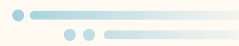# Learning Guide

⮩ Learning objectives

- This book aims to cultivate the competencies required to integrate and explain textual and graphical information in academic and professional contexts. Specifically, it focuses on developing the following skills and strategies:

  - Understanding the features and communicative functions of common charts and graphs

  - Acquiring useful vocabulary, sentence patterns, and communication strategies

  - Learning techniques for integrating text and visuals, as well as paraphrasing, rewriting, and summarizing

  - Practicing related speaking and writing skills and strategies through contextualized tasks

- This book is suitable for senior high school and college students with an intermediate (CEFR B1) level of English proficiency or above.

⮩ Integrating and explaining textual and graphical information: Procedures and language functions

In daily, academic, and professional contexts, we often need to integrate and explain textual and visual information. While the specific mode of explanation may vary depending on the situation, it typically involves the following procedures and language functions:

(1) Introducing the **topic** and **purpose** of the chart or graph

(2) Describing the **key information** in the chart or graph, such as overall patterns or trends, major steps, or other main points

(3) Explaining **specific parts** of the chart or graph, such as comparing the opinions of different survey groups or the values of different items

(4) **Comparing** the chart or graph with other textual or graphical input to identify similarities, differences, or logical relationships

(5) Drawing on personal experience or observations to express **one's opinions** or **viewpoints** about issues related to the textual and graphical input

This book uses the above procedures and language functions as a foundation to guide students in practicing how to integrate and explain textual and graphical information in English. **An appendix** at the end of the book also provides **a list of commonly used sentence patterns** for such explanations to **support students' previewing and review**.

⊃ Components of a unit

There are seven units in this book. Each unit contains four sections.
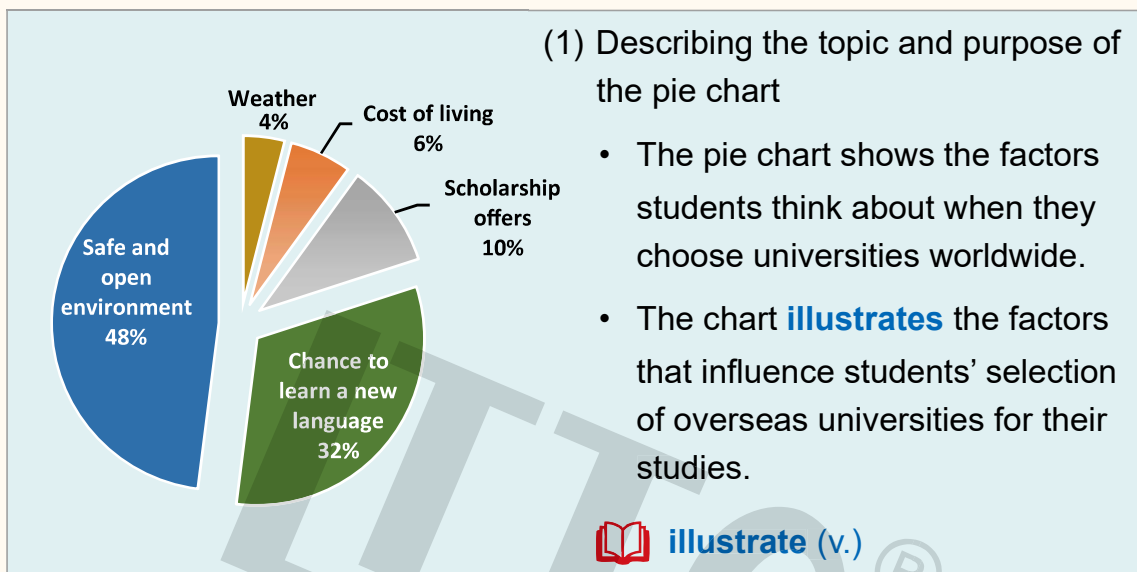
Warm Up

This section introduces the core skills and strategies of each unit to help students understand the learning objectives. The illustrations on this page are related to the theme of the unit's charts or texts and are intended to activate relevant background knowledge.

Useful Strategies and Language

This section constitutes the main learning content of each unit. Centered on language functions, it introduces useful vocabulary, sentence patterns, and communication skills and strategies. Using the pie chart in Unit 3 as

an example, we first focus on the language function of describing the topic and purpose of a pie chart. For this function, we provide explanations of two useful sentence patterns (progressing from simpler to more complex) and one commonly used word, as shown in the box below. Units 3 and 4 also provide advanced explanation skills, focusing on paragraph- and text-level expression and illustrating more advanced techniques through examples.

(1) Describing the topic and purpose of the pie chart

- The pie chart shows the factors students think about when they choose universities worldwide.

- The chart **illustrates** the factors that influence students' selection of overseas universities for their studies.
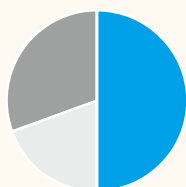
📖 **illustrate** (v.)

Speaking Task

This section presents a speaking task in which students are required to answer two or three questions or deliver a two- to three-minute presentation. To complete the task, students must integrate and explain the provided textual and graphical input and express their own views on related issues. The appendix provides sample answers and suggestions for communication strategies.
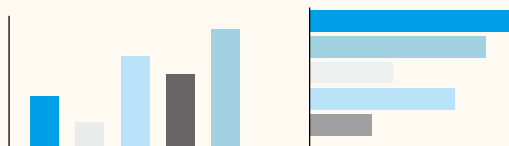
Writing Task

This section presents a writing task in which students are required to write a well-organized essay of approximately 150 words. To develop their argument, students must draw on the provided textual and graphical input and incorporate their own views on the key issue. The appendix provides sample answers and suggestions for communication strategies.

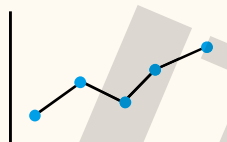# ➲ An overview of common chart types and core vocabulary

In this book, graphs, charts, diagrams, and figures are used as general terms to refer to visual representations of data and concepts. The main types are as follows:
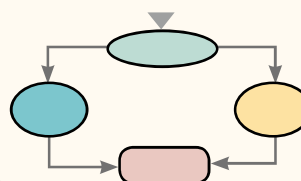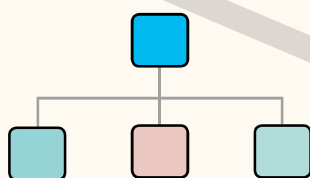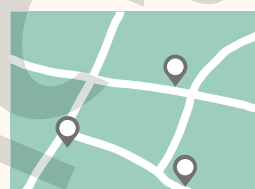
pie chart

bar chart

line graph

flowchart

classification chart

map

📖 **Other core vocabulary**:		
x-axis / horizontal axis	y-axis / vertical axis	
table	column	row
infographic	poster	flyer

The core vocabulary listed above recurs throughout the units, offering students repeated practice and enhanced mastery.