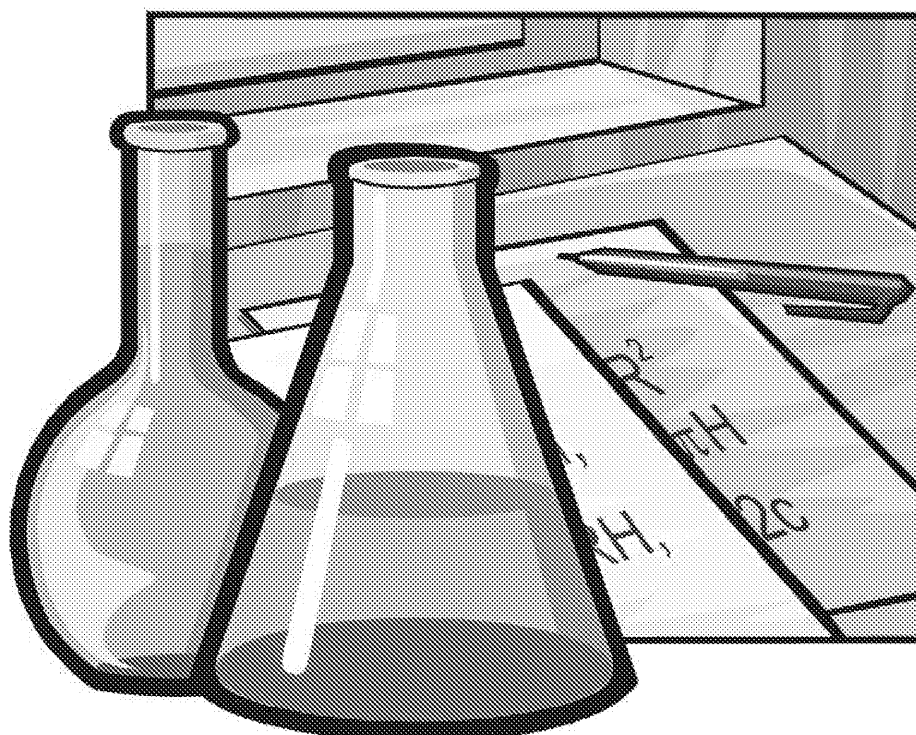
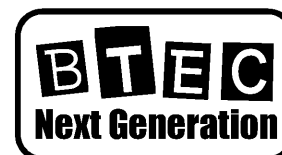


Teaching Pack

For BTEC First Award in Applied Science

Unit 8: Scientific Skills



POD 4721

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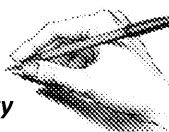
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Safety in the classroom

It is the teacher's responsibility to ensure the safety of their students in the classroom. All instructions should be read carefully and are confident in your own knowledge before carrying out any demonstrations suggested in this resource. If you are unsure about anything, see the safety notes on the experiments in the classroom.

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Teacher's Introduction

This unit is taught over 30 guided learning hours (GLH). Teachers will have to balance between teaching and exam practise – this scheme of work suggests 16 teacher-taught hours and 16 lessons for exam practise and catch-up time for lessons or need extra support. 'Did you know' boxes are included to give interesting extra information about the topic – they do not need to know to pass the exam.

This pack contains the following materials:

1. A single-page overview scheme of work
2. 10 lesson plans
3. Notes for each lessons covering all the learning aims between them
4. Recap Questions and Exam-Style Questions in non-write-on and write-on format, with answers

This resource is designed to be flexible in the following ways:

- For each lesson there is a lesson plan followed by student notes and questions. The notes and questions are repeated provided in write-on format. You could use the material in a number of ways:
 1. Use the notes to support your classroom teaching and then hand out the questions or the write-on questions at the end of the lesson (possibly for homework).
 2. Use the notes to supplement your own notes or the textbook and use the lesson as a summary with the questions so students can complete the notes as support.
 3. Just use the questions (either write-on or non-write-on as appropriate) and subsequently hand out the notes at revision time.

Also available from ZigZag Education

Activity Pack

Worksheet-style activities, starter and plenaries matched to the new BTEC specification to supplement this pack and the textbook and give more variety and different approaches.

Practical sheets:

- Teacher sheets for all the suggested practicals and demonstrations for this unit.
- Student method sheets for all the practical experiments outlined in this scheme of work with observation grids.
- Health and safety guidance for demos and practicals.

For more information please visit:

www.zigzag.at/btecactivities

Also available from ZigZag Education

Practicals

Give students the opportunity to practise the new BTEC specification to supplement this pack and the textbook and give more variety and different approaches.

Three practical sheets matched to the new BTEC specification. Assessment for each practical.

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** resulting from minor specification changes, suggestions from teachers, and peer reviews, or occasional errors reported by customers*

Suggested Scheme of Work

GLH/LP	Learning Aim	Title
1	A.1 & A.2	Producing a Good Plan for an Investigation
2	A.1 & A.2	Producing a Good Plan for an Investigation (Co
3	B.1, B.4 & B.5	Tabulated Data and Calculations
4	B.6 & B.8	Drawing Graphs
5	B.9 & B.10	Obtaining Data from Graphs
6	B.2, B.3, B.7 & B.11	Identifying Anomalous Results and Explaining
7	B.12	Describing Trends and Patterns Identified in Ta
8	B.13	Analysing Evidence to Draw Conclusions
9	C.1, C.2, C.3 & C.4	Evaluating Evidence and Investigative Methods
10–14	<i>Practising unit content through practical investigations</i>	
15–30	<i>Opportunity for catch-up and exam practise</i>	

Lesson Plan Key



content provided in teaching notes

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Lesson Plan 1: Producing a Good Plan for an Investigation

Learning Aims

Students should understand:

How to produce a good plan:







- identify relevant equipment and give reasons for these choices
- identify risks that are relevant to the method and describe how they can be managed (through a risk assessment)
- give a suitable range and number of measurements and explain why
- outline a logically ordered method appropriate to a given hypothesis

Key words: Scientific method, planning, equipment, risk assessment

Starter

Ask students what they think a scientific investigation involves based upon a simple task. This activity could be carried out as a class mind map activity on the board.

Main

1.  Introduce students to the idea of a scientific method.
2.  Explain how you go about planning an investigation.
3.  Explain equipment choices – show students examples of equipment (e.g. measuring cylinders of different sizes, pipettes, etc. Ask relevant questions (e.g. which of these would be most appropriate to measure out 0.5 cm³ of acid accurately).
4. Students should then work in pairs to write a method for a simple task. Instructions must be given using appropriate scientific terminology and clear steps.
5. Go through examples with students and make suggestions for improvement.
6.  Introduce concept of carrying out risk assessments and link back to hazards (e.g. what are the dangers?), refer to hazard symbols which students should have seen (e.g. show examples of substances with various hazard symbols in the lab).
7.  Ask students to attempt the Recap Questions in pairs.
8.  Go over the answers to the Recap Questions as a class.

Plenary

True or false?

- Long hair should be tied back when using Bunsen burners. *True*
- A risk assessment is not necessary when planning an experiment. *False*
- Safety goggles should be worn when using acids. *True*

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Planning an Investigation

Scientific Investigations

Scientific investigations all have something in common:

They start with an **observation** that leads to a **question** which you wish to discover through scientific experimentation. To do this you make a **plan**; identifying the equipment you will use and how to reduce them, formulate a **hypothesis** (what you think will happen) and what you will do. You then **perform your experiment**. After you have performed your experiment you record your results; you can display these in a number of ways, as a **table** or as a **graph**. Tables and graphs will help you to see trends and patterns in your data. You then write up your **conclusion** – a summary of what you found out. In your conclusion you evaluate your hypothesis based upon the evidence you collected. Finally, end with an **evaluation** of your method or ways of extending your investigation.

The above sequence is known as the **scientific method** and in this unit you will learn about its components in turn.

Part of investigation	What to include
Plan	Equipment choices with reasons, hypothesis, variables that you will test and the ones that you will control, and a risk assessment that is appropriate to the investigation.
Results and analysis	Tables of results, graphs to represent the collected data (bar charts, pie charts, line graphs), comments on trends and anomalies in the data, identification of anomalous results.
Evaluation	Evaluate the method, suggest improvements to the method, suggest further investigations to support the hypothesis.

Did you know?

The development of the scientific method goes back thousands of years to ancient history.

*Its development began in **Ancient Greece** with the famous Greek philosopher **Aristotle** (born in 384 BC). Aristotle was one of the first people to recognise the importance of measurement and observation.*

*Greek knowledge was added to during the **Renaissance period** when two influential men called **Roger Bacon** (born in 1214) and **Francis Bacon** (born in 1561) also developed the idea of making observations, hypothesising and then carrying out experiments to test these hypotheses.*

*In the twentieth century, an important philosopher **Karl Popper** recognised that theories are not always correct and can be proven to be wrong through experiments. **Thomas Kuhn**, also a philosopher, built on this recognising that scientific theories about how things work, but that eventually, one of these theories*

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What is a plan?

A plan is the outline of what you intend to do to scientifically investigate the answer to a question. A good plan should:

- Write a hypothesis.
- Identify the equipment you will need.
- Carry out a risk assessment.
- Identify variables (the things you will change or keep the same) and explain how you will control them.
- Write a logical method that could be followed by someone else who wants to repeat the experiment.

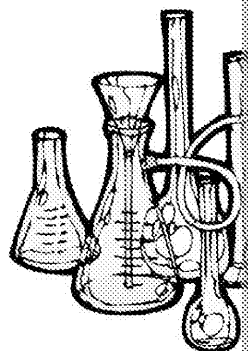
Hypothesis: *a tentative explanation for an observation that can be tested through an experiment. Effectively, writing a hypothesis involves using your scientific knowledge to make a prediction about the outcome of an experiment.*

Equipment

When selecting equipment for an experiment, think about what you need to measure. For example, a stopwatch to measure time, a balance to measure mass, a measuring cylinder to measure volume, and a thermometer to measure temperature. Many of these come in different sizes and types.

Some common items of equipment that you might use in a scientific investigation are:

- test tube
- thermometer
- stopwatch
- boiling tube
- beaker
- Bunsen burner
- measuring cylinder
- conical flask
- burette
- pipette
- Petri dish



You need to **select equipment that is relevant to your needs**. For example, don't use a measuring cylinder if you only need to measure 10 cm³ of liquid! Also choose equipment that provides the amount of precision for your needs. For example, to ensure mass readings are accurate, use a balance that measures to two decimal places rather than one decimal place. This is important when measuring small quantities.

Your results will be more accurate if you use the most appropriate equipment. When you choose your equipment, you should justify your choices with reasons.

Example

"I chose to use a thermometer that measures temperatures between 36°C and 42°C. This is because I was measuring body temperature. Body temperature is approximately 37°C. Anything significantly higher or lower than this value results in death. Therefore, the thermometer only needs to measure a small range of values".

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Risk Assessment

A risk assessment is an assessment of the potential risks and hazards involved in an experiment and a description of how to manage them. In order to write a risk assessment you must first identify a potential hazard (something that may cause harm), identify the potential harm this hazard could cause and explain how you plan to reduce and control the risk presented by this hazard.




The risk assessment should be relevant to your method.

For example, a risk assessment for using a Bunsen burner would identify that eye goggles should be worn, long hair should be tied up and contact with flammable

More examples of some general health and safety issues in the lab are listed below:

- Keep your workspace tidy.
- Do not eat any food or drink any drink whilst in the laboratory.
- Wear safety goggles when appropriate.

In Unit 1 you studied **hazard symbols** which you might find on items in the laboratory. Some of them:

	<p>CAUTION – HARMFUL AND IRRITANT</p> <p>The 'caution' symbol indicates that a substance is either harmful or irritant.</p> <p>Harmful substances may be damaging to health if swallowed, inhaled or absorbed through the skin. When handling harmful substances eye protection should only be used in well ventilated labs or fume cupboards. If the substance comes into contact with the skin it should be washed off immediately and any spillages cleaned up immediately.</p> <p><i>Example: copper(II) sulphate</i></p> <p>Irritant substances can cause reddening or blistering of the skin when handling them and if they come into contact with the skin, wash immediately and clear up any spillages immediately.</p> <p><i>Example: dilute sodium hydroxide solution</i></p>
	<p>CORROSIVE</p> <p>Corrosive substances destroy living tissues on contact. Avoid skin contact. Wear eye goggles (eye protection) and gloves (skin protection). If a corrosive substance comes into contact with the skin, wash it off immediately. Clear up spillages immediately.</p> <p><i>Example: hydrochloric acid</i></p>
	<p>HIGHLY FLAMMABLE</p> <p>Substances that catch fire easily. They should be kept away from heat sources. Use appropriate fire protection and clear up any spillages.</p> <p><i>Example: ethanol</i></p>

You should also consider less obvious hazards for example some **microorganisms** that might be used in biological investigations can be dangerous as they can cause disease. Care should also be taken when carrying out experiments using **electricity** in Physics.

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Recap Questions – Planning

1. Arrange the following components of the scientific method in the correct order.
 - evaluation
 - perform experiment
 - present data
 - plan
 - conclusion
 - question
2. What is a hypothesis?
3. Sally wants to measure 20cm³ of acid. What sized measuring cylinder should she use? 10 cm³, 25 cm³ or 50 cm³?
4. Describe what a risk assessment is.
5. How can risks be reduced in the lab?
6. Think about a practical you have carried out during your BTEC course. What did you do to control the risks?

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Recap Questions – Planning

1. Arrange the following components of the scientific method in the correct order.
- evaluation
 - present data
 - conclusion
 - perform experiment
 - plan
 - question

1.	2.
3.	4.
5.	6.

2. What is a hypothesis?

.....
.....

3. Sally wants to measure 20cm³ of acid. What sized measuring cylinder is the correct size from the options given below.

- 10 cm³
- 25 cm³
- 50 cm³

4. Describe what a risk assessment is.

.....
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5. How can risks be reduced in the lab?

.....
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6. Think about a practical you have carried out during your BTEC course. What did you do to control the risks?

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Lesson Plan 2: Producing a Good Plan for an Experiment (Continued)

Learning Aims

Students should understand:

How to produce a good plan:

- identify relevant equipment and give reasons for these choices
- identify risks that are relevant to the method and describe how they are assessed (risk assessment)
- identify appropriate variables (dependent and independent) and describe how they are controlled
- give a suitable range and number of measurements and explain why
- outline a logically ordered method appropriate to a given hypothesis

How to provide a hypothesis based on relevant scientific ideas, which is testable and where appropriate.

Key words: planning, variables, independent variable, dependent variable, hypothesis, methods






Starter

Ask students to match the following hazards with their definitions: **corrosive**, **flammable**

- a) catches fire easily
- b) destroys living tissue on contact
- c) damaging to health if swallowed, breathed in or absorbed through the skin
- d) causes reddening and blistering of the skin

Answers: a) flammable b) corrosive c) harmful d) irritant

Main

1.  Introduce the concept of variables. Explain what independent and dependent variables are and explain their significance in ensuring an experiment is a fair test. Go through the questions.
2.  Talk through the numbers and range of measurements that should be taken.
3.  Reaffirm the importance of writing a logical method so that results can be repeated by somebody else using the same method.
4.  Ask students to answer the Exam-Style Questions.
5.  Go over the answers to the Exam-Style Questions as a class.

