

《學術英語Power Up》 Unit 4

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課程名稱：應用英語技巧(強化班)

教學主題：How to respond to a question
with evidence (a graph)



Warm up

1. Work in pairs.
2. Answer the question based on Figure 1.

Scenario:

Hampton College has noticed that fewer of its students have been taking summer jobs. It published the graph below in a recent edition of its student magazine.

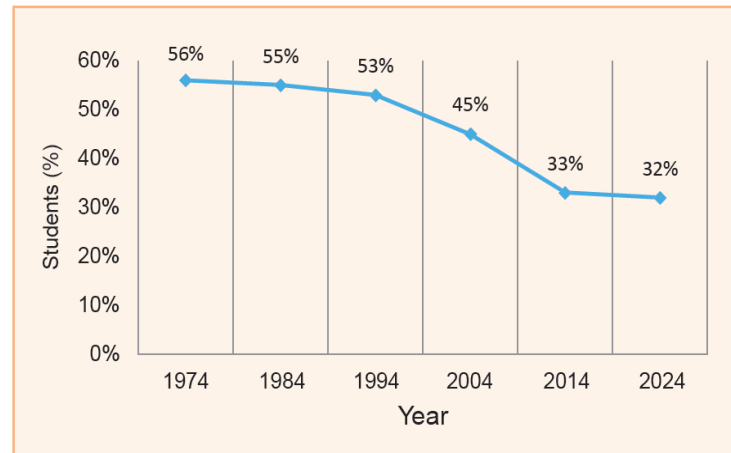


Figure 1 Percentage of Hampton College students with summer jobs (1974–2024)

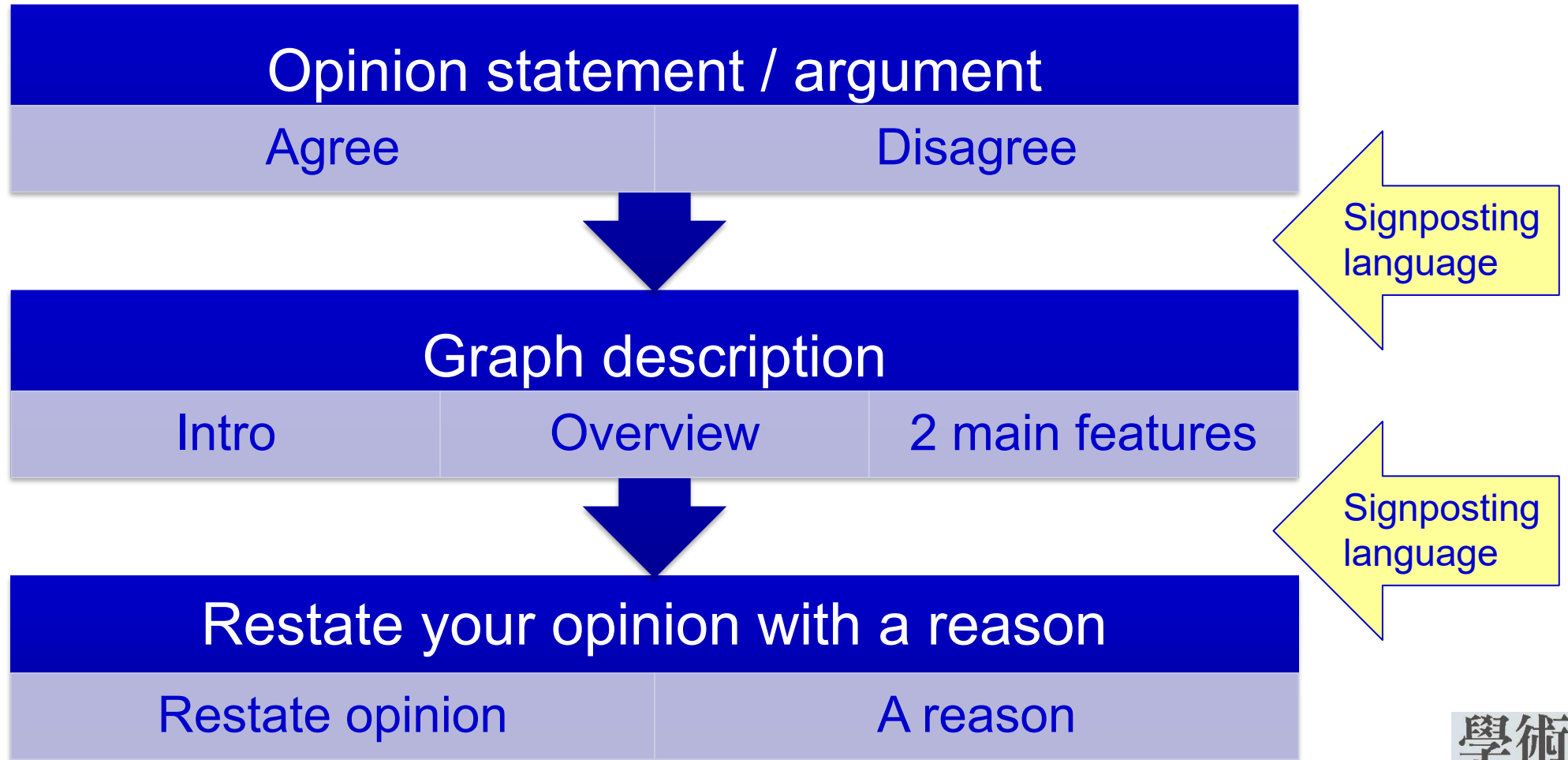
Image source: 學術英語 *Power Up*, LTTC.

