Task 1 Key Features Exercise

Below you will find 5 data sources that are typical of those found on the Task 1 Academic test.

The most important part of your Task 1 answer is the overview. In order to write a good overview, you must first pick out the key features.
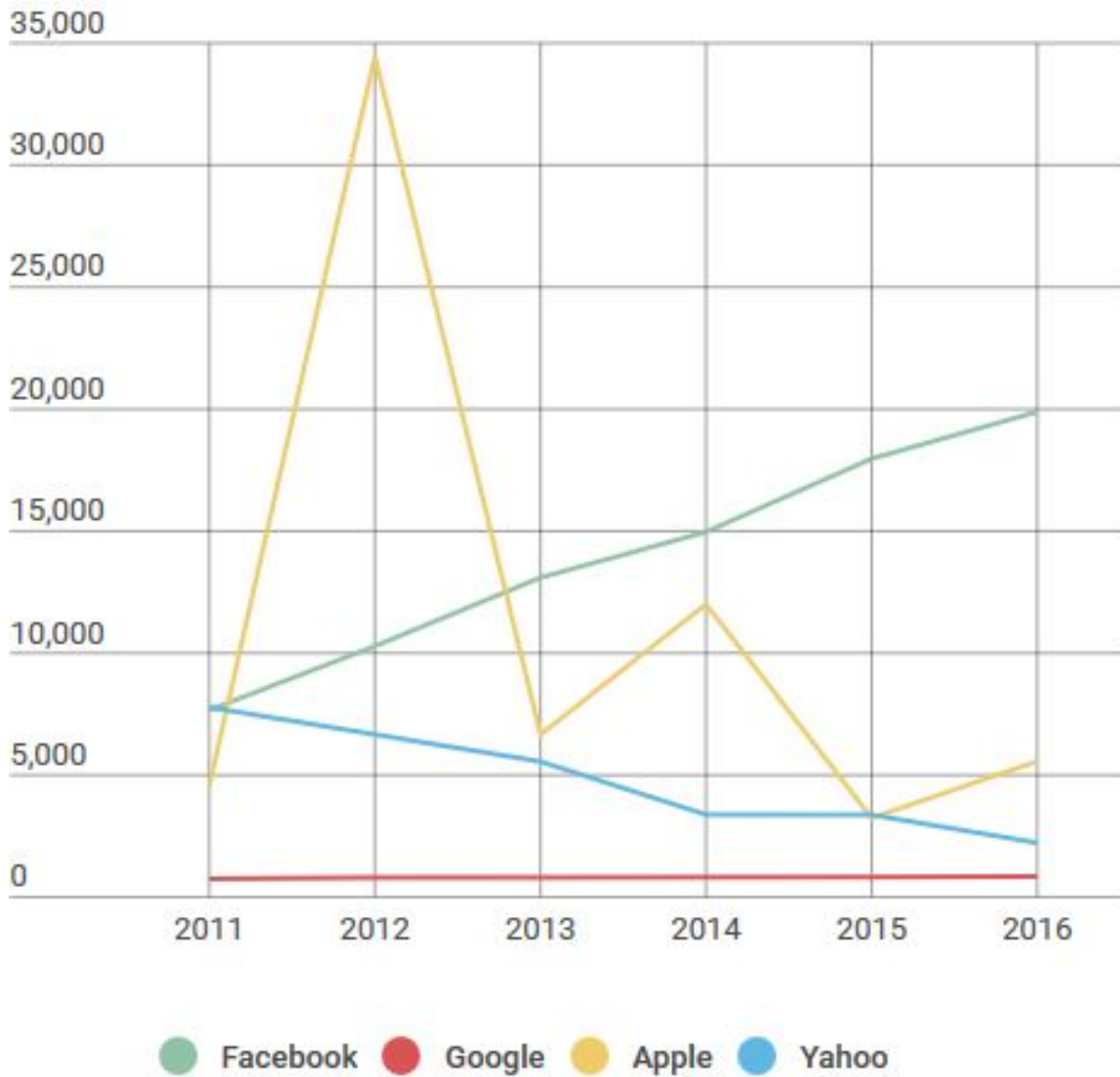
This exercise will test your ability to identify key features in a data source. You should not look at the answers before deciding the key features.