Plenary

Ask students to write down a definition for the following terms:

- independent variable
- dependent variable

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Variables, Measurements and Hypothesis

Variables

Variables are the things we investigate in our experiments. We can choose which ones we keep the same and observe the effects of these changes.

Independent variable	<i>The variable we change to observe its effects.</i>
Dependent variable	<i>The variable we measure for each change in the independent variable.</i>
Control variables	<i>Variables that could affect the results that must be kept the same.</i>

When trying to work out the independent variable, ask yourself the question 'What is the independent variable?'

Once variables have been decided upon, everything else should be controlled to a **fair test** for comparison. Sometimes it is not possible to control the other variables of the room, but these variables should be monitored just in case they change and affect the results.

Example

Bill is investigating the amount of energy in different food samples. To do this he places the samples underneath a boiling tube of water and then measuring the temperature of the water. The temperature change in the water indicates how much energy is in each sample.

In this experiment the **independent** variable is the food sample, the **dependent** variable is the temperature of the water.

Bill also needs to ensure that the volume of the water in the boiling tube is the same. He should monitor the mass of his food samples.

Choosing a Suitable Range and Number of Measurements

In your method you should comment on how many measurements you intend to take. You should also explain your choices.

The range over which you take measurements must be suitable for the independent variable. A small change in the independent variable should result in a large change in the dependent variable.

Repeating your experiment a number of times will enable you to see random errors (results that don't fit the pattern) more easily. Anomalous results will be discussed in a later section.

Logically Ordered Methods

It is important that your method follows a logical order that makes sense, and that you are able to repeat the experiment again to try to obtain the same results. This is known as **reproducibility**.

On a wider scale, in the science industry it is very important that experimental methods are consistent across different laboratories to ensure that everyone reaches the same conclusions. This is known as **reproducibility**.

Your method should be designed in such a way that it will produce valid results. The changes brought about in the dependent variable are caused by the independent variable. Your method should take into account other variables that may affect results and explain how they are controlled.

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Writing a Hypothesis

A hypothesis is a potential explanation for an observation that can be tested through an experiment. Effectively, writing a hypothesis involves using your scientific knowledge to make a prediction that can be based upon relevant scientific ideas.

A hypothesis should be worded in such a way that allows it to be tested. If you word a hypothesis in terms of a testable hypothesis, then it is possible to use scientific method to test it. The experiment you choose must be appropriate for the hypothesis.

Hypotheses can be quantitative (concerning data that can be measured, e.g. length, mass, time) or qualitative (concerning data that cannot be measured, only described/observed). A hypothesis should mention both the independent and dependent variables and the reason.

Example

“If I water one plant more than another, it will grow larger than the other because all plants require water for growth.”

In this simple example the independent variable is the amount of water the plant receives and the dependent variable is the size of the plant.

Exam-Style Questions – Planning

1. Write a plan for an experiment to investigate how light affects the rate of photosynthesis. This can be done by shining a lamp on a beaker containing water and a water hyacinth. The rate of photosynthesis can be measured by the number of oxygen bubbles given off. The equipment you have is as follows:
 - lamp
 - oxygenating pond plant
 - beaker
 - metre rule
 - stopwatch
 - water

In your plan you should include details of:

- the hypothesis
- the independent and dependent variables
- what you would measure as you carry out the investigation
- the number and range of measurements you would take

2. Ben is investigating how much acid is required to neutralise a base. He does this by adding drops of the acid to a conical flask containing the base and a colour indicator. When the colour of the solution in the conical flask changes, he knows that the base has been neutralised. Acids and bases are potentially dangerous chemicals and the chemical bottles are labelled with caution symbols. The base Ben uses is ammonium hydroxide – this is a substance that can cause a burning sensation in the nose if breathed in.

Write a risk assessment for Ben's experiment.

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Exam-Style Questions – Planning

1. Write a plan for an experiment to investigate how light affects the rate of photosynthesis. The experiment should be done by shining a lamp on a beaker containing water and a water hyacinth. The rate of photosynthesis can be measured by the number of oxygen bubbles given off. The equipment you have is as follows:
- lamp
 - oxygenating pond plant
 - beaker
 - metre rule
 - stopwatch
 - water

In your plan you should include details of:

- the hypothesis
- the independent and dependent variables
- what you would measure as you carry out the investigation
- the number and range of measurements you would take

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2. Ben is investigating how much acid is required to neutralise a base. He does this by adding drops of the acid to a conical flask containing the base and a colour indicator. When the colour of the solution in the conical flask changes, he knows that the base has been neutralised. Acids and bases are potentially dangerous chemicals and the chemical bottles are labelled with caution symbols. The base Ben uses is ammonium hydroxide – this is a substance that can cause a burning sensation in the nose if breathed in.

Write a risk assessment for Ben’s experiment.

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Lesson Plan 3: Tabulated Data and Calculations

Learning Aims

Students should understand:

How to tabulate data in a clear, logical way:

- with appropriately headed columns
- with units
- in ascending order of independent variables

How to carry out calculations from tabulated data:

- calculating averages
- excluding anomalous results where appropriate
- calculations using given equations

How to demonstrate appropriate use of significant figures and application of accuracy to which a result can be used.









Key words: drawing appropriate tables, units, significant figures calculation

Starter

Ask students to arrange the following data in ascending order: 150, 172, 160

Answer: 150, 152, 153, 157, 160, 163, 164, 172

Main

1.  Go over the starter exercise.
2.  Explain how to draw tables: appropriate column headings, units and order of independent variable.
3.  Revision of units: ask students to think of other units that have no information sheet.
4.  Go over concept of significant figures. Attempt some examples on
5.  Go over how to calculate the mean and explain the importance of results before calculating means.
6.  Explain that data in tables can be used to carry out useful calculations
7.  Ask students to attempt the Questions in the pack.
8.  Go over the answers to the Questions.

Plenary

Quick Quiz

- Give an example of a unit used when measuring mass *Possible*
- Give an example of a unit used when measuring temperature *Possible*
- Give an example of a unit used when measuring length *Possible*

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Tabulating Data

When you collect data during an experiment it should be organised in the form of a table before you start performing an experiment. Tables can then be used to present your data. Graphs help trends and patterns in results to be identified and these can be used to draw a conclusion when you write about what you found out and decide if your evidence is valid.

Tables should have **columns with appropriate headings** and should include the units of measurement (e.g. g, cm, m, °C. The values of the **independent variable** should be arranged in **ascending order** (lowest to highest).

You might need to include an extra column for calculations (e.g. calculating a change in temperature). You should also include the start and end temperatures of each repetition of experiments.

Units

If you don't include units in your answers to calculations, headings of tables, or axes labels on graphs, you will lose valuable marks. Some important units of measurement that you may come across in your science studies are listed in the table on the right. Can you think of any other units that you've met in your studies that aren't listed here?

Unit	Abbreviation
gram	g
metre	m
centimetre	cm
kelvin	K
degree Celsius	°C
second	s

Example

Here is a table of results from an experiment investigating the amount of energy transferred to the water was measured by measuring the temperature change.

Food sample	Temperature (°C)		
	Before	After	Change
Bread	20	36	16
Pasta	20	50	30

Columns with appropriate headings

Extra column for calculations

Including repetitions in your results can make drawing results tables a bit more complex. For three repetitions of each experiment, the table of results would look something like this:

Food sample	Repeat	Temperature (°C)		
		Before	After	Change
Bread	1			
	2			
	3			
Pasta	1			
	2			
	3			

Note: adding repeats means we must add an average column too. When we calculate the average we must find the mean (i.e. add up all the numbers, find the total and divide by the number of repetitions). We will discuss this in more detail later.

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Calculations

Significant Figures

A significant figure is the first non-zero digit in a number when you read it from left to right.

Zero counts as a significant figure if it occurs after the first significant figure.

Remember when rounding: a value of 4 or less means nothing changes, a value of 5 or more means round up the next significant figure by a value of 1 (e.g. 1.4 is rounded to 1 and 1.5 is rounded to 2).

The more significant figures you consider, the more accurate or precise your calculation will be. When choosing an appropriate number of significant figures, consider how accurate your data is.

Example 1

Round 48.3 to two significant figures
 Answer: 48

Here the first significant figure is 4 and the second is 8. When considering rounding, look at the number next to the second significant figure. In this case '3' is lower than 5 so our answer is 48.

Example 2

Round 448 to two significant figures

2 significant figures 8 is higher than 5 so we round up the value to 450

Answer: 450

Calculations Using Data from Tables and Given Equations

This table is the same as the table you saw previously, but now has an extra column for temperature. Use this piece of information and the equation below, to calculate the amount of energy in each food sample using the data from the table.

Food sample	Mass of sample (g)	Temperature (°C)		
		Start	End	Temp rise (°C)
Bread	5	20	36	16
Pasta	5	20	50	30

$$\text{Energy in food (kcal)} = \frac{\text{mass of water (g)} \times \text{temperature rise (°C)}}{\text{mass of food sample (g)} \times 1000}$$

The mass of water used each time was 100g and the food samples had a mass of 5g.

Example: calculating the amount of energy in the bread sample

$$\text{Energy in bread(kcal)} = \frac{\text{mass of water (g)} \times \text{temp rise (°C)}}{\text{mass of food sample (g)} \times 1,000} = \frac{100 \text{ g} \times 16}{5 \text{ g} \times 1,000}$$

In the exam you will be given data in tables and asked to calculate values using the equation above.

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Averages and Equations

Average	A typical value for a set of numbers
Mean	A type of average calculated by adding a set of values together and dividing by the number of values there are
Range	The numerical difference between the highest value and the lowest value

Example of calculating the mean (average) of a set of values

Height (cm)	
164	This table shows the heights of 10 BTEC students. To calculate the mean of the students we add up all the values and then divide by the number of students there are, in this case 10 $\text{Mean} = \frac{164 + 163 + 162 + 170 + 156 + 175 + 180 + 176 + 169 + 167}{10}$ $\text{Mean} = \frac{1682}{10}$ $\text{Mean} = 168.2 \text{ cm}$
163	
162	
170	
156	
175	
180	
176	
169	
167	

When using a calculator it is very important that you press 'equals' before you press the equals sign. So you press:

[164][+][163][+][162][+][170][+][156][+][175][+][180][+][176][+][167][=]

To make sure the results are not changed by an anomalous result these should be calculated.

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Recap Questions – Tabulated Data and Calculations

- Put these data in an appropriate table. Time is measured in seconds and speed in m/s.

0 s, 0 m/s	1 s, 10 m/s	2 s, 20 m/s	3 s, 30 m/s	4 s, 40 m/s	5 s, 50 m/s
------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------
- Calculate the mean of the following sets of data to one decimal place.
 - 58 s, 67 s, 80 s, 43 s, 64 s, 49 s, 46 s, 75 s, 59 s, 63 s, 62 s, 54 s, 50 s, 61 s
 - 162 cm, 164 cm, 150 cm, 170 cm, 173 cm, 160 cm, 169 cm, 163 cm, 165 cm, 167 cm
 - 36 °C, 40 °C, 45 °C, 37 °C, 29 °C, 34 °C, 41 °C, 32 °C
- Put the following results in an appropriate table and calculate the mean.

Experiment 1: 0 s, 10 °C	5 s, 12 °C	10 s, 20 °C	15 s, 30 °C
Experiment 2: 0 s, 12 °C	5 s, 15 °C	10 s, 22 °C	15 s, 34 °C

Exam-Style Questions – Tabulated Data and Calculation

- Dan has been building various circuits in his Physics lesson. Calculate the resistance using the following equation and copy and complete the table below:

$$\text{Resistance } \Omega = \frac{\text{Voltage (V)}}{\text{Current (A)}}$$

Voltage (V)	Current (A)	Resistance (Ω)
1.5	0.5	
1.5	0.25	
3.0	1	
4.5	0.5	

- Tessa is investigating the amount energy in different fuels. Her results are shown in the table below:

Fuel	Mass of water (g)	Water temperature (°C)	
		Start	End
Fuel A	100	291	362
Fuel B	100	293	343
Fuel C	100	292	336

Use these results to calculate the heat energy absorbed by the water by using the following equation:

$$\text{heat energy absorbed by water (J)} = mc\Delta T$$

Where: m = mass of water (g), c = specific heat capacity of water = 4.2 J/g°C
 ΔT = temperature change (K)

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Recap Questions – Tabulated Data and Calculations

1. Put these data in an appropriate table. Time is measured in seconds and distance in metres.

0 s, 0 m/s	1 s, 10 m/s	2 s, 20 m/s	3 s, 30 m/s	4 s, 40 m/s	5 s, 50 m/s
------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

2. Calculate the mean of the following sets of data to one decimal place.

a) 58 s, 67 s, 80 s, 43 s, 64 s, 49 s, 46 s, 75 s, 59 s, 63 s, 62 s, 54 s, 50 s, 65 s

.....

b) 162 cm, 164 cm, 150 cm, 170 cm, 173 cm, 160 cm, 169 cm, 163 cm, 167 cm, 165 cm

.....

c) 36 °C, 40 °C, 45 °C, 37 °C, 29 °C, 34 °C, 41 °C, 32 °C

.....

3. Put the following results in an appropriate table and calculate the mean for each experiment.

Experiment 1: 0 s, 10 °C 5 s, 12 °C 10 s, 20 °C 15 s, 30 °C

Experiment 2: 0 s, 12 °C 5 s, 15 °C 10 s, 22 °C 15 s, 34 °C

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Exam-Style Questions – Tabulated Data and Calculation

1. Dan has been building various circuits in his Physics lesson. Calculate the resistance of each circuit using the following equation and fill in the table below with the resistance values.

$$\text{Resistance } \Omega = \frac{\text{Voltage (V)}}{\text{Current (A)}}$$

Voltage (V)	Current (A)	Resistance (Ω)
1.5	0.5	
1.5	0.25	
3.0	1	
4.5	0.5	

.....

.....

.....

.....

2. Tessa is investigating the amount energy in different fuels. Her results are shown in the table below.

Fuel	Mass of water (g)	Water temperature (°C)	
		Start	End
Fuel A	100	291	362
Fuel B	100	293	343
Fuel C	100	292	336

Use these results to calculate the heat energy absorbed by the water for each fuel using the following equation:

$$\text{heat energy absorbed by water (J)} = mc\Delta T$$

Where: m = mass of water (g), c = specific heat capacity of water = 4.2 J/g°C, ΔT = temperature change (K)

Fuel A:

.....

Fuel B:

.....

Fuel C:

.....

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Lesson Plan 4: Drawing Graphs

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Learning Aims

Students should understand:

How and when to draw graphs, including:

- bar charts
- line graphs
- pie charts

How to identify anomalous results on graphs

How to draw lines of best fit on graphs:







- appropriate to the data, excluding any anomalies where appropriate
- straight line of best fit
- curve of best fit

Key words: graph drawing, bar charts, pie charts, line graphs, line of best fit

Starter

Draw a very simple sketch of a bar chart on the board, ask students to identify it. Then repeat this for a pie chart and line graph.