Do you think the number of students in your college with summer jobs is changing in a similar way to that shown in Figure 1? Please explain.

1. Respond to a question with evidence

1-1. Respond to a question with evidence

Do you think the number of students in your college with summer jobs is changing in a similar way to that shown in Figure 1? Please explain.



1-2. Respond to a question with evidence

Do you think the number of students in your college with summer jobs is changing in a similar way to that shown in Figure 1? Please explain.

Opinion statement / argument

Agree

Disagree

Useful language for **giving opinions**.

1 I think / believe...

2 I agree / disagree that...

3 I would support / oppose...

4 My opinion (on X) is...

1-3. Respond to a question with evidence

Do you think the number of students in your college with summer jobs is changing in a similar way to that shown in Figure 1? Please explain.

Opinion statement / argument

Agree

Disagree

Signposting
language

Useful language for **directing attention to the graph.**

1 As we can see in this line graph, it illustrates / indicates...

2 In this line graph, it shows / presents...

3 If we look at this graph, we will find...

4 To illustrate my point, we can look at this line graph...

1-4. Respond to a question with evidence

Useful language for **redirecting the graph** and **making prediction / speculation**

As shown in the line graph,

1 it appears to...**because...**

2 it looks like...**due to + N,...**

3 it seems like...**because of + N**

4 it seems to be....**owing to + N**



Restate your opinion with a reason

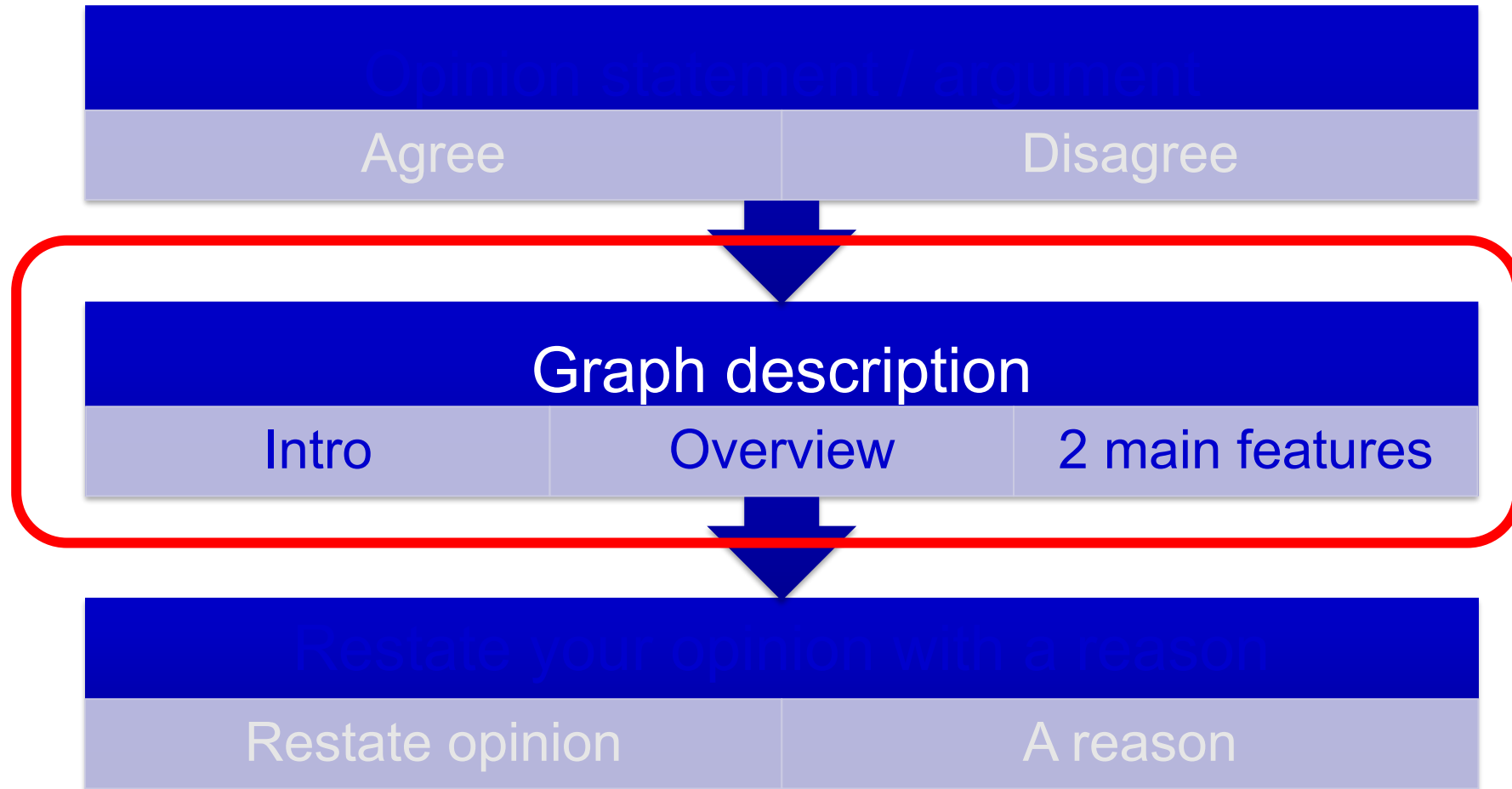
Restate opinion

A reason

Signposting
language

1-5. Respond to a question with evidence

Do you think the number of students in your college with summer jobs is changing in a similar way to that shown in Figure 1? Please explain.



2. Understand a line graph

2-1. Understand a line graph

Graphs can...

1. Show **numerical data** in a **visual form**
2. Enable us to "**see**" relationships that are difficult to describe with **numbers** alone

Different types of graphs

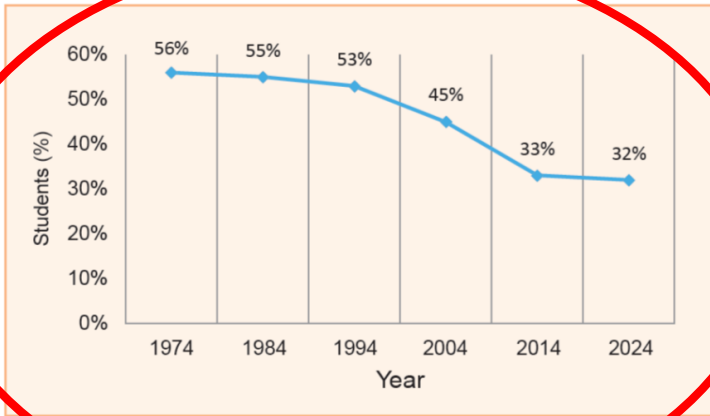


Image source: 學術英語 *Power Up*, LTTC.