At the end of this document is an explanation of each answer.

The data below is for demonstration purposes only. Please also note that the key features I refer to below are those that should be included in your overview.

Task 1 Key Features Exercise
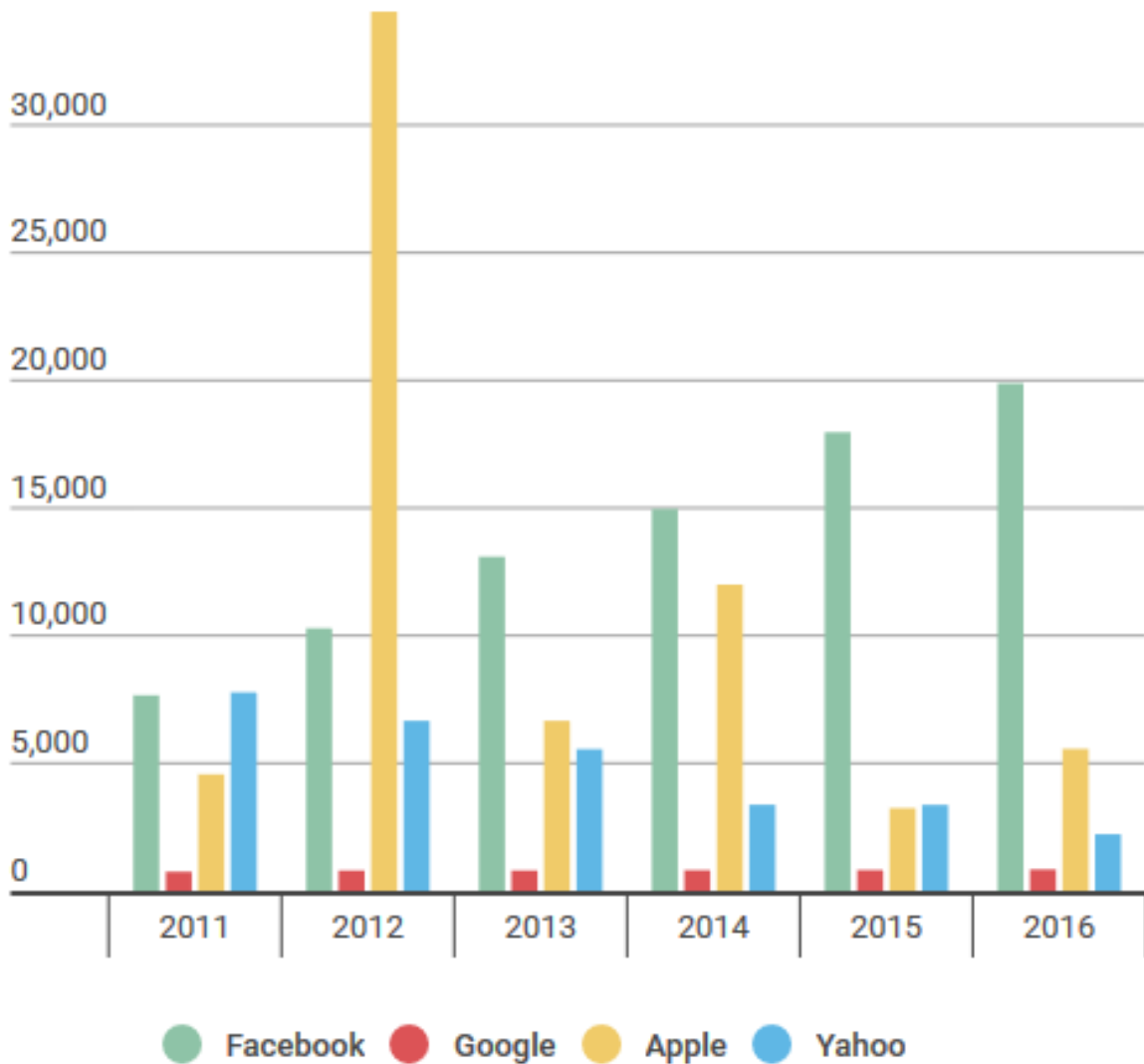

Facebook   Google   Apple   Yahoo

The graph above shows the stock price of four technology companies between 2011 and 2016. Pick between 2-4 key features to include in your overview.