Main

1.  Introduce graphs as a visual form of representation of data.
2.  Teach students how to distinguish between categorical and continuous variables and how this influence choice of graph, i.e. bar chart for categorical variables and line graph for continuous variables.
3.  Talk through each graph type in turn: bar chart, pie chart, line graph.
4. Go around the class asking each person in the room how they travel to school and ask students to draw a pie chart from the information following the information sheet as a guide.
5. Now go around the class asking each person in the room what colour they prefer and ask students to draw the results in the form of a tally and ask students to draw the results in the form of a bar chart.
6.  Explain lines and curves of best fit.
7.  Go over graph drawing tips.
8.  Ask students to attempt the graph drawing Questions in the pack.

Plenary

Quick quiz

- Which graphs should you use to represent categorical variables? *Answer: bar charts and pie charts*
- Which graphs should you use to represent continuous variables? *Answer: line graphs*
- How many degrees are there in a circle? Which graph type requires this knowledge? *Answer: there are 360° in a circle. This knowledge is required to draw a pie chart.*

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Graph Drawing

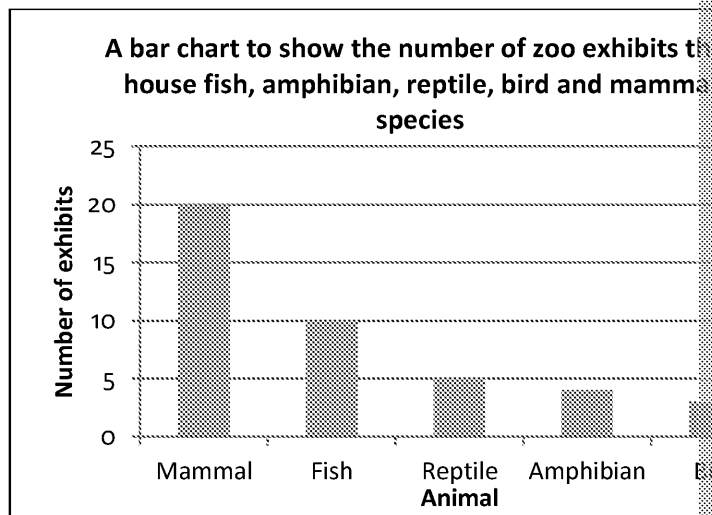
Graphs are visual representations of data. Graph drawing is an essential skill for different types of graph for example, bar charts, pie charts and line graphs. When you should choose one that is most appropriate for displaying your results. This will depend on whether your data are categorical or continuous.

- **Categorical variables** have word labels for example the categories of animals. Examples of categorical variables.
- **Continuous variables** have values that could be any number. They are the variables like temperature.

Graphs also all need titles, labels and units.

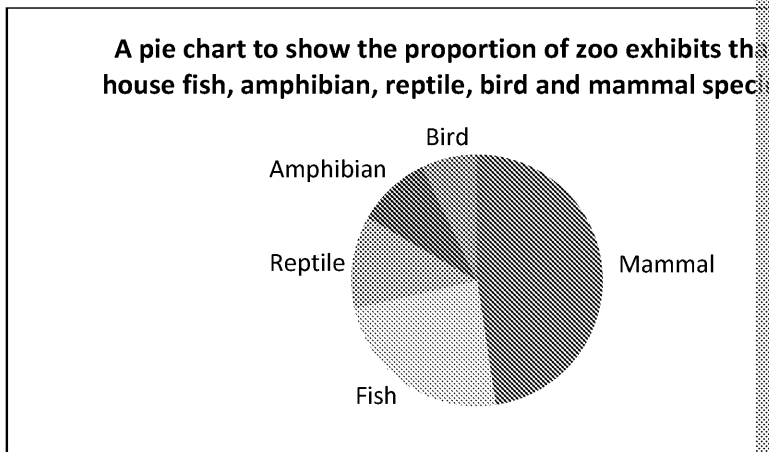
Bar Charts

Bar charts are used to represent categorical variables.



Pie Charts

Pie charts are also used to represent categorical variables, though in this case a pie



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Drawing Pie Charts

Drawing pie charts requires some calculations. Circles measure 360° , so data is shown as a proportion of 360° .

Example

Melanie counts the number of different birds she sees in her garden over the two hours. The data is shown in the table below:

Bird species	Number seen
Robin	2
Sparrow	10
Chaffinch	1
Blackbird	7

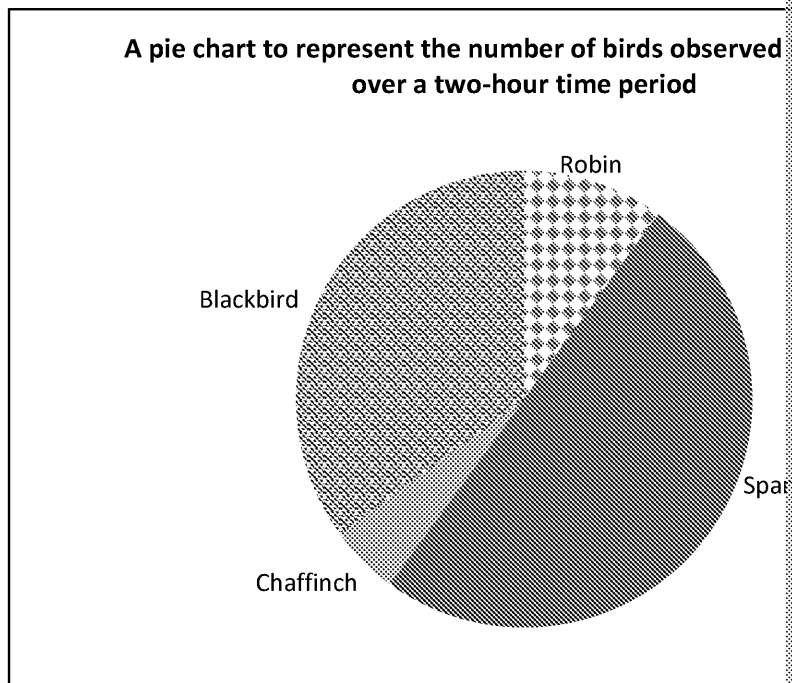
To turn this data into a pie chart, you can carry out the following calculation to find the angle for each portion of the chart:

Bird species	No. seen	Calculations	Degrees
Robin	2	$2/20 \times 360 = 36$	
Sparrow	10	$10/20 \times 360 = 180$	
Chaffinch	1	$1/20 \times 360 = 18$	
Blackbird	7	$7/20 \times 360 = 126$	

To check that you've calculated the values correctly, add them up at the end to get a total of 360.

$$36+180+18+126=360$$

The resulting pie chart is shown below:



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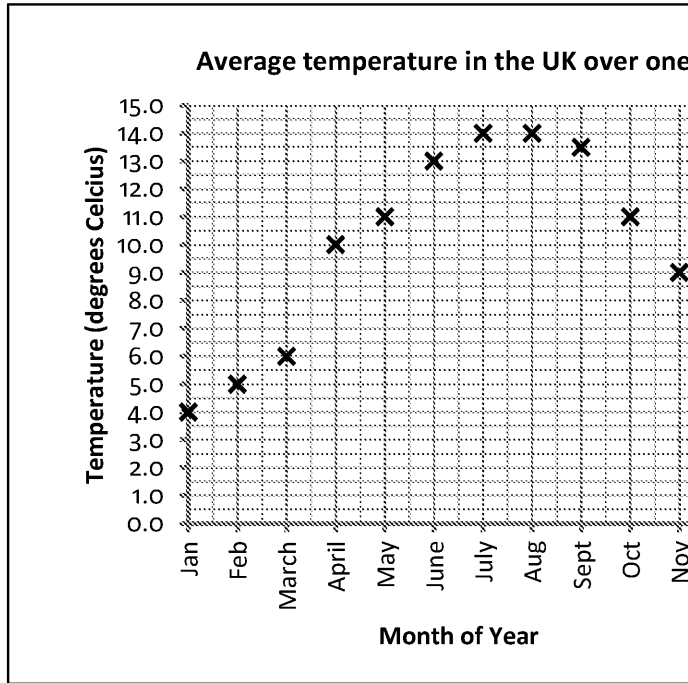


Line Graphs

Line graphs show a connected series of data. Unlike bar charts and pie charts, the lines connect the points that are plotted.

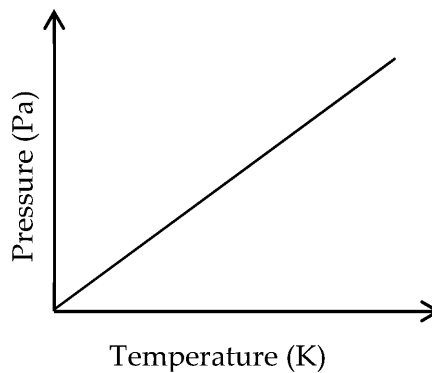
Example

Monthly temperature changes are often plotted as line graphs.



Example

Pressure of a gas in a flask (constant volume) in relation to temperature. For constant volume, pressure is directly proportional to the absolute temperature.



You will notice that in this graph, temperature is measured in Kelvin (K). The Celsius scale and is a scale commonly used by scientists when measuring temperature.

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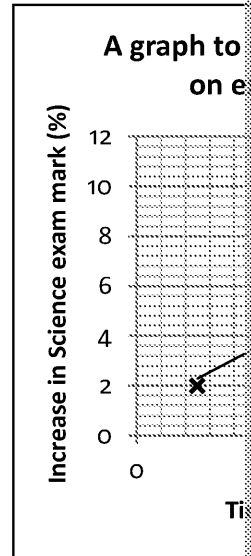
Lines of Best Fit

Straight Line of Best Fit

Drawing a line of best fit on your graph can help identify trends such as positive and negative correlation patterns which we will discuss later in this unit.

A line of best fit should roughly be drawn through the middle of the points on a scatter graph, it might not go through all the points but the points it doesn't cover should be distributed evenly either side of the line.

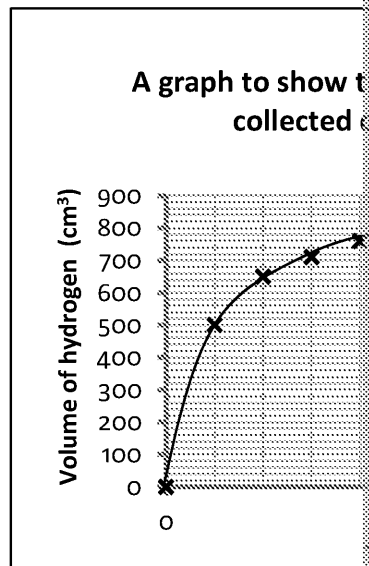
When drawing a line of best fit, it should be appropriate for the data, it is acceptable to ignore anomalous results where appropriate.



Curve of Best Fit

Sometimes your data might increase rapidly to begin with and then rise more slowly as the experiment continues, eventually levelling off. In this case a line of best fit would not be appropriate and you should draw a curve of best fit instead.

Where would you draw a curve of best fit on the 'Average temperature in UK over one year' graph on the previous page?



Graph Drawing Tips

- Choose appropriate scales for your axes.
- Label axes correctly and remember to include units of measurement.
- If your graph is in the form of a bar chart, ensure that each of the bars is labelled.
- Use as much of the graph paper as possible.
- Remember to use a ruler when drawing lines of best fit!

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Recap Questions – Drawing Graphs

1. Lucy is investigating ecosystems. She is conducting a small study in her garden to see which plant species are preferred by invertebrates. Her results are shown in the table below. Draw a **bar chart** to represent the data and include your calculations.

Plant	No. of invertebrates
Nettle	6
Gorse	10
Heather	3
Fern	1

2. The following table represents the assignment marks for a group of 70 students. Draw a **pie chart** to represent the data. Remember to label your axes and give an appropriate title.

Grade	No. of students
Level 1	10
Pass	35
Merit	20
Distinction	5

3. The following data represents the average high temperature in Sydney over a year. Draw a **line graph** to represent the data.

Month	Temperature (°C)
January	26
February	26
March	25
April	23
May	20
June	18
July	17
August	18
September	20
October	22
November	24
December	26

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Recap Questions – Drawing Graphs

1. Lucy is investigating ecosystems. She is conducting a small study in which species are preferred by invertebrates. Her results are shown in the table below. Draw a bar chart to represent the data and include your calculations.

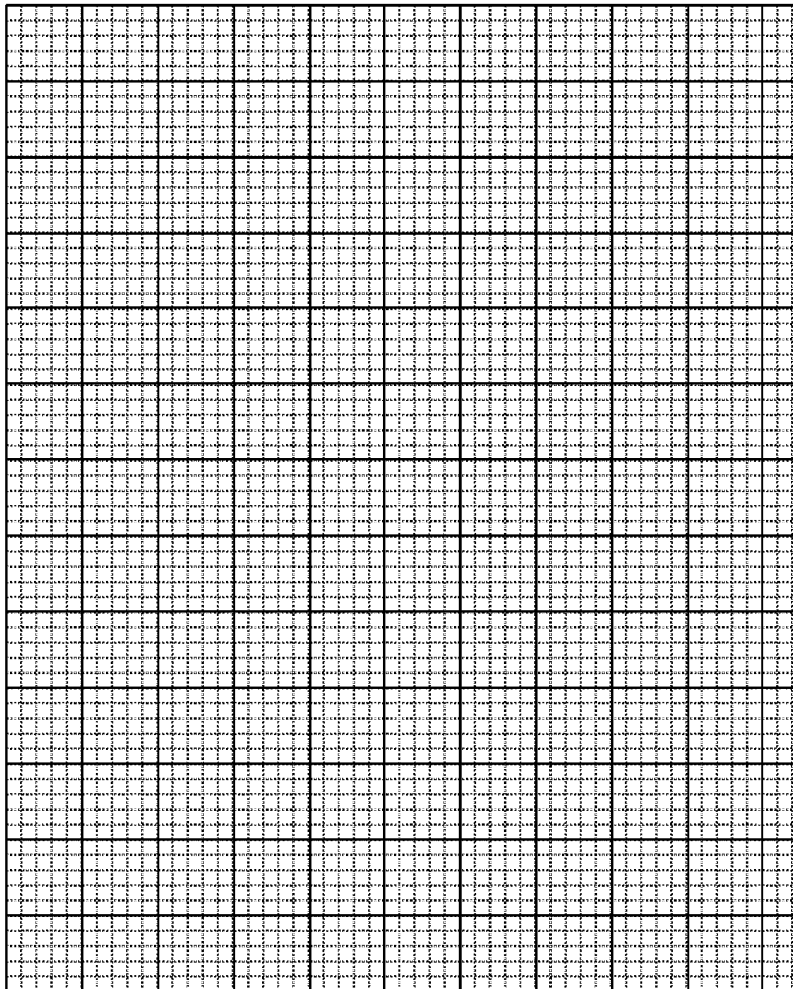
Plant	No. of invertebrates
Nettle	6
Gorse	10
Heather	3
Fern	1

