

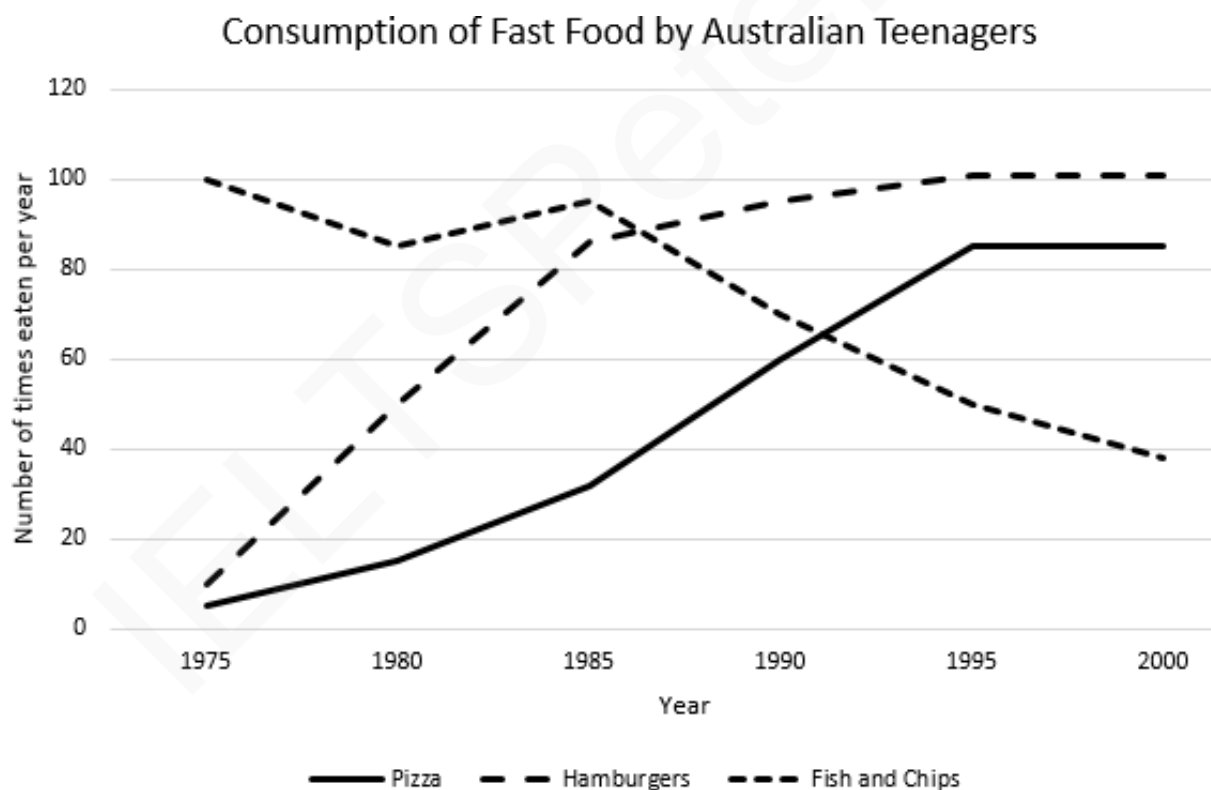
## Line Graph: Example Essay Structure

*The line graph below shows changes in the amount and type of fast food consumed by Australian teenagers from 1975 to 2000.*

*Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant.*

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

Write at least 150 words.



# Essay Structure and Approach

Introduction  
Main Body I  
Main Body II  
Main Body III (possibly)  
Conclusion (possibly)

## 1. Introduction

The introduction is made up of two sentences:

- 1.1 The first sentence simply restates (paraphrases) the illustrations' introduction from the test question and also mentions a time frame if there is one.
- 1.2 The second sentence is a general overview of what's happening or changing (main trends or differences) but gives no detail, such as data, at this stage. An overview is required for a band 6 or higher, which is why we write it in the introduction so that it can't be missed at the end due to time running out.

## 2. Main Body I and II (possibly III)

- 2.1 The main body paragraphs now go into specific detail and must refer to the data in the graphs. It's important not to give opinions; simply describe what the data shows.
- 2.2 Use vocabulary that fits with the illustration; be careful to distinguish between dynamic and static data. For example, use language of change and trends for dynamic illustrations, such as a line graph with a time period as shown above. Also, use contrasting language when making comparisons.
- 2.3 To organize the body paragraphs, it's necessary to identify similarities and differences and group data together to identify trends (or patterns).
- 2.4 Where possible, focus and separate the body paragraphs by these different trends.
- 2.5 It may be that there are too many trends to be able to separate them into only two paragraphs, in which case a third paragraph would be required, although two main bodies are usually sufficient.

## 3. Conclusion

- 3.1 A conclusion (or summary) is not required unless it's stated. However, it's often advisable to write one to tie the essay together or to increase the word count if needed.
- 3.2 A good conclusion describes at a high level what changed or is predicted to change, although it must not repeat the overview sentence.
- 3.3 When writing the conclusion, do not introduce any new details or descriptions.