Line graph

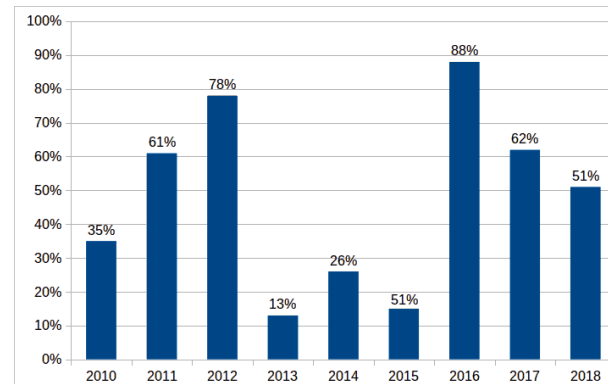


Image source: www.3cs.ch

Bar chart

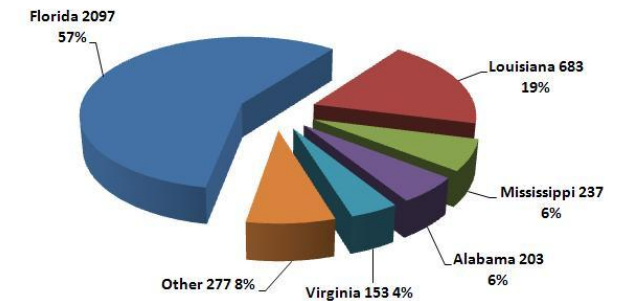


Image source:
www.lawyersandsettlements.com

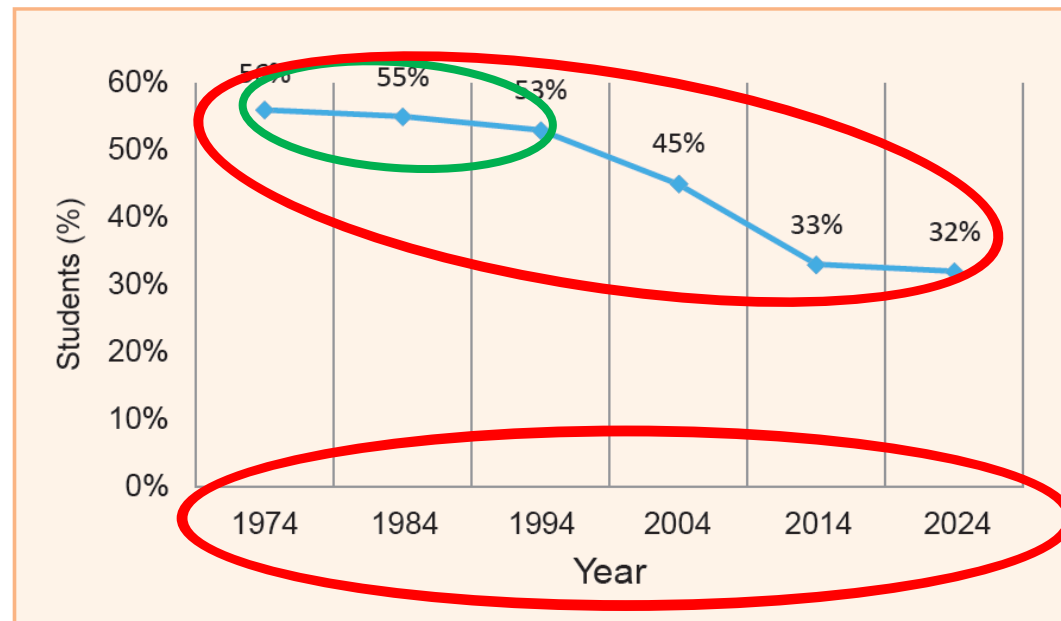
Pie chart

2-2. Understand a line graph

Line graph

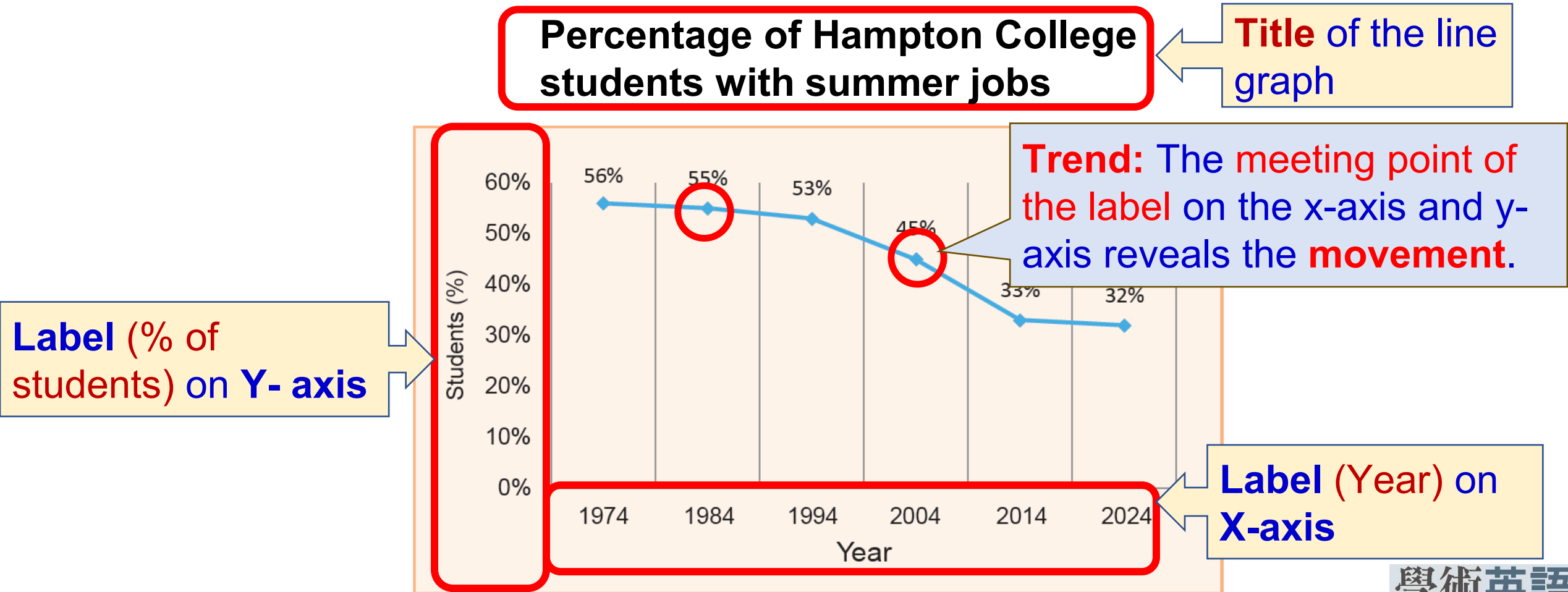
1. Gives a **picture of** whether the **trend** is increasing or decreasing.
2. Shows information that **changes over time**.

Percentage of Hampton College students with summer jobs



2-3. Understand a line graph

Parts of line graph



3. How to describe a graph

3.1 How to describe a graph

3-steps Graph description

	Structures	Details
1	Introduction	Introduce the graph: a. title b. x & y axes c. line(s)
2	Overview	Give an overview : overall trend (main increase or decrease)
3	Explain the main features in detail	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explain 2 main features in detail (trends, numbers, time periods)• use a variety of verbs, adverbs, and transition words

3.2 How to describe a graph

Step 1. Introduce **title** and **x & y axes**.

