

Dynamic or Static

How do we know?

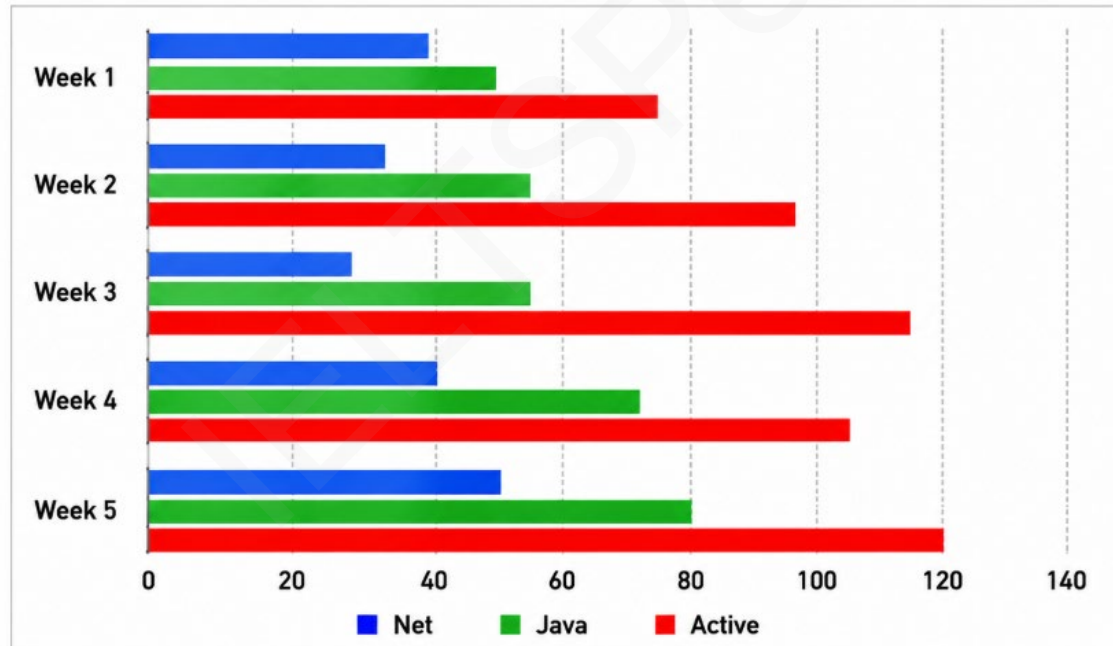
It is very important to distinguish between dynamic and static WT1 illustrations, as we **use different vocabulary** depending upon the type.

Dynamic

One of the clearest criteria is to look for movement (dynamic) in the illustration. This is simply done by looking to see if there is a timeframe with data points being recorded at time intervals.

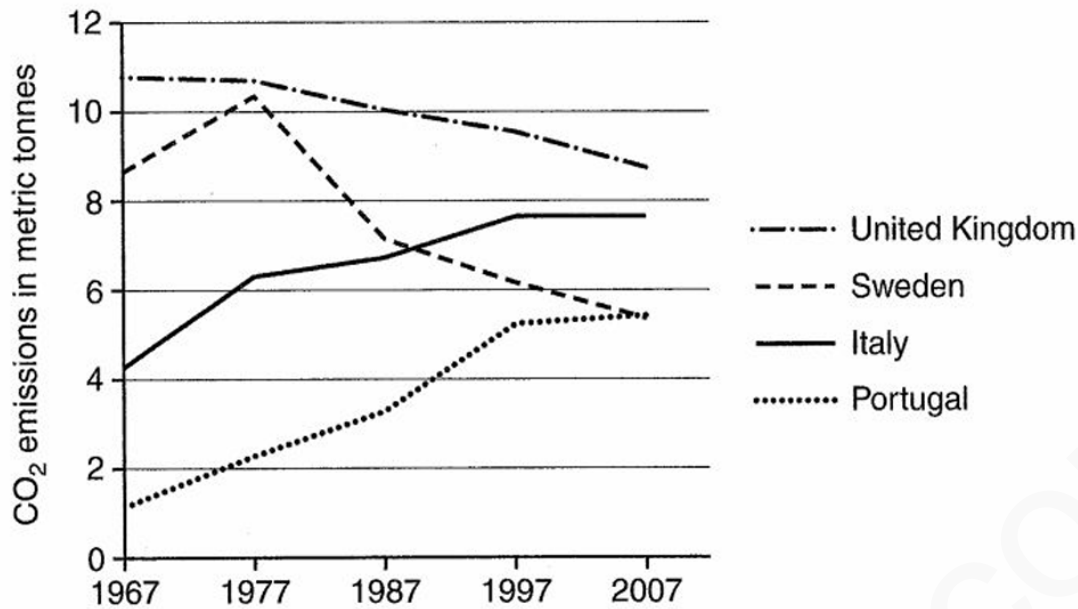
A timeframe can be anything from 5 hours with 1 hour intervals, or 100 years with 10 year intervals, the length of time isn't relevant, we simply need to know, does the illustration cover a period of time with data being captured at different times. Here are some examples:

