall.

In the 1980s, nearly all activities were growing in popularity. The only activity which was becoming less popular over these years was going to the theatre. Going to the theatre declined steeply from 50% to 30%.

This changed in the 1990s, and going to the theatre became more popular, whereas reading saw a dramatic drop in popularity. The number of people doing all other activities increased.

This century, hiking, reading, going to the theatre and surfing the Internet have all been increasing in popularity. However, watching TV has been decreasing in popularity. Despite this, watching TV is still the second most popular activity nowadays amongst this group. Most elderly people are hiking nowadays in their spare time.