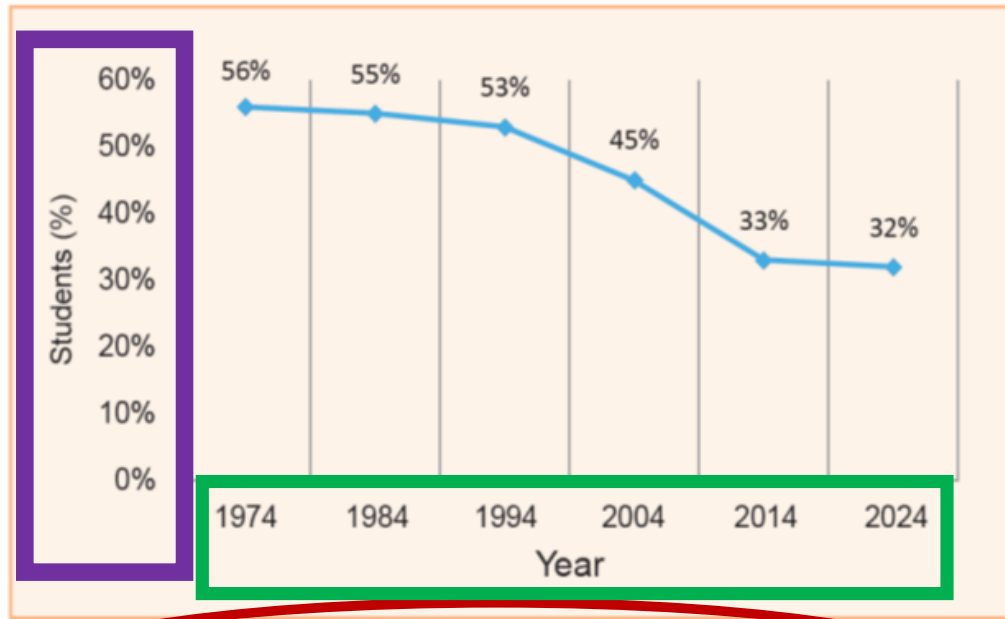


Figure 1 Percentage of Hampton College students with summer jobs (1974–2024)

The line graph **illustrates** the percentage of students at Hampton College who held summer jobs between 1974 and 2024. The X axis **represents** the years, while the Y axis **indicates** the percentage of students employed during the summer.

3.3 How to describe a graph

Step 2. Give an **overview**.

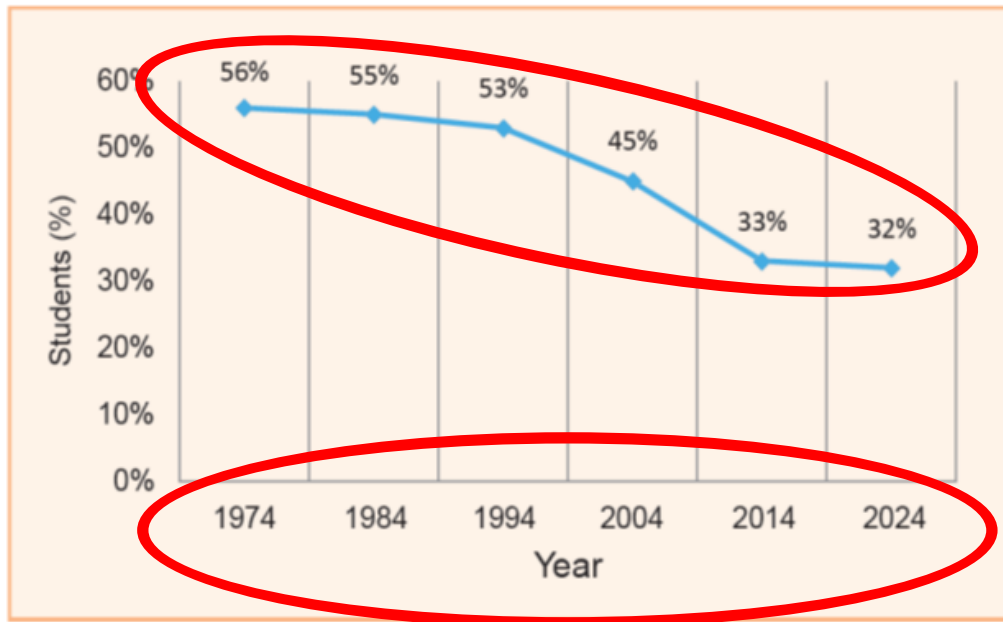


Figure 1 Percentage of Hampton College students with summer jobs (1974–2024)

Overall, the percentage of Hampton students with summer jobs **declined** over the past fifty years, from 1974 to 2024.

3.4 How to describe a graph

Step 3. Explain 2 main features in detail.

