

USING, DESCRIBING, AND INTERPRETING GRAPHS & TABLES IN PRESENTATIONS

Academic Speaking – Effective Presentations

Below is a brief guide of the procedure, and how to describe and interpret the visual you are presenting.

1) Procedure:

- 1) First, everyone must understand what your graph illustrates. **Explain** the structure of your visuals (in diagrams, e.g. the axes, color codes and indications of size, in charts the titles of your columns etc.)
- 2) Then you can **describe** the data. “As we can see....”
- 3) Then your next step (**interpretation**): “These figures suggest that ...”
- 4) Don’t forget to present the **source** of your facts, directly on the slide

2) Describing and interpreting changes

Describing Changes-

- If we look at....
- These (or this) figures indicate that....
- As we can see....
- This shows a growth/ decline in/ of

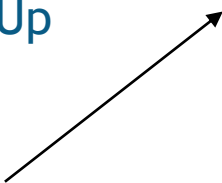
Interpreting changes

- This means that.....
- This data suggests.....
- This is significant because....
- This could be because of....
- One possible reason for this could be

3) Use the following adjectives, combined with the adverbs to talk about changes in data:

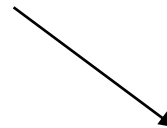
Going Up

rose
increased
went up
grew



Going Down

decreased
fell
dropped
declined



No Change

stayed the same
remained constant
stabilized



Low Points

bottomed out
reached a low



Fluctuate



4) Combine the adjectives above with these adverbs to add more information:

Small Changes - adverbs

gently
gradually
slightly

Big Changes -adverbs

suddenly
sharply
dramatically