Pie Chart: How to Write the Essay

Introduction

Here is the test question again:

The pie charts show the electricity generated in Germany and France from all sources and renewables in the year 2009.

Here is an example of the first sentence paraphrased:

The four pie charts illustrate and compare the electricity generated between Germany and France during 2009, measured in billions of kWh.

You can see that this restates the question in a different way but maintains the same meaning.

Here is an example of the second sentence overview:

Overall, it can be seen that conventional thermal was the main source of electricity in Germany, whereas nuclear was the main source in France.

Main Body Paragraphs I and II

When looking at the pie chart, one of the most noticeable features is how the segment for renewables is further detailed in its own pie chart for both countries. Therefore, the analysis able to be compared is between all types of electricity generation and renewable electricity generation, which are then also contrasted between the two countries, France and Germany.

When writing the main body paragraphs, it's important not to give opinions; simply describe the analysis that you see.

Here is an example of the first body paragraph focusing on all types of generation:

The bulk of electricity in Germany, whose total output was 560 billion kWh, came from conventional thermal, at 59.6%. In France, the total output was lower, at 510 billion kWh, and in contrast to Germany, conventional thermal accounted for just 10.3%, with most electricity coming from nuclear power (76%). In Germany, the proportion of nuclear power-generated electricity was only one fifth of the total.

The second body paragraph now focuses on renewables generation:

Moving on to renewables, this accounted for quite similar proportions for both countries, at approximately 15% of the total electricity generated. In detail, in Germany, most of the renewables consisted of wind and biomass, totaling around 75%, which was far higher than hydroelectric (17.7%) and solar (6.1%). The situation was very different in France, where hydroelectric made up 80.5% of renewable electricity, with biomass, wind, and solar making up the remaining 20%.

The final essay combined reads as follows:

The four pie charts illustrate and compare the electricity generated between Germany and France during 2009, measured in billions of kWh. Overall, it can be seen that conventional thermal was the main source of electricity in Germany, whereas nuclear was the main source in France.

The bulk of electricity in Germany, whose total output was 560 billion kWh, came from conventional thermal, at 59.6%. In France, the total output was lower, at 510 billion kWh, and in contrast to Germany, conventional thermal accounted for just 10.3%, with most electricity coming from nuclear power (76%). In Germany, the proportion of nuclear power-generated electricity was only one fifth of the total.

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183 words.

Source IDP Seminar

In conclusion, the analysis provided by the pie charts outlines the fact that although Germany and France are both European countries with similar electricity requirements, there is a distinct difference in the approaches taken to source their energy.

38 words

Conclusion written by IELTS Pete