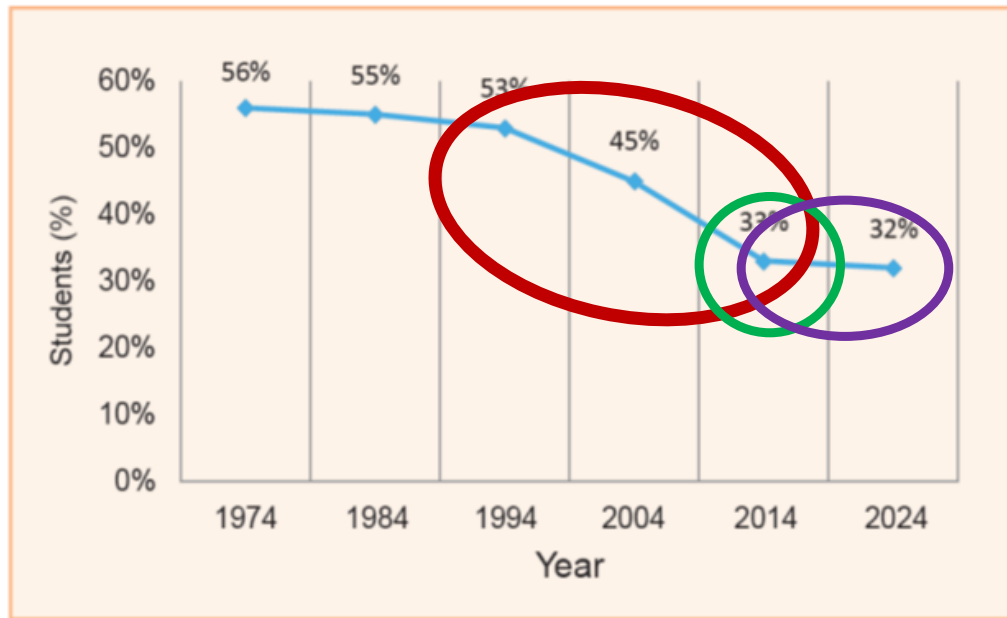


Figure 1 Percentage of Hampton College students with summer jobs (1974–2024)

Between 1994 and 2014, the percentage of students with summer jobs decreased sharply. Since then, the percentage has leveled off. However, from 2014 onward, there was a slight decline from approximately 33% to 32%.

4. Vocabulary and sentence structures

4-1. Vocabulary and sentence structure

Pair work. Put the **verbs** in the correct groups.

to rise	to remain stable/steady	to plunge	to surge	to fall	to decrease	to level off (to flatten out)
to peak	to decline	to increase	to shoot up	to drop	to fluctuate	

Upward trend



Image source: stock.adobe.com

Downward trend



Image source: istock

Other noticeable trends

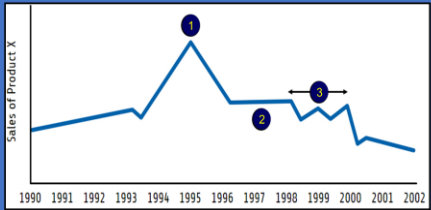
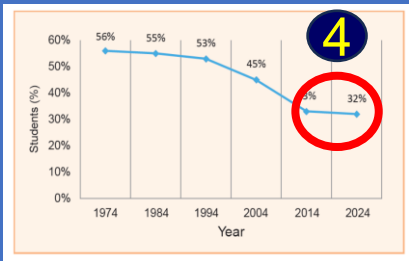


Image source: <https://aquascript.com/>



1		1		1	
2		2		2	
3		3		3	
4		4		4	
		5			

4-2. Vocabulary and sentence structure

to rise	to remain stable/steady	to plunge	to surge	to fall	to decrease	to level off (to flatten out)
to peak	to decline	to increase	to shoot up	to drop	to fluctuate	

Upward trend



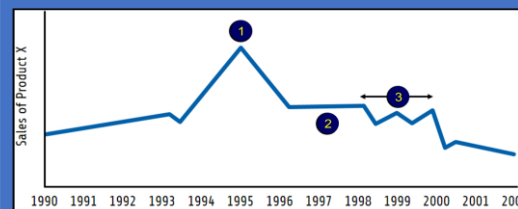
Source: stock.adobe.com

Downward trend

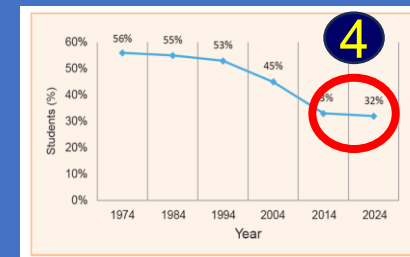


Source: istock

Other noticeable trends



Source: <https://aquascript.com/>



1	to rise	1	to fall	1	to peak
2	to increase	2	to drop	2	to remain stable / steady
3	to surge	3	to decrease	3	to fluctuate
4	to shoot up	4	to decline	4	to level off
suddenly move quickly		5	to plunge	suddenly move downwards	