For more information and help with your IELTS test visit- IELTSAdvantage.com
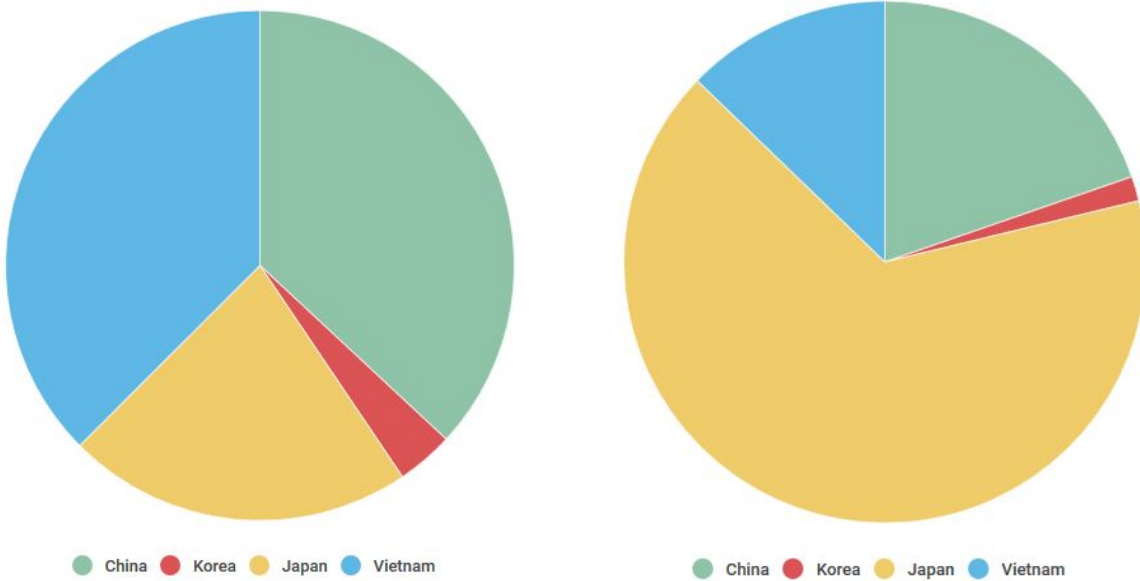
Task 1 Key Features Exercise