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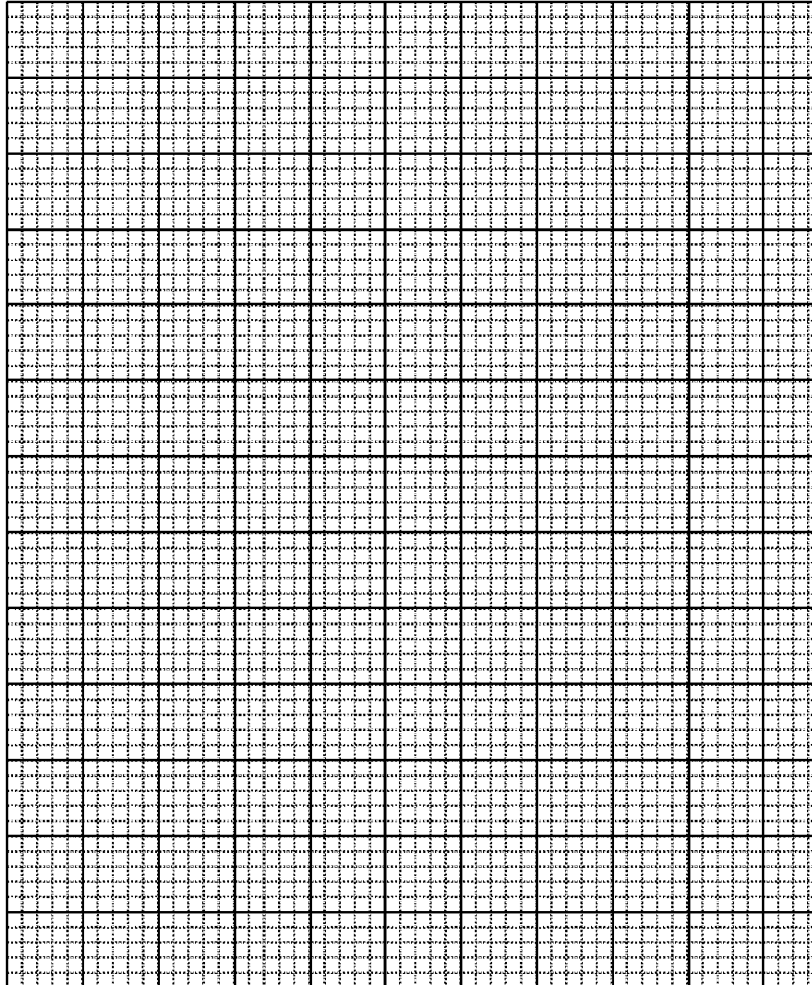


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2. The following table represents the assignment marks for a group of 70
chart to represent the data. Remember to label your axes and give an

Grade	No. of students
Level 1	10
Pass	35
Merit	20
Distinction	5



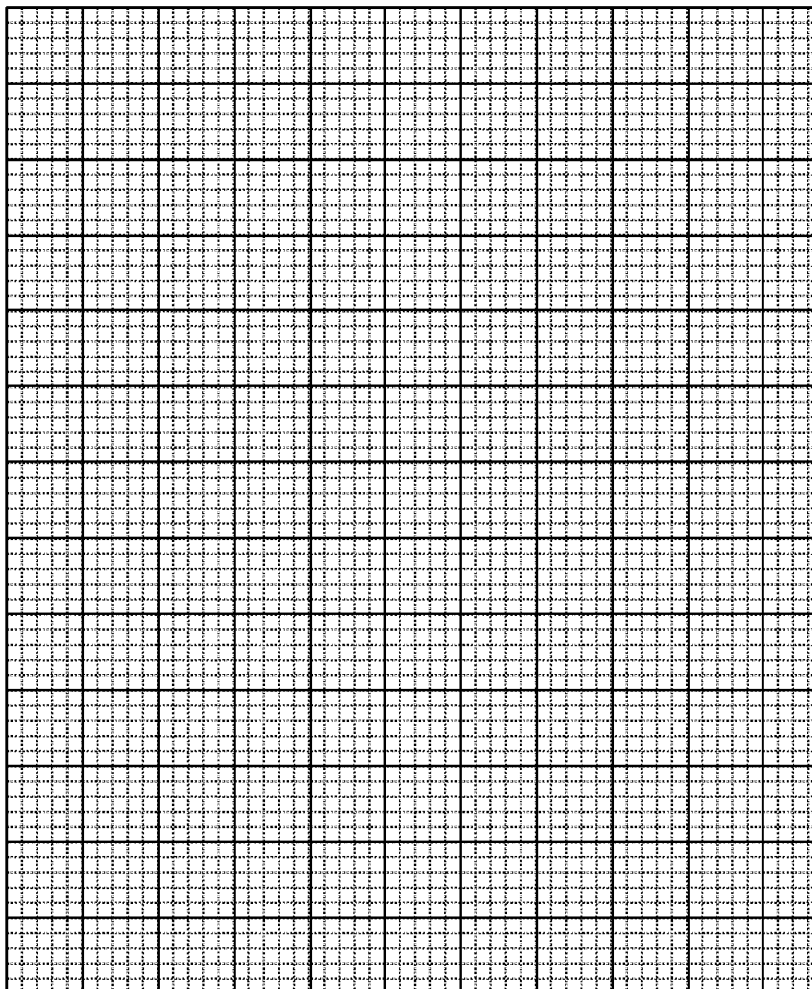
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3. The following data represents the average high temperature in Sydney. Draw a line graph to represent the data.

Month	Temperature (°C)
January	26
February	26
March	25
April	23
May	20
June	18
July	17
August	18
September	20
October	22
November	24
December	26



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Lesson Plan 5: Obtaining Data from

Learning Aims

Students should understand:

- how to obtain data from a given graph to find a specific value
- how to obtain data from a given graph to carry out calculations

Key words: obtaining data from graphs

Starter

Revise previous lesson. Copy the following table on the board showing the transport that students use to get to school. Ask students to complete the calculations.

Transport	No. of students	Calculations	Degrees of circle
Car	11		
Walk	7		
Bicycle	3		
Bus	9		

Answers:

Transport	No. of students	Calculations	Degrees of circle
Car	11	$11/30 \times 360$	132
Walk	7	$7/30 \times 360$	84
Bicycle	3	$3/30 \times 360$	36
Bus	9	$9/30 \times 360$	108

A pie chart to show the transport used by students.

Bus

Bicycle

Main

1. Go over the starter exercise.
2. Explain that graphs can be used to obtain specific values. Go over the example illustrating how data values are obtained from a graph.
3. Explain that graphs can be used to obtain data values that can be used to carry out calculations. Go over the example illustrating how data values obtained from a graph are used to carry out calculations.
4. Ask students to attempt the Questions in the pack.
5. Go over the answers to the Questions.

Plenary

Ask students to practise calculations using the following Questions and the equation.

1. What is the speed of a car that travels 500 metres in 5 seconds? *Ans*
2. What is the speed of a car that travels 2 metres in 10 seconds? *Ans*

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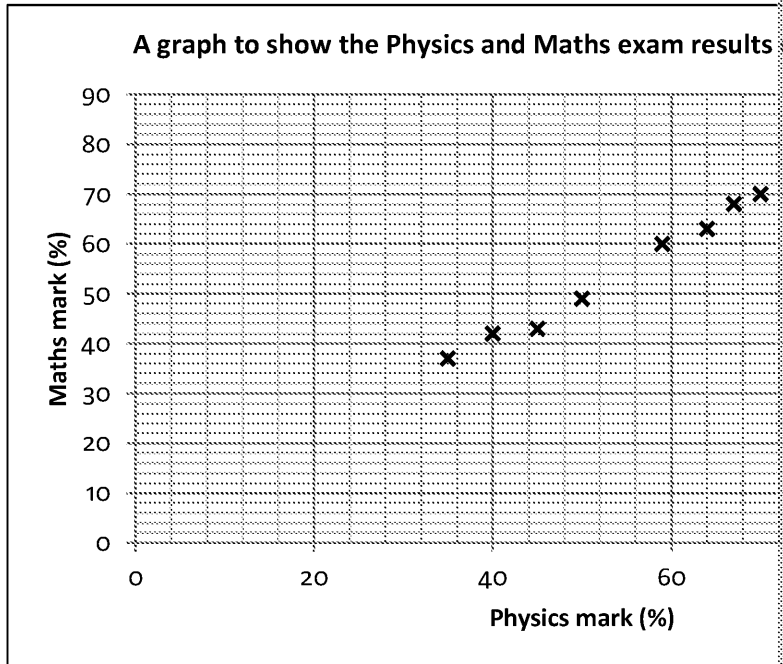
Analysing Graphs

Obtaining Data from Graphs to Find Specific Values

If you have a graph, but no table of results, it is still possible to obtain data value values off the axes of the graph.

Example

The graph below shows the exam results of 10 students who study Physics a

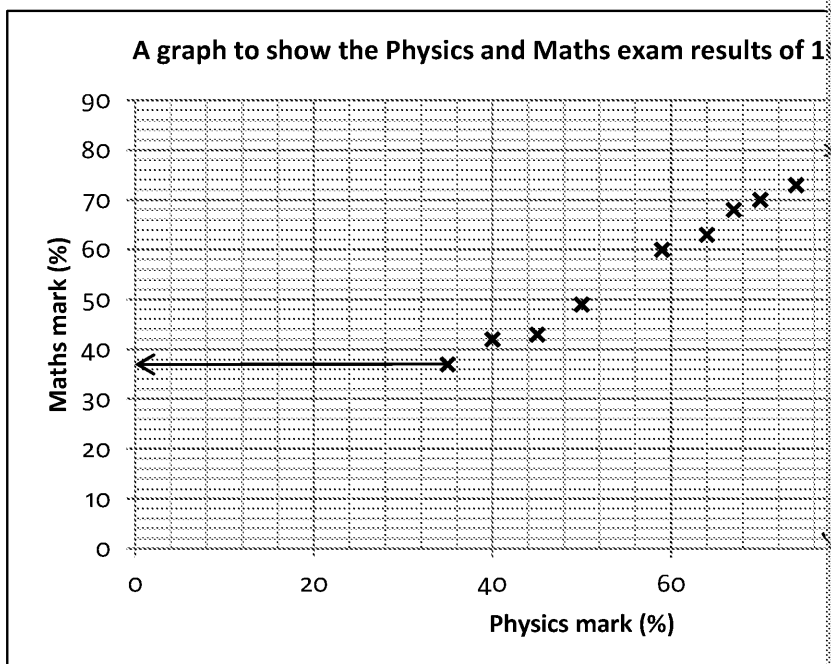


What was the lowest mark in Maths?

To find the lowest mark in Maths, locate the lowest point on the graph. Draw a line across from the point to the y-axis labelled 'Maths mark'. Read the value on the axis at the end of your line. In this example, the lowest mark in Maths was 37.

What was the highest mark in Maths?

To find the highest mark in Maths, locate the highest point on the graph. Draw a line across from the point to the y-axis labelled 'Maths mark'. Read the value on the axis at the end of your line. In this example, the highest mark in Maths was 71.



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Obtaining Data from Graphs to Carry Out Calculations

You can use also the data values you obtain from graphs to carry out calculations

Example

Calculating speed from a distance vs time graph

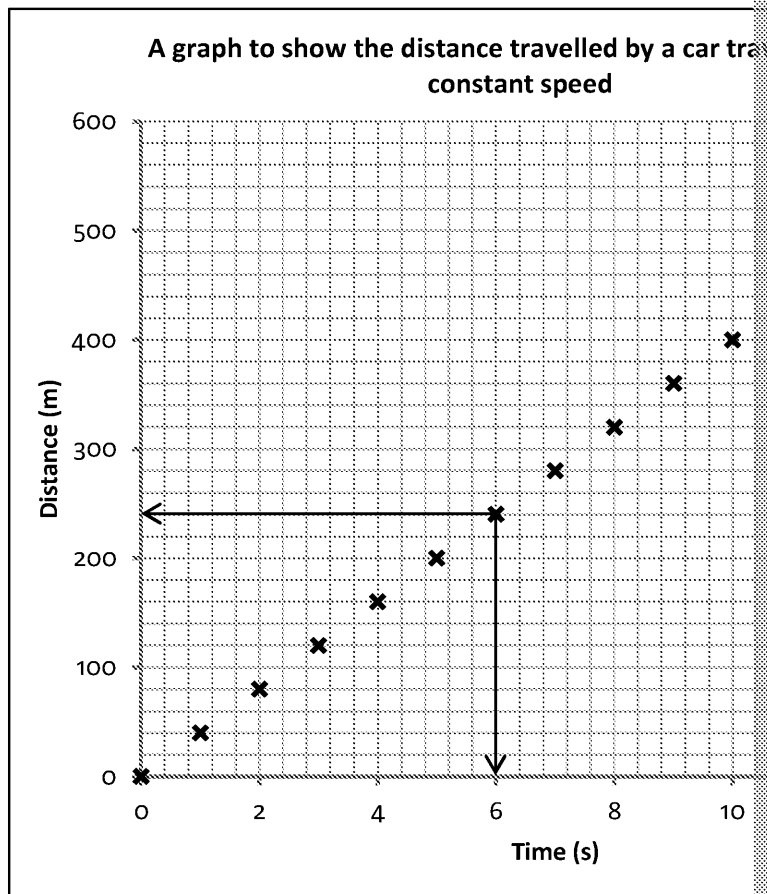
Speed can be calculated from the gradient of the graph which is obtained by the value on the y-axis divided by the value on the x-axis ($\text{gradient} = \frac{y}{x}$).



Task: Calculate the speed of the car

The graph below shows the distance travelled by a car travelling at a **constant speed** over a timescale of 12 seconds.

To calculate the speed of the car, you need to choose a data point. Read the y-axis value. Write it down. Then read the value on the x-axis. Write this down also. Then divide the y value by the x value.



For the point selected, the calculation is as follows:

$$\text{Speed} = \frac{\text{Distance}}{\text{Time}} = \frac{y}{x} = \frac{240}{6} = 40 \text{ m/s}$$

Because the car is travelling at a constant speed, the answer will be the same whichever point you choose.

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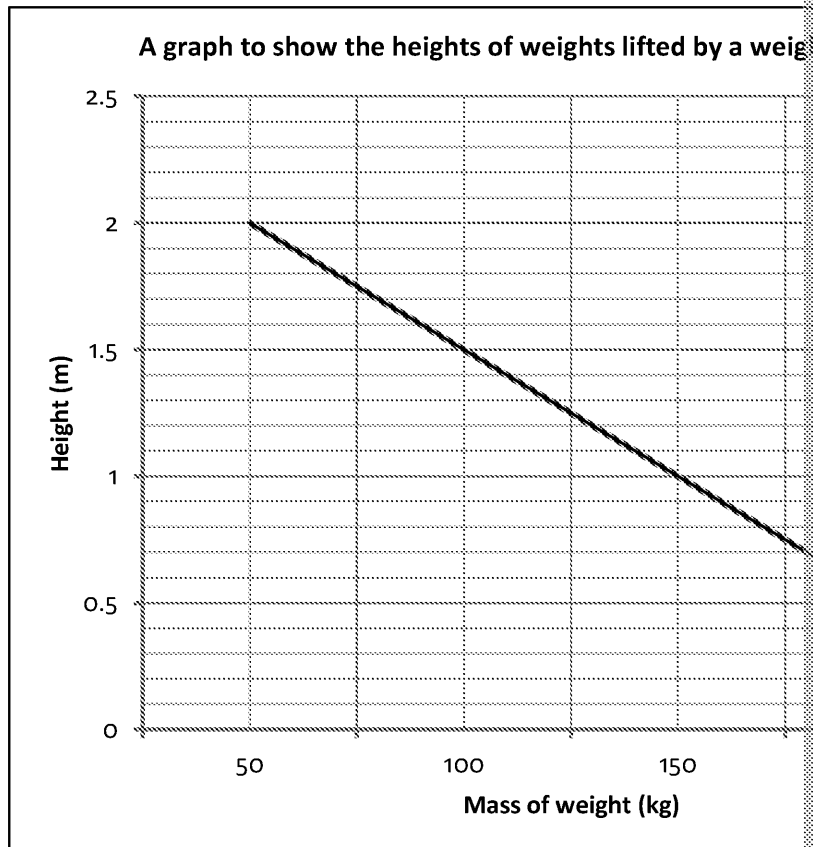
Exam-Style Question – Analysing Graphs

A weight lifter is lifting different sized weights from the ground to different heights. He records the height he lifts each weight to. A graph of his results is shown below.