The bar chart shows the number of times per week (in 1000s), over five weeks, that three computer packages were downloaded from the internet.



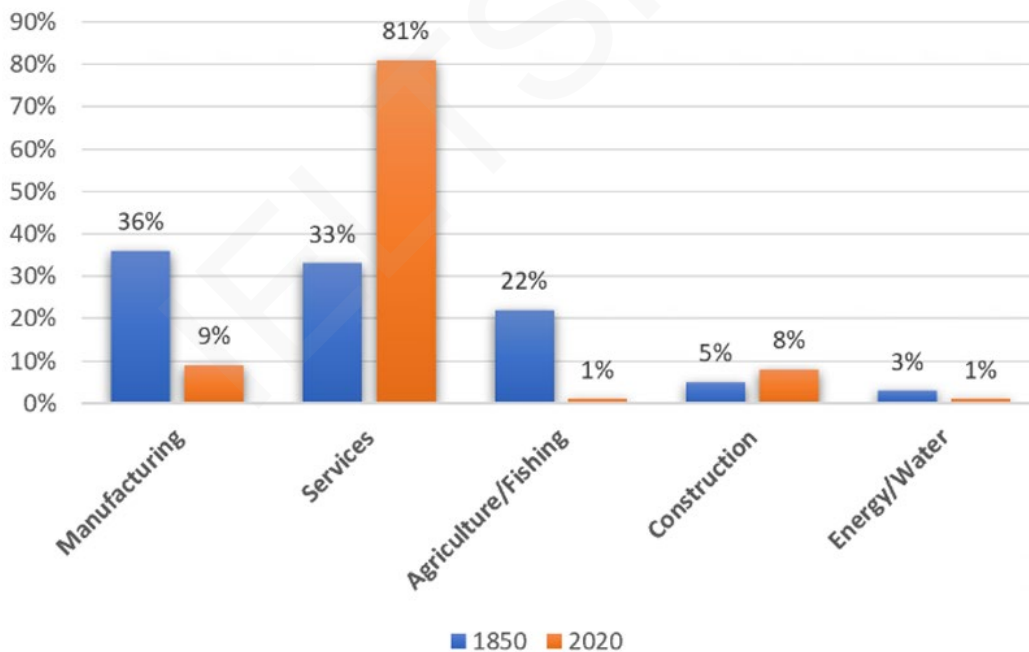
The bar chart has a 5-week timeframe (vertical axis) with five 1-week intervals at which data is recorded, and the bars show movement as a result.

Average carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions per person, 1967–2007



The line graph has a 40-year timeframe with four 10-year intervals at which data is recorded, and the lines show movement as a result.

Percentage of Canadian workforce in each industry



The bar chart has a 170-year timeframe (shown by the key) with only one 170-year interval at which data is recorded, and the bars have moved as a result.

