



Christmas and New Year trends

Talk about the past, present and future trends of these things. Choose one and see if you can agree with your partner about the changes.

- Number of people celebrating the Lunar New Year/ Chinese New Year
- Eating out
- Entertainment (watching a particular TV programme together, movies, etc)
- Financial year
- People spending time with their families
- Presents (cost, number, etc)
- Religious celebrations
- Sales (starting date, length, popularity, number of shops, size of discounts, queues etc)
- Traditional New Year celebrations (popularity of one food etc)
- Travel (going abroad, going to visit people, etc)
- Weather (temperature, amount of snow, etc)
- Winter sports and games (skiing, sledging, board games, etc)
- Work
- Christmas and New Year parties (number, spending)
- Christmas lights and decorations (amount, length of time, when they go up and come down, in the home, outside the home, in the street, in shops)
- Christmas music in shops and cafés (amount, length of time, starting date)

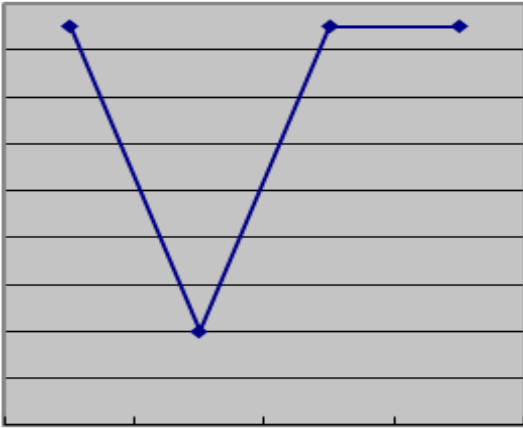
Report any changes you thought of to the rest of the class. Do they agree?

What tense would you probably have with each of these time expressions?

- When I was a child
- Since I was a child
- Since the 1990s
- In the 1990s
- For the last few years/ In recent years
- Last year
- In the next few years
- Next year



*What language could you use to explain the trends below (without using any numbers)?
Try to think of as many different ways as possible. The third point is now.*



What other language can you use to talk about things?

Go down

Go up

Be flat

Try to guess which space above the following trends phrases go into:

Be unchanged
Climb rapidly
Crash
Decrease
Dive
Drop dramatically
Fall sharply
Flatten out
Grow slightly
Increase steadily
Level off
Remain stable
Rise
Shoot up
Shrink
Stay at the same level
Take off
Rocket
Double
Halve
Boom

What do the adverbs above mean? Rank them by their strength.

Which verbs above also mean big changes?