Language of Change

Describing Graph Trends

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This exercise introduces some common vocabulary and grammar needed for describing graph trends.

The language that can be used for describing graphs in IELTS is extensive.

This lesson introduces some of the most common language used. It also shows you how it can be used grammatically in sentences.

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Vocabulary for Describing Graph Trends

Word	Part of Speech	Example Sentence
increase	*verb*: to increase, is increasing, has increased, increased	Total expenditure **increased** from $33,611m to $39,165m from 1995 to 1996.
noun: **an increase of** $5,554m **an increase in** spending of $5,554m	From 1995 to 1996 there was **an increase in** expenditure of $5,554m.	
decrease	*verb*: to decrease, is decreasing, has decreased, decreased	Expenditure on primary education **decreased** from 22.2% to 21.5% from 1995 to 1996.

noun: **a decrease of** 0.7% **a decrease in** spending of 0.7%	From 1995 to 1996 there was **a decrease in** expenditure of 0.7%.	
rise	*verb*: to rise, is rising, has risen, rose	Total expenditure **rose** from $33,611m to $39,165m from 1995 to 1996.