So with these illustrations we use **dynamic language of change**. For example:

Positive

Climb Increase Rise Recover Improve Grow

- Sales **climbed sharply** over the last two quarters.
- The consumption of pizzas **increased substantially** over the 1970s and 1980s.
- The company experienced a **significant rise** in demand for tablets.

Negative

Fall Decline Drop Decrease Deteriorate Reduce

- Research and development spending **fell considerably**, by 40%, during the period.
- There was a **substantial decline** over the previous three months.
- It then **dropped dramatically** by 66% in the northwest region.

Please refer to the *Essential Vocabulary for WT1* document for more examples.

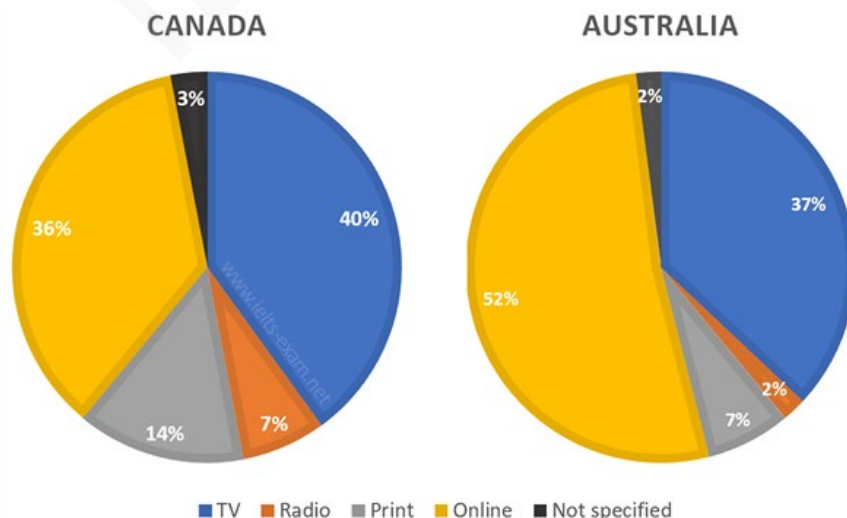
Static

For static illustrations there will be **no timeframe** with data points being recorded at time intervals. Instead, there will only be a snapshot in time. For example, it may be 1 year worth of data, but there will be no intervals. Or, there may not even be any period of time given. Here are some examples:

The pie charts compare ways of accessing the news in Canada and Australia.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



The pie chart illustration has no timeframe; therefore, it is static (nothing moves).

Proportion of household income five European countries spend on food and drink, housing, clothing and entertainment.

	Food and drink	Housing	Clothing	Entertainment
France	25%	31%	7%	13%
Germany	22%	33%	15%	19%
UK	27%	37%	11%	11%
Turkey	36%	20%	12%	10%
Spain	31%	18%	8%	15%

Again, the table illustration has no timeframe; therefore it is static (nothing moves).

The table below shows the estimated literacy rates by region and gender for 2000 to 2004.

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

	Total	Male	Female
World	82.2%	87.2%	77.3%
Africa	62.5%	71.6%	53.9%
Americas	93.6%	94.1%	93.2%
Asia	79.3%	85.9%	72.5%
Europe	98.8%	99.2%	98.5%
Ocenia	93.4%	94.2%	92.7%

NB: Ocenia = Oceania.

This table is slightly different, in that it shows the years 2000 to 2004. However, it is still a single set of figures with no intervals; the data was simply added up over those four years. No movement, therefore static.

So with these illustrations we use **language for static illustrations**. For example:

For static snapshots (such as a single-year pie chart) where there is no timeframe, we use **percentages, proportions, comparatives, and superlatives**.

A greater proportion of British people use the internet to access news.

Overall, we can see that printed books were by **far the most popular** out of all the categories. Swedish families had **the highest percentage** of children per couple.

This sector **represents 60%** of the total, **compared with only one-tenth for ...**

Please refer to the *Essential Vocabulary for WT1* document for more examples.

Written by IELTS Pete.