Using the following equation and the data in the graph, calculate the change in potential energy (P.E.) of the weight of mass 100 kg.

$$\text{Change in P. E. (J)} = \text{mass (kg)} \times \text{acceleration due to gravity (N/Kg)}$$

Where acceleration due to gravity = 10



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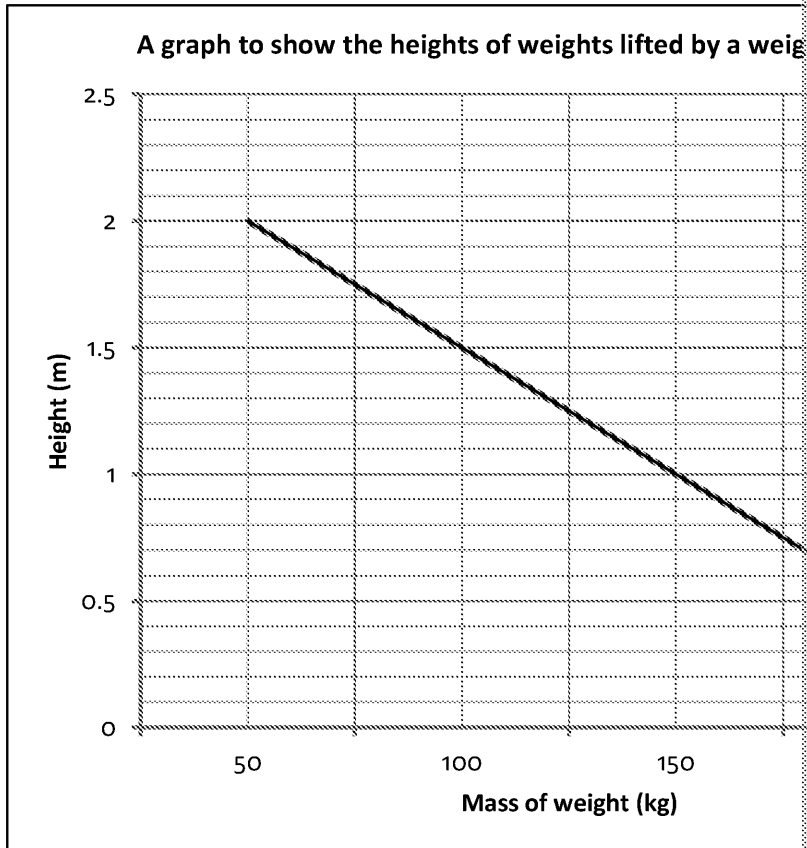
Exam-Style Question – Analysing Graphs

A weight lifter is lifting different sized weights from the ground to different heights. He records the height he lifts each weight to. A graph of his result is shown below.

Using the following equation and the data in the graph, calculate the change in potential energy (P.E.) of the weight of mass 100 kg.

$$\text{Change in P. E. (J)} = \text{mass (kg)} \times \text{acceleration due to gravity (N/Kg)}$$

Where acceleration due to gravity = 10



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Lesson Plan 6: Identifying Anomalous Results and How They Occur

Learning Aims

Students should understand:

- how to identify anomalous results in tabulated data
- how to identify approaches to deal with anomalous results in tabulated data
- how to explain why anomalous results occur:
 - when they do not fit the pattern of results
 - due to errors in the experimental process

Key words: Anomalous results





Starter

Copy the following table onto the board and ask students to identify any anomalous results and explain why they do not fit the pattern of the other results.

1		2	
Time (s)	Temperature (°C)	Time (s)	Temperature (°C)
0	0	0	0
10	15	10	14
20	30	20	28
30	44	30	40
40	60	40	59
50	50	50	70
60	90	60	90

When they have identified the result that doesn't fit the pattern, explain the result.

Main

1.  Explain what anomalous results are.
2.  Explain how anomalous results are handled.
3.  Ask students to attempt the Exam-Style Question.
4.  Go over the answer to the Exam-Style Question.

Plenary

Ask students what they would do if they were to find an anomalous result collected.

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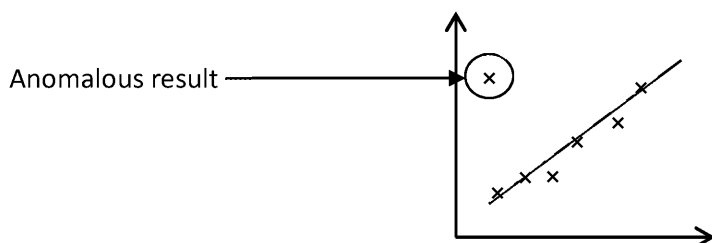


Anomalous Results

An anomalous result (anomaly) is a result that clearly does not fit the pattern of results. Anomalous results are usually a consequence of an error in the experimental process. This could be due to a mistake in reading a scale incorrectly, using an inappropriate method or perhaps using faulty equipment. However, there could be a perfectly valid scientific reason for an anomalous result. Anomalies can occur in any scientific research.

Identifying Anomalous Results

Drawing a graph with a line of best fit will often help to identify anomalous results. Once a line of best fit has been drawn it is possible to easily identify anomalous results – they are points that are far away from the line (see example below). Anomalous results will also be more obvious if the experiment is repeated a number of times and the results are displayed in the form of a table. Look for any unusual patterns in your results. For example, there may be a decreasing trend as you go down the table, but then one value near the bottom of the table increases, this would be an anomalous result. An apparent anomalous result is not present in the repeated data sets.



Dealing with Anomalous Results

If you find an anomalous result in your data you can re-calculate your averages and averages without the result in your calculation. It is usually best not to include anomalous results when calculating averages as doing so could lead you to draw incorrect conclusions.

You should however comment on the anomalous result in your evaluation, attempt to identify the cause of the anomaly, and suggest how this could be avoided if the experiment is repeated.

Alternatively, you may have enough time to repeat the experiment which had an anomalous result.

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Recap Question – Anomalous Results

Find the anomalous result in the following data then recalculate the average of the anomalous result.

Height ball was dropped from (cm)	Height ball bounced to (cm)			
	1	2	3	Average
20	17	18	17	17.5
25	20	19	7	15.5
30	23	22	22	22.5
35	26	25	27	26
40	30	32	31	31
45	33	32	33	32.5

✂

Recap Question – Anomalous Results

Find the anomalous result in the following data then recalculate the average of the anomalous result.

Height ball was dropped from (cm)	Height ball bounced to (cm)			
	1	2	3	Average
20	17	18	17	17.5
25	20	19	7	15.5
30	23	22	22	22.5
35	26	25	27	26
40	30	32	31	31
45	33	32	33	32.5

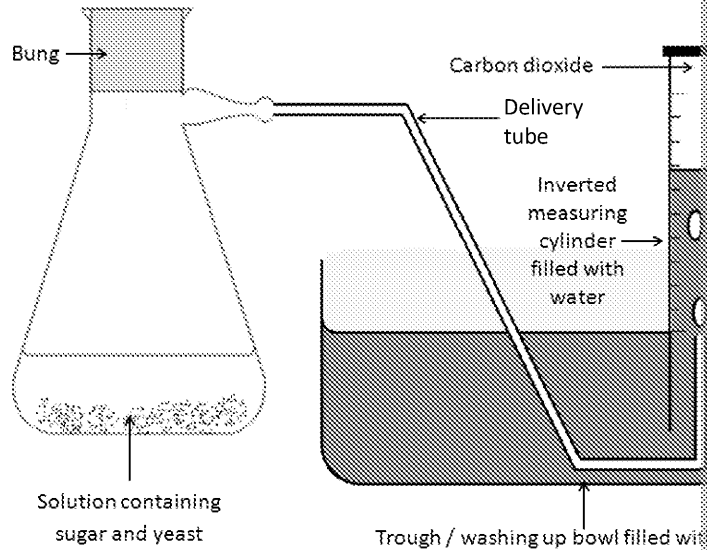
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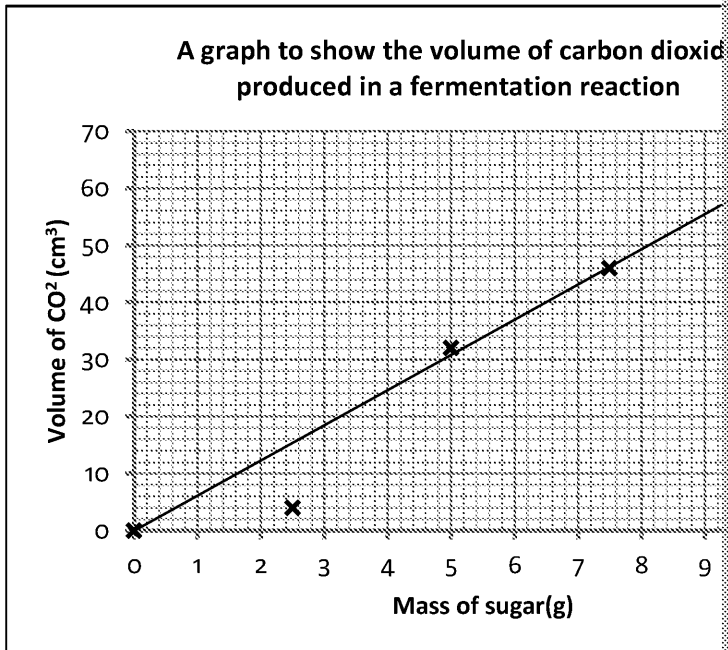
Exam-Style Question – Anomalous Results

Jack is investigating fermentation in yeast. Yeast is an organism that converts glucose (CO₂) and alcohol in a process called fermentation. The rate of this fermentation is investigated by collecting and measuring the amount of carbon dioxide produced.

This is done by inverting a measuring cylinder filled with water in a trough or bucket from it into a flask containing yeast and sugar. When carbon dioxide is produced in the flask, it travels through the delivery tube into the inverted measuring cylinder and displaces the water, forming a gas bubble at the top of the cylinder which can be measured on the cylinder's scale.



Jack investigated the effect of different amounts of sugar on the rate of fermentation over 10-minute intervals. The diagram above shows his apparatus set up and the graph below shows his results.



1. Are there any anomalous results?
2. If there are anomalous results, can you suggest reasons why these may have occurred?

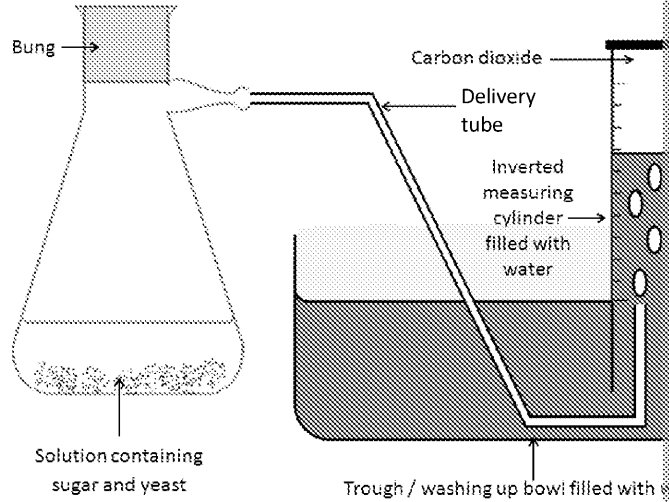
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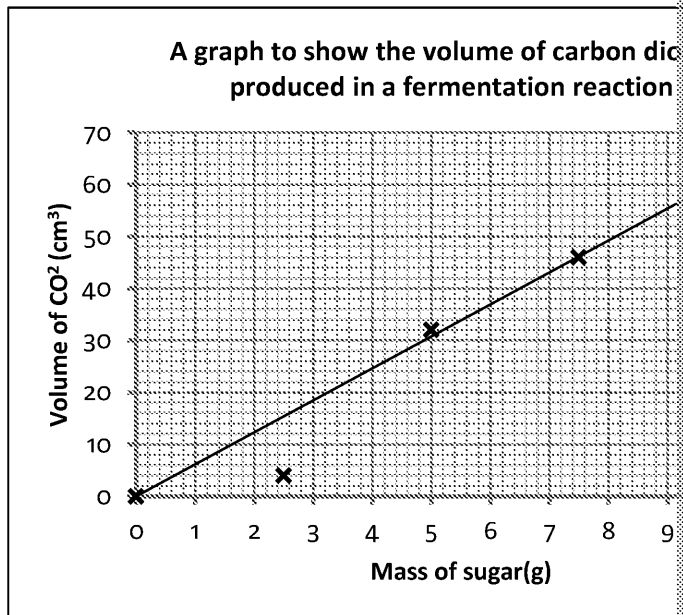
Exam-Style Question – Anomalous Results

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This is done by inverting a measuring cylinder filled with water in a trough or bucket. A delivery tube is placed from a flask containing yeast and sugar into the inverted measuring cylinder. As carbon dioxide is produced, it travels through the delivery tube into the inverted measuring cylinder and displaces the water, forming a gas bubble at the top of the cylinder which can be measured on the cylinder's scale.



Jack investigated the effect of different amounts of sugar on the rate of fermentation. The diagram above shows his apparatus set up and the graph below shows the results.



- Are there any anomalous results?
.....
- If there are anomalous results, can you suggest reasons why these may have occurred?
.....
.....

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Lesson Plan 7: Describing Trends and Patterns in Tabulated Data and Graphs

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Learning Aims

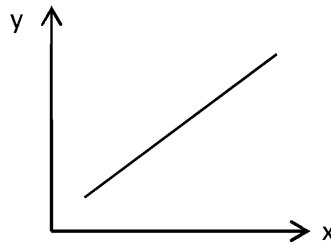
Students should understand:

- how to describe the trends and patterns identified in tabulated data
- directly and indirectly proportional
- positive and negative correlation
- quantitative relationships

Key words: Trends and patterns in data, directly proportional, indirectly proportional, correlation, negative correlation, quantitative relationships

Starter

Draw the following graph on the board. Ask students to describe what the graph shows to x and y values using the words 'increasing' and 'decreasing.'



Main

1. Explain how an explanation of results can be aided by identifying trends.
2. Explain each type of trend in turn – direct proportion, indirect proportion and negative correlation.
3. Ask students to attempt the Recap Questions in the pack.
4. Go over answers to the Recap Questions as a class.
5. Ask students to work in pairs to attempt the Exam-Style Question.
6. Go over the answer to the Exam-Style Question as a class.

Plenary

Write down the following definitions on the board, ask students to identify the trend describing:

- a) two sets of values increasing by the same proportion *Answer*
- b) as one set of values increases so does the other *Answer*
- c) as one set of values increases, the other decreases *Answer*

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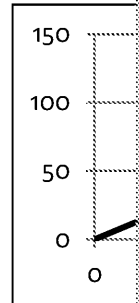


Describing Trends and Pattern

Graphs allow you to describe what your results mean; there are a number of different trends you might notice in your data once you've drawn a graph. These are explained below.