4-3. Vocabulary and sentence structure

Pair work. Put the **adverbs** in the correct groups.

steeply	steadily	rapidly	constantly
sharply	significantly	slightly	
dramatically	gradually	slowly	

A high degree of change	A medium degree of change	A low degree of change

4-4. Vocabulary and sentence structure

steeply	steadily	rapidly	constantly
sharply	significantly	slightly	dramatically
gradually	slowly		

A high degree of change	A medium degree of change	A low degree of change
dramatically	steadily	slowly
steeply	constantly	slightly
sharply		gradually
significantly		
rapidly		

4-5. Vocabulary and sentence structure

1. Follow the **line's progression** **from left to right** across the **X-axis**.
2. Indicate the trend as **going up**, **down** or **staying the same**.

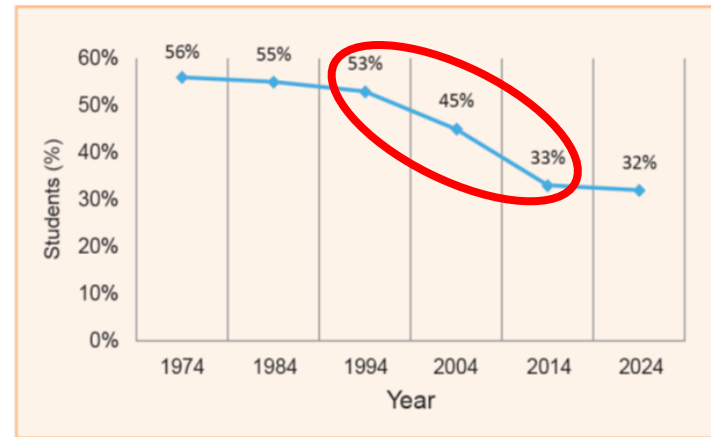


Figure 1 Percentage of Hampton College students with summer jobs (1974–2024)

Sentence structure

1

Subject (what you're describing) + verb + adverb + Time expression.

The number of students with summer jobs **decreased sharply** from 1994 to 2014.

4-6. Vocabulary and sentence structure

1. Follow the **line's progression** **from left to right** across the **X-axis**.
2. Indicate the trend as **going up**, **down** or **staying the same**.

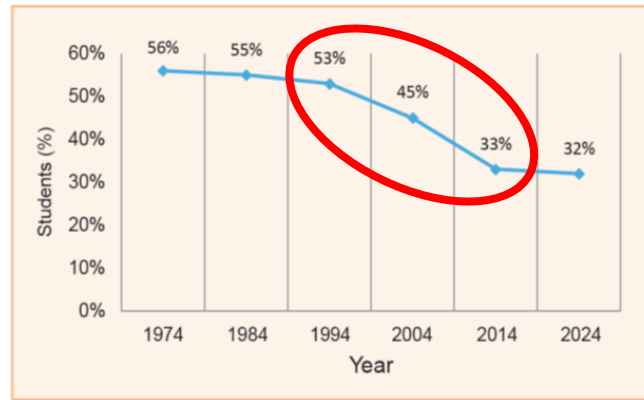


Figure 1 Percentage of Hampton College students with summer jobs (1974–2024)

Sentence structure

2

There **is/was** + **adjective** + **noun** + in + (what you're describing) + Time expression.

There **was** a **sharp decrease** in the number of students with summer jobs from 1994 to 2014.

4-7. Vocabulary and sentence structure

#	Step	Useful phrases
1.	Introduction (title, x & y axes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The graph shows / illustrates / presents / demonstrates / represents... • The graph shows / gives information about...
2.	Overview (main trend)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall, there was a(n) _____ trend in... • Overall, the number of _____ has increased /decreased..
3.	Explain 2 main features in detail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ...surge / rise steadily / increase dramatically • ...plunge / drop slightly / decline sharply • ...remain steady / stable • ...level off / flatten out



口說練習活動

Practice (1)

Pair work. Describe the line graph using the steps and vocabulary below.

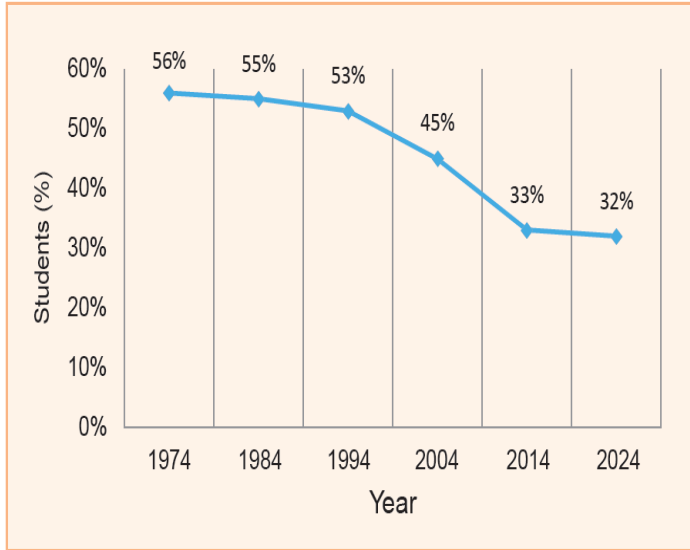


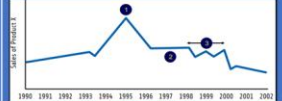


Figure 1 Percentage of Hampton College students with summer jobs (1974–2024)