Legend: Facebook, Google, Apple, Yahoo

The graph above shows the stock price of four technology companies between 2011 and 2016. Pick between 2-4 key features to include in your overview.
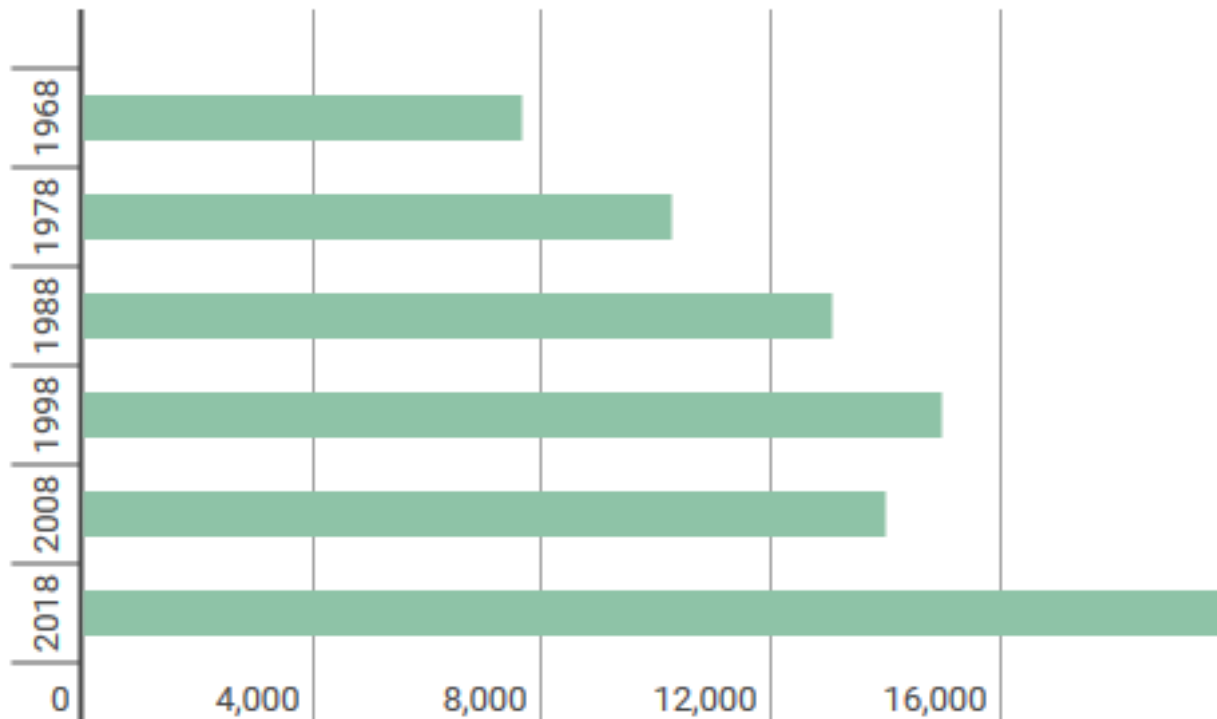
Task 1 Key Features Exercise

China ● Korea ● Japan ● Vietnam   China ● Korea ● Japan ● Vietnam

The graphs above show rice production in four Asian countries in 1985 and 2005. Pick between 2-4 key features to include in your overview.

Task 1 Key Features Exercise

The bar graph above shows average earnings in Ireland in 5 different years, with projections for the future. Pick between 2-4 key features to include in your overview.

Task 1 Key Features Exercise

	Population	GDP Per Capita ($USD)	Average Life Expectancy
China	1,357,000,000	6,807	75.2
Russia	143,986,000	14,987	72.3
USA	318,875,000	53,681	69.2
UK	64,937,000	41,787	81.5

The table above shows data on the demographics of four nations. Pick between 2-4 key features to include in your overview.

Task 1 Key Features Exercise

Answers

Data Source Number 1- Line Graph

The key features of this graph are that Facebook increased, Yahoo decreased, Apple fluctuated and Google remained relatively unchanged.

Most people overcomplicate these graphs and some might think that the key features above are too simple. Most of the time, with line graphs and bar charts, the simplest or most obvious things are the correct answers.

With line or bar graphs over a period of time, the main purpose of the graph is to show the general trends over time and this is exactly what the examiners are looking for in the overview.

Data Source Number 2- Bar Chart

This was a trick question. The data is exactly the same as in the line graph therefore the key features are the same.

This is to show you that all you are looking at is data. It does not matter how the data is visually represented.

Data Source Number 3- Pie Chart

The purpose of this pie chart is to compare the four different countries and to compare the data for the two different years. This is not a graph over time, therefore, we are not looking for general trends, but to make comparisons.

The key features are that Vietnam and China were the biggest producers of rice in 1985, but both countries reduced their output in 2005. Japan became the biggest producer of rice in 2005.

For more information and help with your IELTS test visit- IELTSAdvantage.com

Task 1 Key Features Exercise

<u>Data Source Number 4- Bar Chart</u>

This chart shows a general increasing trend, but there are two other points that we should mention. First of all, there is the notable exception of 2008. Secondly, some of the data is projected figures for the future.

The key features are that average earnings increased ever year except 2008 and earnings are expected to continue to increase in 2018.

<u>Data Source Number 5- Table</u>

Many people struggle with these questions because there is so much data. However, a quick look at the data reveals some very significant features.

China has the highest population by far, but also has the lowest GDP. The USA has the highest GDP, but, on average, people have the lowest life expectancy.