Directly Proportional

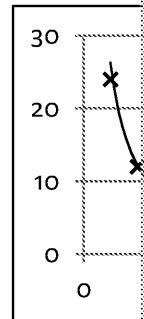
As one quantity increases, a corresponding quantity increases by the same percentage (proportion). So, for example, if you double one quantity, the other one doubles also.



Indirectly Proportional

As one value increases, a corresponding value decreases by the same proportion. For example, as the y value doubles, the x value halves.

For example, if you were climbing a mountain, the higher you go (the higher the altitude) the lower the temperature.



Positive Correlation

As one set of values increases so too does the other set of values. This can be seen in the graph below: as the y value increases, so too does the x value. An example of positive correlation is seen when investigating the effect of light on the rate of photosynthesis, as light intensity increases the rate of photosynthesis also increases.

Negative Correlation

As one set of values increases, the other set of values decreases. In this graph the y value is decreasing as the x value is increasing. An example of negative correlation in Science is, as the concentration of an antibiotic in the body increases, the number of bacteria in the body decreases.

Quantitative Relationships

There are many other types of numerical relationship that can be present in data relationships. Exponential relationships are those in which values start off very slowly and then increase at a faster and faster rate.

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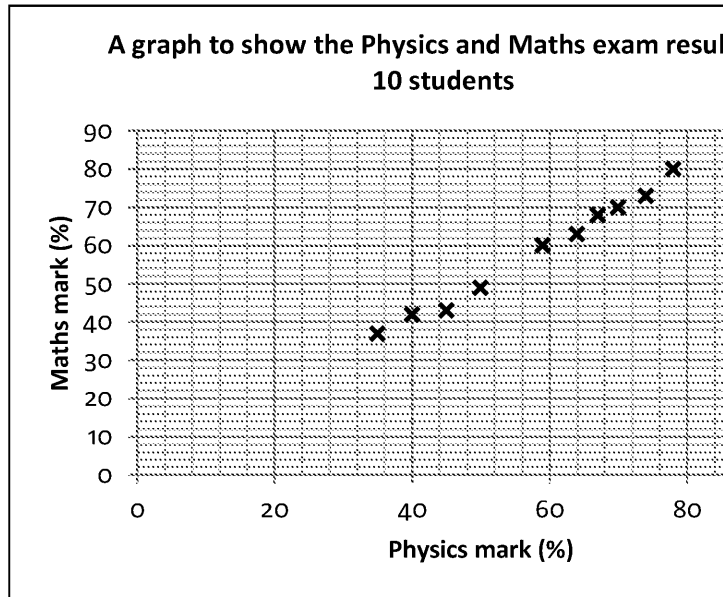
Recap Questions – Trends and Patterns in Graphs

1. Copy and complete the following passage using the words below:

indirect negative patterns graph

When you have drawn a _____ you may notice trends or _____ number of possible trends that your data may show including _____ correlation and direct and _____ proportion.

2. Comment on the relationship shown in the data presented in the graph results of 10 students who study Physics and Maths.



3. The data below represents the weight loss of a person on calorie-restriction.

Week	Weight (kg)
1	80
2	76
3	74
4	69
5	65
6	61
7	58
8	55

Represent the data in the form of a **scatter plot** and draw a line of best fit.

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Exam-Style Questions – Trends and Patterns in Graphs

Amy has been investigating the effects of different concentrations of alcohol on the heart rate of *Daphnia* (water fleas).

Her results are shown in the table below.

Alcohol (%)	Heart rate (bpm)			
	1	2	3	4
0	126	130	129	127
2	84	86	83	82
4	57	60	57	56
6	42	51	47	49
8	30	40	35	39
10	18	20	19	18

1. Calculate the average (mean) heart rate of the *Daphnia* for each concentration.
2. Draw a graph to illustrate the results she obtained in experiment one. Add a line of best fit.
3. Describe the trend you can see in Amy's results.

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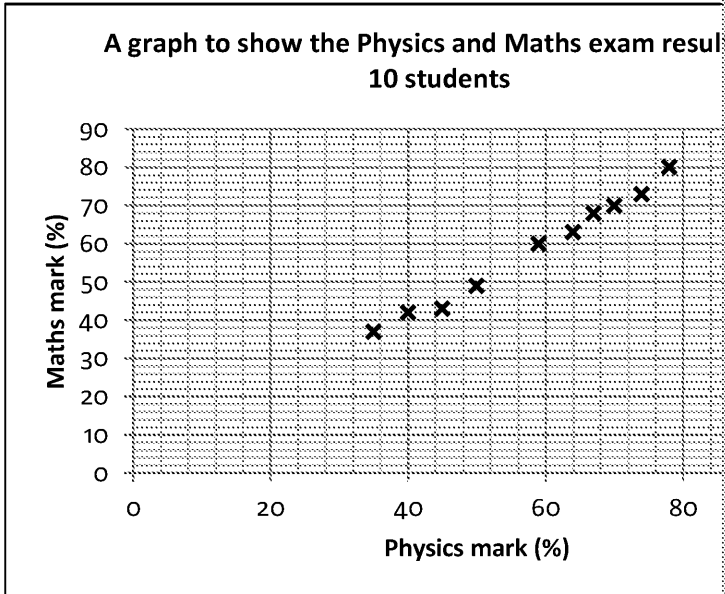
Recap Questions – Trends and Patterns in Graphs

1. Complete the following passage using the words below:

indirect negative patterns graph

When you have drawn a _____ you may notice trends or results. There are a number of possible trends that your data may show and _____ correlation and direct and _____ p

2. Comment on the relationship shown in the data presented in the graph results of 10 students who study Physics and Maths.



.....

.....

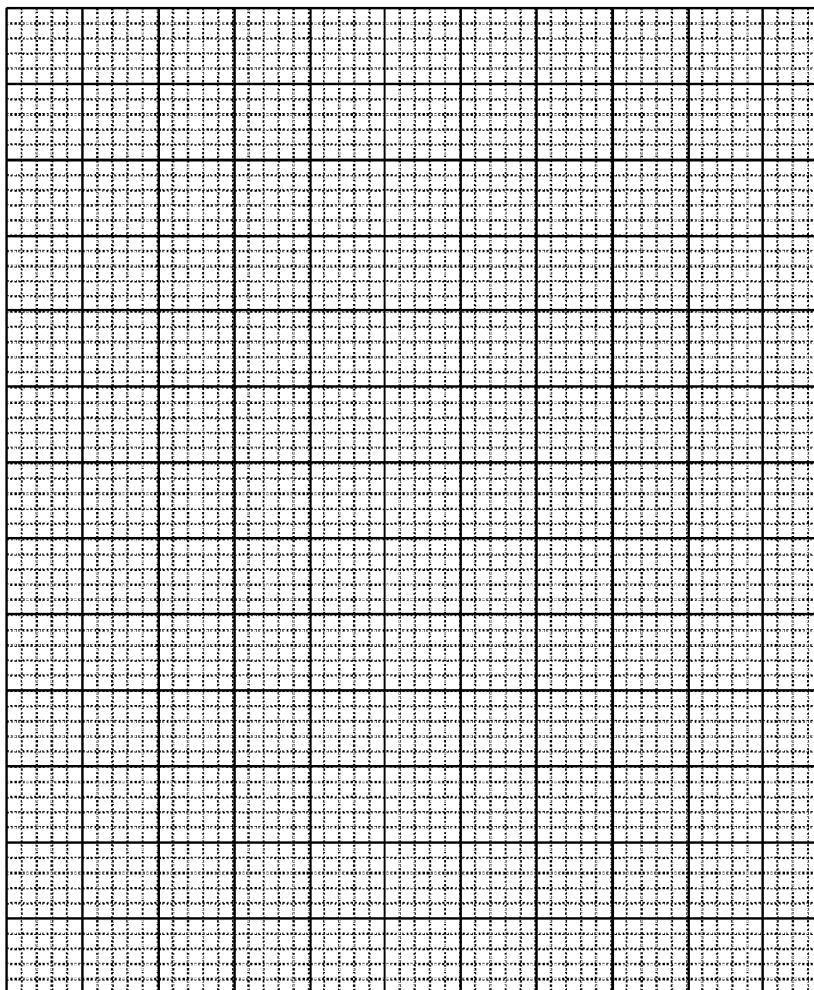
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3. The data below represents the weight loss of a person on calorie-restr

Week	Weight (kg)
1	80
2	76
3	74
4	69
5	65
6	61
7	58
8	55

Represent the data in the form of a **scatter plot** and draw a line of bes



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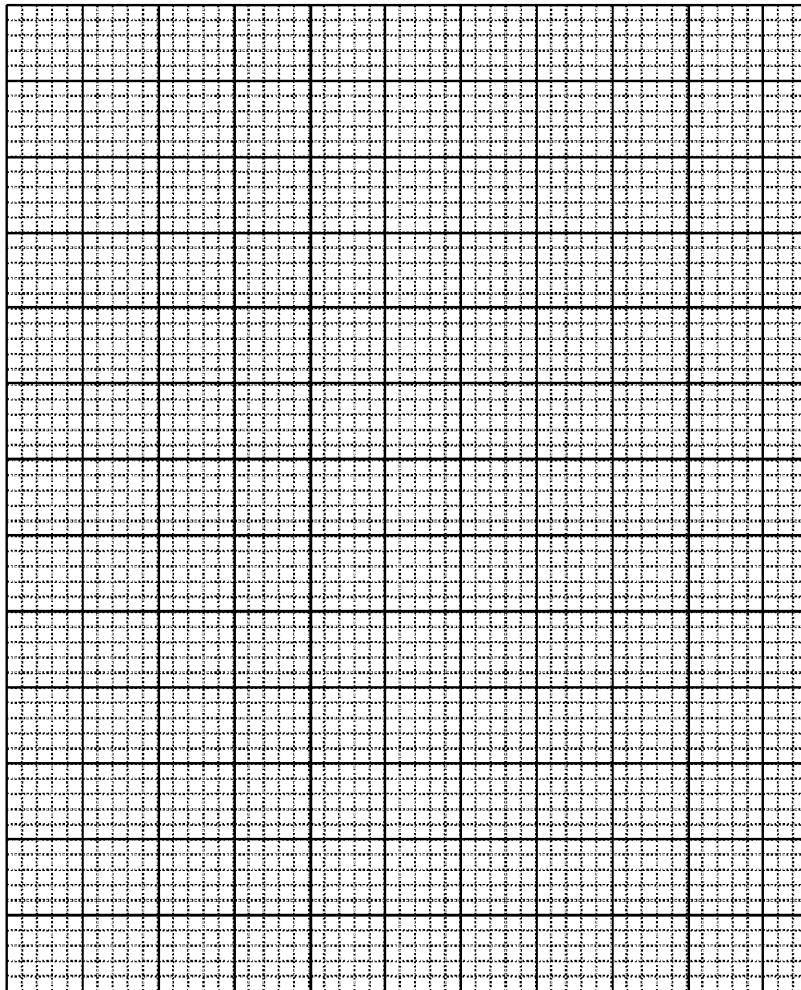


Exam-Style Questions – Trends and Patterns in Graphs

Amy has been investigating the effects of different concentrations of alcohol on the heart rate of *Daphnia* (water fleas). Her results are shown in table below.

Alcohol (%)	Heart rate (bpm)				Av
	1	2	3	4	
0	126	130	129	127	
2	84	86	83	82	
4	57	60	57	56	
6	42	51	47	49	
8	30	40	35	39	
10	18	20	19	18	

- Calculate the average (mean) heart rate of the *Daphnia* for each concentration in the table above with these average (mean) heart rate values.
- Draw a graph to illustrate the results she obtained in experiment one. Use a best fit.



- Describe the trend you can see in Amy's results.

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Lesson Plan 8: Analyse Evidence to Draw

Learning Aims

Students should understand:

- how to analyse evidence to draw a conclusion
- how to comment on the extent to which the evidence supports the co

Key words: Conclusions







Starter

Revise previous lesson. Copy the following passage onto the board and as

An anomalous result is a result that does not fit the _____ of the rest
often the result of an _____ in the experimental process. Drawing a _____
_____ can help to identify anomalous results more easily.

Answers: pattern, results, error, graph, line of best fit.

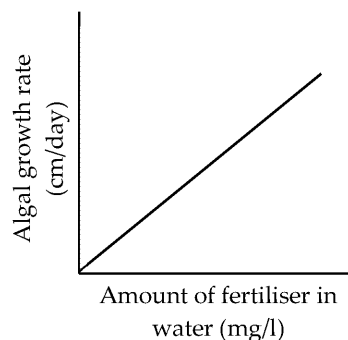
Main

1.  Go over the starter exercise.
2.  Explain what a conclusion is and give examples.
3.  Ask students to attempt the Questions in the pack.
4.  Go over the answers to the Questions.
5.  Ask students to attempt the Exam-Style Question.
6.  Go over the answer to the exam-style question.

Plenary

Draw the following sketch graph on the board. Ask students to write a con
evidence in the graph on how the amount of fertiliser in water affects the r

A graph to show the growth rate of algae



Students should conclude that, as the amount of fertiliser in the water incr
also increases. This is because fertiliser contains the nutrients that algae re

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Conclusions

A conclusion is a summary of what you found out and what your results show, based on an experiment.

A conclusion is the point at which you decide whether your results support your hypothesis or whether they lead to another hypothesis.

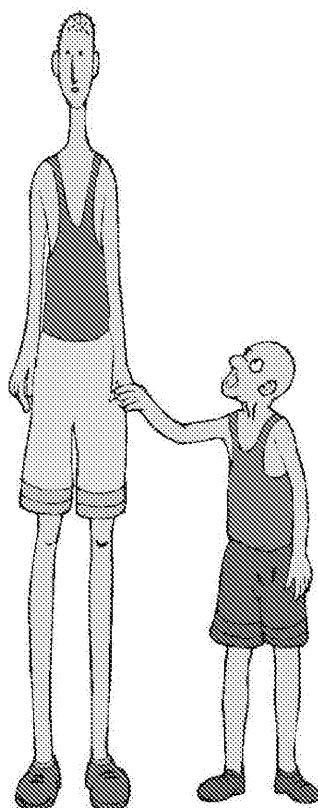
You should comment on the extent to which your data support your conclusion, and to explain your results.

You might conclude that there is a link between the variables you investigated. If one variable changes, the other changes. Consider whether the two are scientifically linked. You might conclude that one variable seems to have brought about a change in the other, the two are not related, or the two are not linked.

For example

If you carried out an experiment on the effect of temperature on rates of reaction, you would find that as temperature increases, the rate of the reaction increases. These variables are linked. A temperature increase **caused** the increase in the rate of reaction.

If you were studying the relationship between heights and weights of individuals, you would collect data that draws you to conclude that as height increases so does weight. Being tall makes you heavier. For example a short overweight person could weigh more than a tall underweight person. So in this example although there is correlation, the two variables are not **linked**.