Upward trend	Downward trend	Other noticeable trends
		
Source: stock.adobe.com	Source: istock	Source: https://aquascript.com/
1 to rise	1 to fall	1 to peak
2 to increase	2 to drop	2 to remain stable / steady
3 to surge	3 to decrease	3 to fluctuate
4 to shoot up	4 to decline	4 to level off
suddenly move quickly	5 to plunge	suddenly move downwards

#	Step	Useful phrases
1.	Introduction (title, xy axes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The graph shows / illustrates / presents / demonstrates / represents...• The graph shows / gives information about...
2.	Overview (main trend)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overall, there was an _____ trend in...• Overall, the number of _____ has increased / decreased..
3.	Explain 2 main features in detail	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ...surge / rise steadily / increase dramatically• ...plunge / drop slightly / decline slowly• ...remain steady / level off / flatten out

Sentence structure

1	Subject (what you're describing) + verb + adverb + Time expression.
2	There is/was + adjective + noun + in + (what you're describing) + Time expression.

A high degree of change	A medium degree of change	A low degree of change
dramatically	steadily	slowly
steeply	constantly	slightly
sharply		gradually
significantly		
rapidly		

Practice (2)

Pair work. Practice expressing an opinion with evidence.

Do you think the number of students in your college with summer jobs is changing in a similar way to that shown in Figure 1? Please explain.

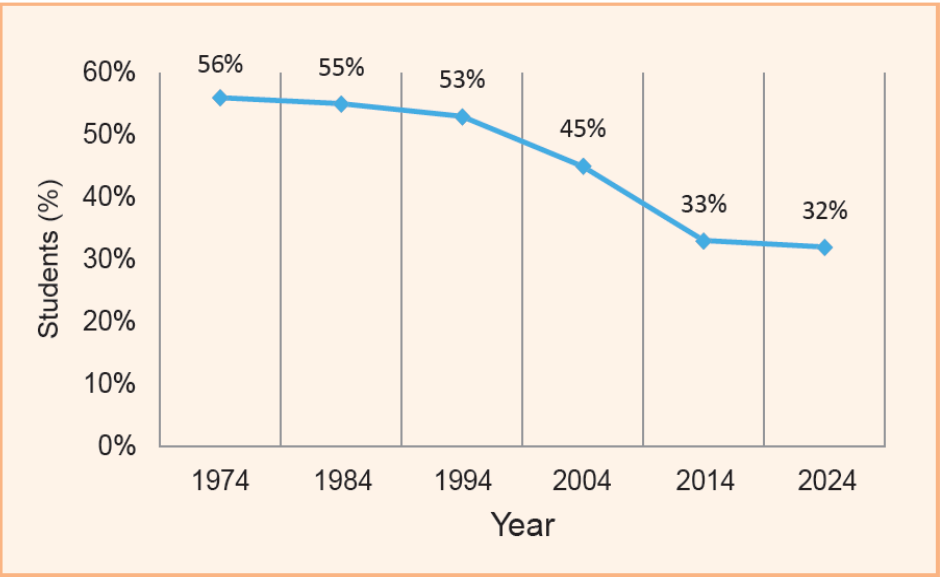


Figure 1 Percentage of Hampton College students with summer jobs (1974–2024)

Opinion statement		
Graph description	Introduction	
	Overview	
	Explain TWO main features	
Restate opinion with a reason		

Practice (2)

Opinion statement	Figure 1 reveals some interesting insights into the number of students of Hampton University who find summer jobs, and I think this might also be the case in my college. Let's begin with the line graph from its student magazine.	
Graph description	Introduction	The line graph illustrates the percentage of students at Hampton College who held summer jobs between 1974 and 2024. The X axis represents the years, while the Y axis indicates the percentage of students employed during the summer.
	Overview	Overall, the percentage of Hampton students with summer jobs declined over the past fifty years, from 1974 to 2024.
	Explain TWO main features	Between 1994 and 2014, the percentage of students with summer jobs decreased sharply. Since then, the percentage has leveled off. However, from 2014 onward, there was a slight decline from approximately 33% to 32%.
Restate opinion with a reason	As seen in the graph, the decline in the number of students with summer jobs is likely due to more students using their time to develop specific skills, such as English or computer skills. For example, my friend Jeffery participated in a language program in the U.S. every summer to improve his English instead of taking a part-time job during his summer vacation. Based on the graph and my observation, the number of students choosing to use their time to develop specific skills is expected to gradually increase.	



Class Dismissed!

