IELTS Writing 1 Analysing Tables - Overview Sentences

For each of the following questions you should:

• Look for figures that are increasing, decreasing, constant or undergoing fluctuation and choose the MOST STRIKING of them, including **NOTABLE EXCEPTIONS.**
• Decide whether you can use comparatives, superlatives, language related to 'change over time' or both.
• Decide whether you can group the information
• Decide which tense(s) to use
• Choose higher level vocabulary
• Remember not to add figures to your overview
• Always try to write between 1 to 3 COMPLEX sentences starting with an overview word (ie overall)

1. You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The table shows the proportions of pupils attending four secondary school types between 2000 and 2009. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant. Write at least 150 words.

	2000	2005	2009
Specialist Schools	12%	11%	10%
Grammar Schools	24%	19%	12%
Voluntary-controlled Schools	52%	38%	20%
Community Schools	12%	32%	58%

2. You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.Write a report for a university lecturer describing the information in the table below. Write at least 150 words.

Hours of leisure time per year in Someland							
	Teens	20s	30s	40s	50s	60s	70s +
Watching TV/videos	1,200	700	400	500	600	700	1,100
Socialising with 4 or less people	150	150	300	250	250	200	200
Socialising with 4 or more people	350	350	50	50	25	25	25
Individual exercise	150	100	200	200	50	75	150
Group exercise/sport	450	350	200	150	50	0	0
Cinema	100	75	50	25	25	50	75

3. The tables show results of 2 surveys done in 1980 and 2010 on various aspects of city living in a particular city. Units are measured in percentage. Summarise the information by selecting and re-

Year 1980

Aspects	Good	Neither good Nor Bad	Bad
Education	72	23	5
Healthcare	82	10	8
Environment	72	22	6
Shops	64	24	12
Employment	62	22	10
Transport	52	16	32

Year 2010

Aspects	Good	Neither good Nor Bad	Bad
Education	82	11	9
Healthcare	74	14	12
Environment	71	13	16
Shops	60	24	16
Employment	72	5	23
Transport	39	23	38

porting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

4. The table below gives information about the percentage of adults who paid for admission to various entertainment events in five nations in 2012.

Percentage of adult population attending paid events

Country	Performing Arts*	Cinema	Museums/Galleries	Sports
USA	39.1%	59.7%	20.6%	27.3%
Canada	31.9%	52.6%	15.6%	23.8%
France	41.9%	44.7%	39.1%	22.7%
Germany	34.7%	43.1%	37.6%	26.9%
UK	41.4%	46.4%	34.8%	31.1%

* Performing Arts may include the theatre, live concerts, opera, ballet, etc.

Look at the tables above and make a list of the things that stand out and choose the most striking of them. Then try to write overview sentences using them.

- Look for figures that are increasing, decreasing, constant or undergoing fluctuation and choose the MOST STRIKING of them, including **NOTABLE EXCEPTIONS.**
- Decide whether you can use comparatives, superlatives, language related to 'change over time' <u>or both</u>
- Decide whether you can group the information
- Decide which tense(s) to use
- Choose higher level vocabulary
- Remember not to add figures to your overview
- Always try to write between 1 to 3 <u>COMPLEX</u> sentences starting with an overview word (ie overall, in general)

1.

2.

3.

4.