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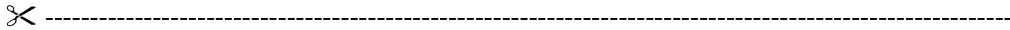


Recap Question – Conclusions

Copy the following passage into your books and fill in the gaps using the

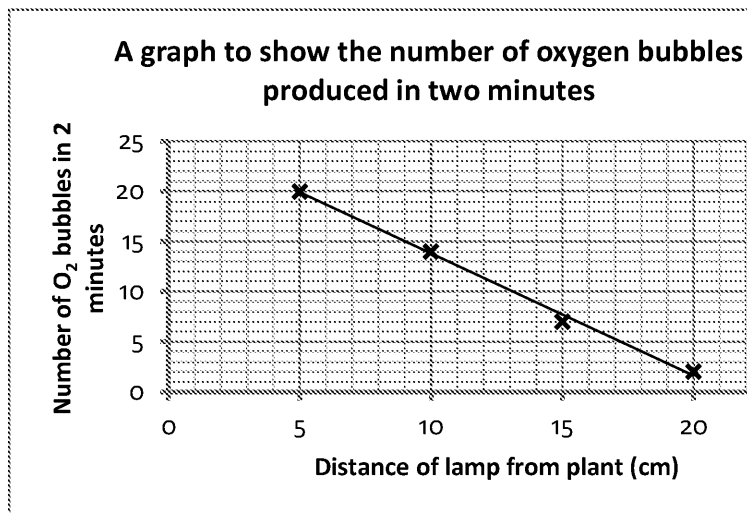
scientific knowledge support summ

A conclusion is a _____ of what you found out in your experiment. You _____ to explain your results and ultimately decide whether your results support your hypothesis or not.



Exam-Style Question – Conclusions

Sarah is investigating the effect of light on the rate of photosynthesis in pondweed. The rate of photosynthesis is represented by the number of oxygen bubbles given off. The further away the pondweed photosynthesises the more oxygen it produces. Look at the graph below and draw a conclusion.



Sarah's conclusion: *"The closer the lamp to the plant the slower the rate of photosynthesis."*

Do you agree with Sarah's conclusion based on the evidence presented in the graph? Can you explain your conclusion using your scientific knowledge?

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Recap Question – Conclusions

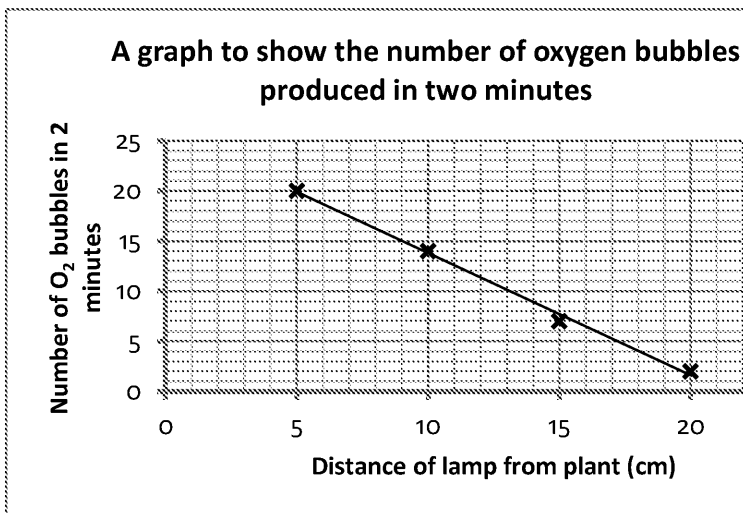
Fill in the gaps in the following passage using the words below:

scientific support summary knowledge

A conclusion is a _____ of what you found out in your experiment. _____ to explain your results and ultimately _____ your hypothesis or not.

Exam-Style Question – Conclusions

Sarah is investigating the effect of light on the rate of photosynthesis in pondweed. The rate of photosynthesis is represented by the number of oxygen bubbles given off. The further away the pondweed is from the lamp, the slower it photosynthesises the more oxygen it produces. Look at the graph below and draw a conclusion.



Sarah's conclusion: *"The closer the lamp to the plant the slower the rate of photosynthesis is."*

Do you agree with Sarah's conclusion based on the evidence presented in the graph? Can you explain your conclusion using your scientific knowledge?

.....

.....

.....

.....

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Lesson Plan 9: Evaluating Evidence and Inves

Learning Aims

Students should understand:

- how to draw inferences from a conclusion
- how to comment on the extent to which the evidence supports the co
- how to comment on the extent to which the hypothesis is supported
- how to evaluate the method, suggesting improvements or ways of e support the hypothesis further

Key words: evaluation, improvements, extending investigations





Starter

Recap the previous lesson on conclusions with the class. Ask students: 'What is a conclusion?'

Answers should include:

- *a summary of what you found out in your experiment*
- *an explanation of results based upon scientific knowledge*
- *a decision on whether your results support your conclusion or not*
- *comments on whether the variables investigated were scientifically linked or*

Main

1.  Describe the key features of an evaluation:
 - comments on the strengths and weaknesses of the experiment
 - explanation of what the conclusion shows using relevant science
 - comments on the extent to which the evidence collected supports the conclusion
 - comments on the extent to which the evidence collected supports the hypothesis
 - includes reference to other evidence that agrees with findings, such as a classmate's results, secondary data in books and on the Internet
 - suggests extensions to investigations or further experiments
2.  Draw students' attention to the 'Did you know?' box and explain the importance of communication through communication of experimental results. You might like to show examples of scientific journals.
3.  Ask students to attempt the Questions in the pack.
4.  Go over the answers to the Question as a class.

Plenary

Give each student a Post-it note and ask them to write down what they learnt from their evaluations.

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Evaluations

An evaluation forms the final part of a scientific investigation. In an evaluation you show what your conclusion shows. You should try to explain your conclusion using relevant scientific knowledge.

You should then comment on how well you think your procedure worked. You should comment on the **strengths and weaknesses** of your method and suggest ways that you might improve the accuracy and reliability of results.

Accuracy

Accurate measurements are those that are close to the true value. The true value would be obtained if a quantity could be measured without any errors.

Precision of measurement

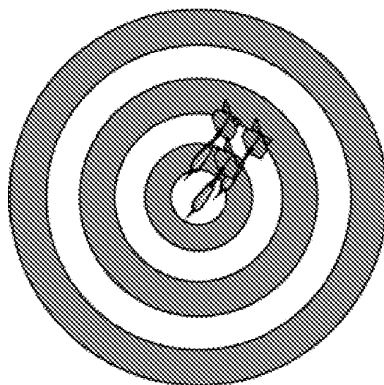
The smallest change that an instrument can measure. It is determined by the limit of the instrument being used, e.g. a 3 cm³ pipette is more precise than a 250 cm³ beaker.

Precision of results

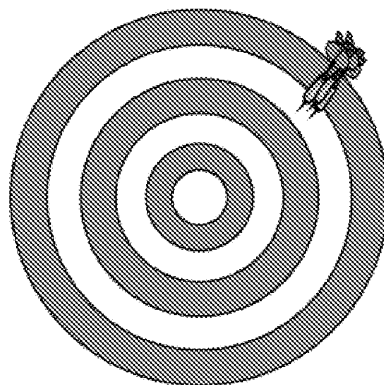
Small range of values within results, e.g. 2.4, 2.3, 2.1, would be precise as it has a small range. Results that would not be precise as the range is proportionally much larger.

Reliability

Results are reliable if there is little variation between values obtained upon repeated measurements.



**High accuracy
but low precision**



**High precision
but low accuracy**



Task: Try drawing a similar diagram showing low accuracy and low precision.

Comment on what went well and what didn't. Even if you think an experiment was successful, there will still be things you can do to make it better and ways of collecting more reliable evidence. Suggest possible improvements to your method. The improvements you make should be based on what went wrong in your experiment or identifying areas where accuracy or precision could be improved.

When you've considered the strengths and weaknesses of your experiment, comment on the evidence you collected supports your conclusion. If you have done many repeats and a precise set of readings, then you may have enough evidence to support your conclusion. If the results are imprecise, have not been repeated or do not show much of a change then you may not have enough evidence to draw a reliable conclusion.

Did you
Compare
part
When
investigating
the rate
by plotting
graphs
are you
journal
are you
Journal
who
the journal
scientist
program
know

Discussing evidence

You should also comment on the **extent to which the hypothesis is supported by the evidence**. Once again, if you have done many repeats and those repeats have shown a precise set of readings and your results seem to match your hypothesis then you may have enough evidence to support your hypothesis. If your results are imprecise, have not been repeated or do not show much of a change then you may not have enough data on which to draw a reliable conclusion to support the hypothesis. Remember, a hypothesis is never proven; it can only be **supported** by the data you collected.

Also **research** whether there is any other evidence that agrees with yours – compare your results with your classmates, also search in books and on the Internet for secondary data that supports your findings. In this part of an evaluation, you could mention research carried out by other scientists.

Drawing Inferences

You should also try to **draw inferences** from your conclusion, i.e. if one thing is true then another thing may be true, e.g. If red cars are in twice as many accidents as white cars, you could infer that drivers of red cars drive more dangerously than drivers of white cars. You should take care when making inferences that you don't make assumptions that aren't backed up with evidence.

For example

It was once widely reported that vicars who kept their churches unlocked at night were robbed more frequently than those who locked their churches. Many people made the inference that vicars who kept their churches unlocked to reduce the number of robberies. Whilst this seems reasonable, if the facts at hand, it does not take into account why the vicars had locked their churches. The main reason was that they were located in cities with high crime rates, whilst churches in low crime areas with low crime rates. This is also an example of an associative relationship. Churches in high crime areas keep their doors locked *and* get robbed more frequently *because* they lock their doors.

Furthermore, try to explain any anomalous results that arose in the data you collected. Was there a problem in the experimental method, was it due to an error in reading, e.g. you read the wrong value. Avoid blaming others or making comments that make you or your partner sound foolish. 'We didn't take all the results in time as we had to take a recording every minute and we got tired. Next time we will only take recording every two minutes' is fine.

Finally, suggest ways that you could **extend your investigation** to support the hypothesis. This could be by changing the independent variable or keeping the independent variable the same and taking more measurements. Note: If you have already repeated it three times and got good results five times is not an acceptable answer. Remember you can only draw a conclusion from a small number of measurements. If you found that when you doubled the concentration of hydrochloric acid from 1 mol dm⁻³ to 2 mol dm⁻³ the rate of reaction also doubled, then you could further your investigation to see if this does the same at higher concentrations.

You could also suggest **further experiments** that might provide additional evidence. This could be by using a different method. So again, if you found that when you doubled the concentration of hydrochloric acid from 1 mol dm⁻³ to 2 mol dm⁻³ the rate of reaction also doubled, then you could further your investigation to see the effect of doubling the concentrations of other acids such as sulphuric acid or nitric acid.

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Recap Questions – Evaluations

- 1. What three things should be included in an evaluation?
- 2. An example of an evaluation is given below. What is missing from this evaluation?

“Although my experimental method worked well, if I was to repeat this investigation again I would use a balance that measures to two decimal places to increase the precision of my results. I would also repeat the experiment five times to increase the reliability of my results.”

“My data supported my hypothesis and having researched other evidence that also supports my findings.”



Recap Questions – Evaluations

- 1. What three things should be included in an evaluation?
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
- 2. An example of an evaluation is given below. What is missing from this evaluation?

“Although my experimental method worked well, if I was to repeat this investigation again I would use a balance that measures to two decimal places to increase the precision of my results. I would also repeat the experiment five times to increase the reliability of my results.”

“My data supported my hypothesis and having researched other evidence that also supports my findings.”

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Lesson Plans 10–14

Learning Aims

In the context of their investigations, students should:

- Produce a good plan:
 - a) identify relevant equipment and give reasons for these choices
 - b) identify risks that are relevant to the method and describe how they will be managed (risk assessment)
 - c) identify appropriate variables (dependent and independent) and describe how they will be controlled
 - d) give a suitable range and number of measurements and explain why these were chosen
 - e) outline a logically ordered method appropriate to a given hypothesis
- Provide a hypothesis based on relevant scientific ideas.
- Tabulate data in a clear, logical way.
- Identify anomalous results in tabulated data.
- Identify approaches to deal with anomalous results in tabulated data.
- Carry out appropriate calculations from tabulated data.
- Demonstrate appropriate use of mathematical skills and application of these to data which a result can be obtained from.
- Draw appropriate graphs from data.
- Identify anomalous results in graphs.
- Draw appropriate conclusions from graphs.
- Obtain data from a graph and calculate a value.
- Obtain data from a graph and perform calculations.
- Explain why anomalies occur.
- Describe the approaches used to deal with anomalies identified in tabulated data.
- Analyse evidence to support a hypothesis.
- Draw inferences from evidence.
- Comment on the extent to which the evidence supports the conclusion.
- Comment on the extent to which the evidence is supported by evidence.
- Evaluate the methods used and suggest ways of extending the investigation and hypothesis further.

Starter

Lesson 10: Ask students to list all of the components of a scientific investigation.
Answer: observation, hypothesis, variables, method, range and number of measurements, experiment, record results, tabulate data, draw graphs, identify anomalous results, conclusion, evaluation

Main

1. Give students a handout of the next page which explains how they should carry out their investigation, talk through this sheet to ensure that all students understand what they need to do.
2. **Lesson 10**
This lesson should be used as a 'planning session'. Students should discuss the list provided and write plans. These should be approved by you and then given to the technician in preparation for next lesson.
3. **Lessons 11 and 12**
Students should carry out their experiments in these lessons.
4. **Lesson 13**
In this lesson, students should do calculations, draw tables and graphs and comment on any trends or patterns they can see in their data.
5. **Lesson 14**
Students should use this lesson to write up their conclusions/evaluation.

Plenary

At the end of lesson 14, ask students to write down three things they understand about their skills through scientific investigation.

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How to Write Up a Scientific Invest

On this sheet you will find information on how to write up your scientific investigation. You should use the skills you have learned in this unit to help you.

Firstly choose your scientific investigation from the list provided by your teacher. When you have chosen, write a plan for your experiment, show it to your teacher and make sure it is ok. Over the next two lessons, you will carry out your experiment. Remember to record your results in an appropriate table.

When you've finished carrying out your experiment, you need to do any necessary calculations, draw graphs of your data and write about any anomalous results and trends and patterns that you can see. Then write a conclusion, stating what you found out.

Finally, write an evaluation of your experiment, comment on what went well and if you did the experiment again and how you could further investigate your hypo



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Page 1: Cover page with your name and title of your inv

Pages 2–5: Plan

- *hypothesis*
- *variables*
- *method*
- *range and number of measurements*
- *risk assessment*

Pages 6–10: Presentation and analysis of data

- *tables of data*
- *graphs*
- *anomalous results*
- *trends and patterns*
- *conclusion*

Pages 11–12: Evaluation

- *what went well / what didn't*
- *what would you improve if you were to repeat the ex*
- *consider whether results support the hypothesis and*
- *suggest further investigations*

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Investigation Topics

Below you will find a list of three different experiments, one Biology-related, one Physics-related.

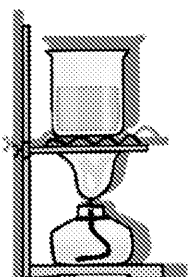
Use the Internet and books to research the science behind the one you are most investigation based upon this experiment.

Biology: Osmosis in Potatoes

Osmosis is the movement of water from an area of high concentration to an area of low concentration through a partially permeable membrane.

