### Similarities and Differences between IELTS Academic Writing Part One Tasks

*Use the table below to help you discuss similarities and differences between different kinds of IELTS Writing Part One tasks.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>all kinds of task (= always do this in Academic Writing Part One)</th>
<th>almost all kinds of task</th>
<th>no kinds of task (= never do it)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>almost no tasks (= avoid if at all possible)</td>
<td>line graph</td>
<td>bar chart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>table</td>
<td>pie chart</td>
<td>map</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>process (= flow chart)</td>
<td>labelled diagram</td>
<td>more than one kind information</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Put these expressions into the boxes on the last page (summarising any long ones):

- Compare
- Contrast
- Describe all of the information given
- Describe positions
- Select and put the most important information first
- Split the information into two main paragraphs and describe them in the second sentence of the introduction
- Start the main paragraphs with expressions meaning “First” and “Second”
- Start your introduction with a very general description of the graph, table, etc (= rephrasing the question)
- Summarise
- Think of what you see as data rather than as a picture
- Use one tense all the way through
- Write a conclusion giving the reasons for the data being that way
- Write approximately 150 words
- Write as many words as you can
- Write exactly 150 words

Brainstorm useful phrases for doing the ones which are useful.

Compare your ideas with those below the fold.

1. Compare – “Comparing the…”, “(far/ much) …er/ more/ less…”, “(not) as…as…”, “similar/ almost the same”
2. Contrast “… whereas…”, “In contrast…”, “(almost) the opposite” “While…”, “… shows a rather/ very different pattern/ trend.”, “We can contrast this with…”, “… is (a/the) (major) exception…”, “However,… NOT “On the contrary” PROBABLY NOT “On the other hand”
3. Describe positions – “the upper…”, “the top right…”, “to the northeast”, “in the southwest”
4. Select and describe the most important information first – “The first thing you notice…”, “The most noticeable… is…”, “The biggest/ most noticeable/ most important difference/ similarity between the lines/ graphs is…”
5. Split the information into two main paragraphs and describe them in the second sentence of the introduction – “I will describe… and then…” “First, I will.. and after that I will…”, in the first paragraph I will… and in the following paragraph I will…”, “These two sources will be described in turn below”, “The following two paragraphs will describe both of these in turn”, “The following paragraph will… and then I will move on to…”
6. Start your introduction with a very general description of the graph, table, etc. - “The (line) graph/ bar chart (= bar graph)/ pie chart/ map/ table/ diagram…”, “… shows/ represents/ compares/ illustrates…”, “information/ data/ figures”
7. Summarise – “Overall…”, “The main trend…”, “In general,…”, “The thing that stands out (most) is…”
8. Think of what you see as data rather than as a picture – “The data/ numbers/figures…”

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