Osmosis can be investigated by measuring the change in length of raw potato chips submerged in different concentrations of salt solution for a set period of time.

Chemistry: Energy in Alcohols



Different alcohols contain different amounts of energy, which is released when they are burned. The energy they release is dependent on their chemical structure.

The energy they contain can be calculated by burning the fuel and recording the temperature change in the water. The mass of the water can be recorded before and after the experiment.

The temperature change can then be used in the following equation to calculate the energy in the fuel:

$$\text{Energy J/g} = \text{mass of water (g)} \times 4.2 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ g}^{-1} \times \text{change in temperature (K)}$$

1 cm³ of water is equal to 1 g

Physics: Cooling of Hot Water

You should know about **energy transfer** between objects from your Physics studies. One way to investigate this is to investigate the methods that cause a cup of hot water to cool down.

You could investigate the effect of stirring, blowing on the liquid, leaving a metal spoon in the liquid or inserting a spoon into the liquid and removing it again repeatedly.

Record the temperature change that your chosen method induces over a 10-minute period.

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The Exam

In unit 8 you will be assessed in an externally marked examination.

The exam will be one hour and fifteen minutes long and you will take it under examination conditions.

The exam is worth 50 marks and will include questions on planning, processing, presenting and analysing data, drawing conclusions and evaluating methodology conclusions.

Tips for the Exam

1. *Read the question carefully.*
2. *Make sure that your answer relates to the scenario*
3. *Double check your calculations.*
4. *Remember to include units in tables and in any answers. Even if your calculation is correct, you will lose marks if you do not include the correct units.*
5. *Keep an eye on the time, try to have 5 minutes spare at the end of the exam to check through your answers.*
6. *Finally, in preparation for your exam, the best thing to do is to practise, practise, practise!*

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Answers to Recap and Exam-Style Q

Lesson Plan 1 – Producing a Good Plan for Investigation

Recap Questions

1. Correct order is as follows:
 1. question, 2. plan, 3. perform experiment, 4. present data, 5. conclusion, 6. evaluate
2. A hypothesis is a tentative explanation for an observation that can be tested
3. 25cm³
4. A risk assessment is a recognition of elements of an experimental procedure that could be hazardous and a description of how these will be controlled.
5. Risks can be reduced by wearing protective clothing and paying attention to handling harmful, irritant and flammable substances with care.
6. Students should identify hazards and describe what they did to control them.

Lesson Plan 2 – Producing a Good Plan for Investigation (Continued)

Exam-Style Questions

1. **Hypothesis** – as the distance of the lamp from the beaker increases, the number of oxygen bubbles produced will decrease because as light intensity decreases, the rate of photosynthesis decreases.
Variables – the independent variable is the distance of lamp from the beaker (1 mark), and the dependent variable is the number of oxygen bubbles produced (1 mark).
Number and range of measurements – change the distance of lamp from beaker at regular intervals such as 5 cm, 10 cm, 15 cm, 20 cm (1 mark). Count and record the number of oxygen bubbles produced at an appropriate time scale, e.g. 1 minute (1 mark). Repeat the experiment for each distance (1 mark).
2. The chemicals being used in this experiment are irritants, so:
 - eye protection should be worn (1 mark)
 - chemicals should be handled with care and spillages should be cleared up immediately (1 mark)
 - if chemicals come into contact with skin they should be washed off immediately (1 mark)
 - the experiment should be conducted in a well-ventilated area and ammonia should not be breathed in (1 mark)

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Lesson Plan 3 – Tabulated Data and Calculations

Recap Questions

1. The table should have appropriate speed values , headings and correct units:

Time (s)	Speed (m/s)
0	0
1	10
2	20
3	30
4	40
5	50

2. a) 60.1 s
b) 164 cm
c) 36.8 °C
3. The table should have the correct columns, appropriate headings and correct as

Time (s)	Temperature (°C)		
	Experiment 1	Experiment 2	Average
0	10	12	11
5	12	15	13.5
10	20	22	21
15	30	34	32
20	45	50	47.5

Exam-Style Questions

1. (Total: 8 marks – 1 mark for each correct answer, and 1 mark for each correct working)

Voltage (V)	Current (A)	Resistance (Ω)
1.5	0.5	3
1.5	0.25	6
3.0	1	3
4.5	0.5	9

$$\text{Resistance}(\Omega) = \frac{\text{Voltage (V)}}{\text{Current (A)}} = \frac{1.5}{0.5} = 3\Omega$$

$$\text{Resistance}(\Omega) = \frac{\text{Voltage (V)}}{\text{Current (A)}} = \frac{1.5}{0.25} = 6\Omega$$

$$\text{Resistance}(\Omega) = \frac{\text{Voltage (V)}}{\text{Current (A)}} = \frac{3}{1} = 3\Omega$$

$$\text{Resistance}(\Omega) = \frac{\text{Voltage (V)}}{\text{Current (A)}} = \frac{4.5}{0.5} = 9\Omega$$

2. Fuel A = $100 \times 4.2 \times 71 = 29,820$ J (2 marks)
Fuel B = $100 \times 4.2 \times 50 = 21,000$ J (2 marks)
Fuel C = $100 \times 4.2 \times 44 = 18,480$ J (2 marks)

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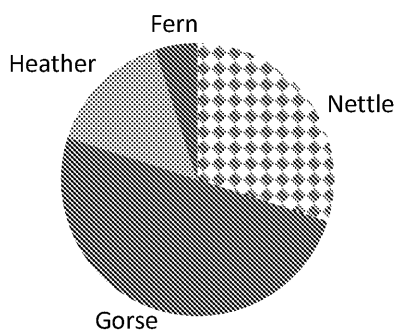
Lesson Plan 4 – Drawing Graphs

Recap Questions

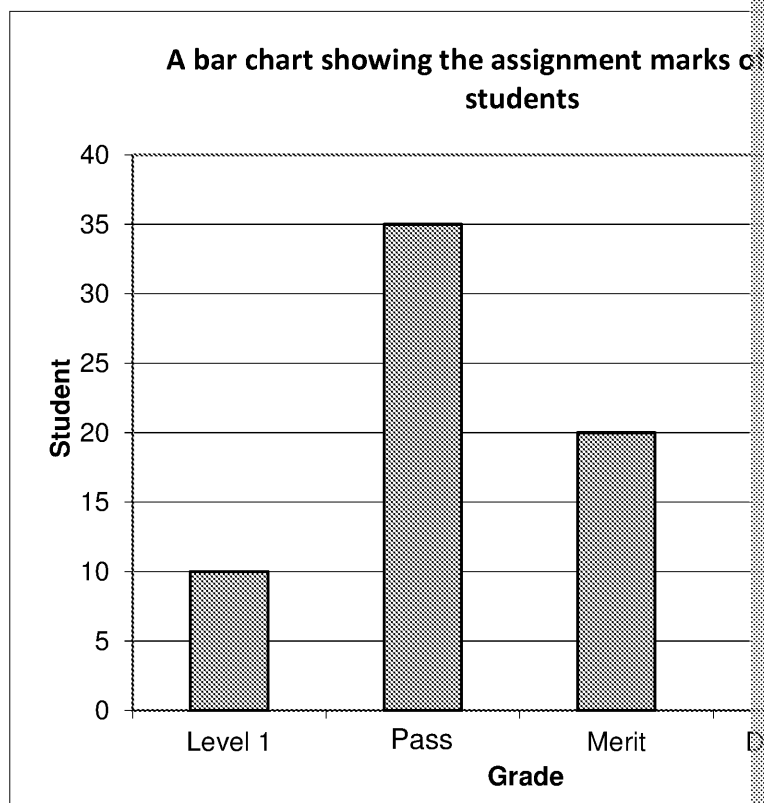
1. Answer should include the correct calculations and a correctly drawn pie chart

Plant	No. of invertebrates	Calculations	Degrees
Nettle	6	$6/20 \times 360$	
Gorse	10	$10/20 \times 360$	
Heather	3	$3/20 \times 360$	
Fern	1	$1/20 \times 360$	

A pie chart to show the number of invertebrates different species of plant



2. Chart should have: labels, an appropriate scale, correctly drawn columns and

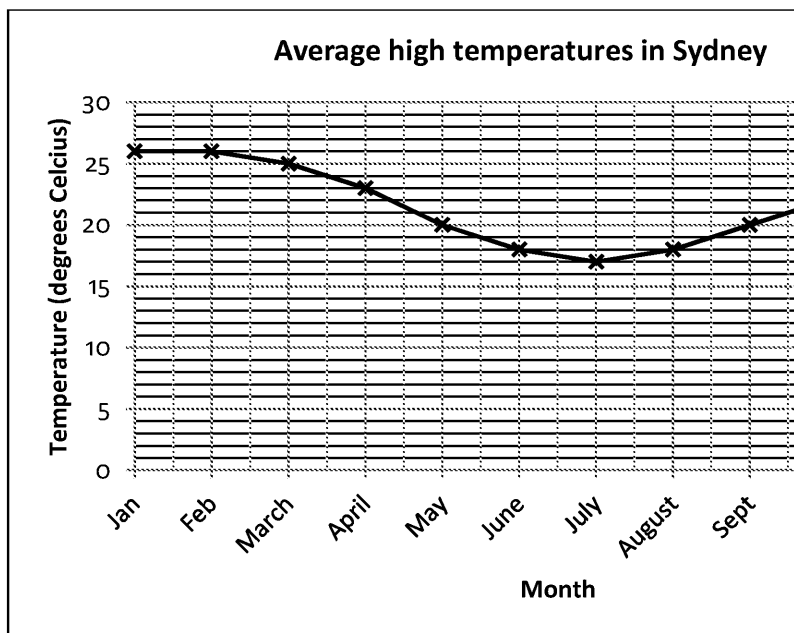


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3. Graph should have: correctly labelled axes, an appropriate title, correctly plotted scale.



Lesson Plan 5 – Obtaining Data from Graphs

Exam-Style Question

change in PE (J) = mass (kg) × acceleration due to gravity (N/kg) × change in height
 change in PE (J) = 100 × 10 × 1.5 = 1,500 J

(Total: 3 marks – 1 for extracting the correct data from the graph, 1 for correct calculation, 1 for correct units)

Lesson Plan 6 – Identifying Anomalous Results and Explaining Why

Recap Question

Height ball was dropped from (cm)	Height ball bounced to (cm)			
	1	2	3	Average
20	17	18	17	17.3
25	20	19	7	15.3
30	23	22	22	22.3
35	26	25	27	26
40	30	32	31	31
45	33	32	33	32.7

Anomalous result is shaded in grey. Average calculation without anomalous result = 15.3

Exam-Style Question

- Anomalous result at 2.5 g of sugar, 4 cm³ carbon dioxide (1 mark)
- May have arisen through:
 - incorrect measurement reading of measuring cylinder
 - incorrect mass of sugar
 - incorrect mass of yeast
 - did not put bung on quickly enough at start of reaction, so some gas escaped and was not measured

(1 mark for any of the above)

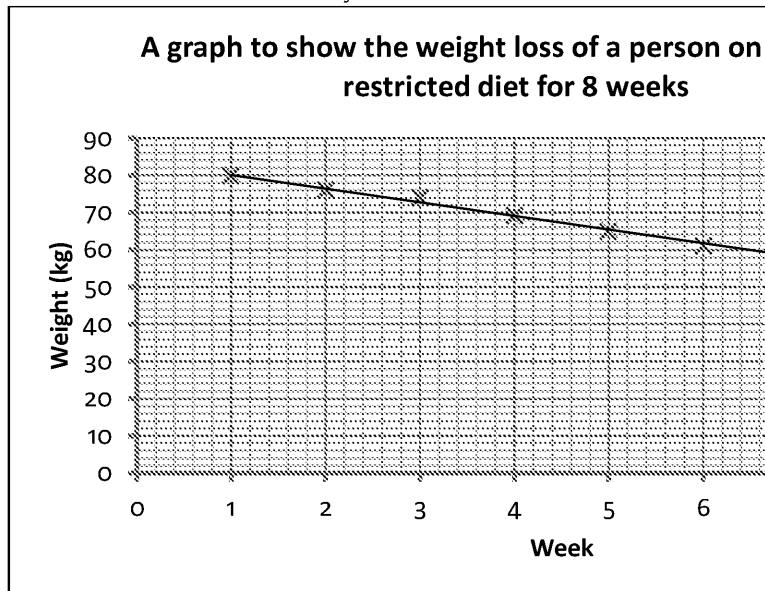
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Lesson Plan 7 – Describing Trends and Patterns Identified in Tables

Recap Questions

- When you have drawn a **graph** you may notice trends or **patterns** in your results. List three possible trends that your data may show including **positive** and **negative** correlation.
- Graph shows positive correlation between data sets. As the Physics marks increase, the Maths marks also increase.
- Graph should include: axes labels with units, appropriate axes scales, an appropriate title, correctly plotted points and a line of best fit drawn correctly.

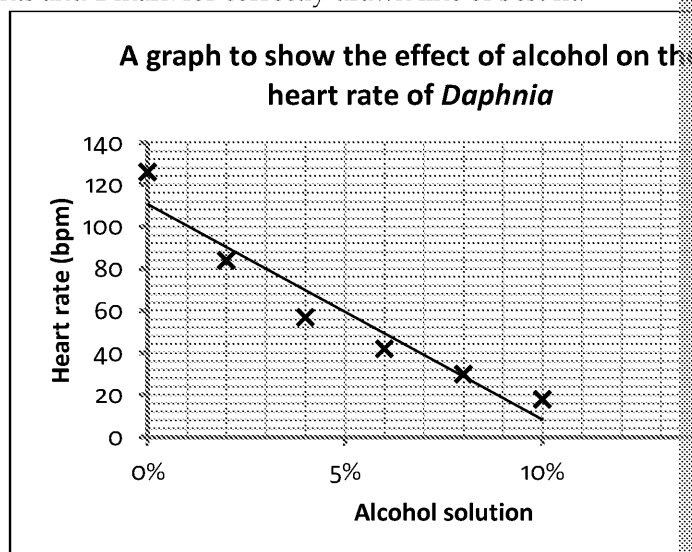


Exam-Style Questions

- (Total: 3 marks – 1 mark for each two correct averages calculated)

Alcohol (%)	Average
0	128
2	83.75
4	57.5
6	47.25
8	36
10	18.75

- 1 mark for graph title, 1 mark for appropriate axes labels, 1 mark for appropriately plotted points and 1 mark for correctly drawn line of best fit.



- Negative correlation (1 mark) – as the concentration of alcohol increases the heart rate decreases (1 mark).

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Lesson Plan 8 – Analyse Evidence to Draw Conclusions

Recap Question

A conclusion is a **summary** of what you found out in your experiment. You should explain your results and ultimately decide whether your results **support** your hypothesis (1 mark for each correctly completed sentence).

Exam-Style Question

Disagree with Sarah's conclusion (1 mark). Conclusion from data is that the closer the lamp is to the plant, the higher the rate of photosynthesis (1 mark). Scientific explanation: The closer the lamp is to the plant, the more light it receives, which increases the rate of photosynthesis (up to a certain point) (1 mark).

Lesson Plan 9 –Evaluating Evidence and Investigative Methods

Recap Questions

1. Evaluation of method, suggested improvements and suggested extensions to methods.
2. There is no mention of extensions to methods or further investigations.

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