

**TASK 1** Comparing statistics  
Using comparatives & superlatives  
Contrastive linkers & adverbial clauses

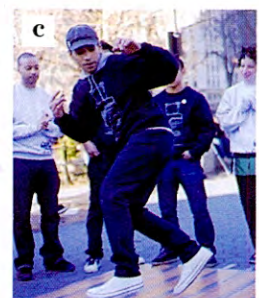
**TASK 2** Vocabulary related to culture  
Forms for hypothesis and concluding statements  
Structuring a problem-solving essay

## Task 1 Comparing statistics

- 1 Look at the definitions of high and low culture below. Then name the different cultural activities/places in the pictures. Which would you label 'high culture' and which would you label 'low culture'?

**High culture** refers to activities, typically arts, considered the highest value by society, especially the elite.

**Low culture** refers to popular activities, considered less valuable by society.

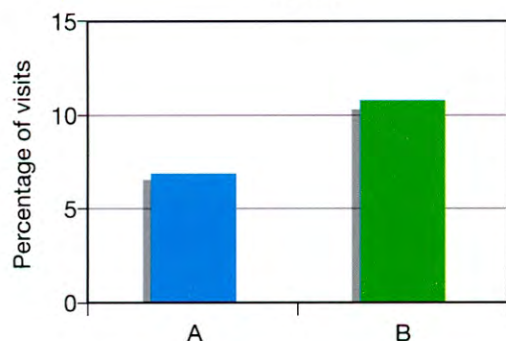


- 2 Which of the activities/places in the pictures do you think are the most popular and why? Which do you prefer?
- 3 How is technology making culture more accessible?
- 4 You are going to read some sentences about the number of men and women going to different types of musical concert in the USA. Would you prefer to go to an opera, a classical music concert or a pop concert?

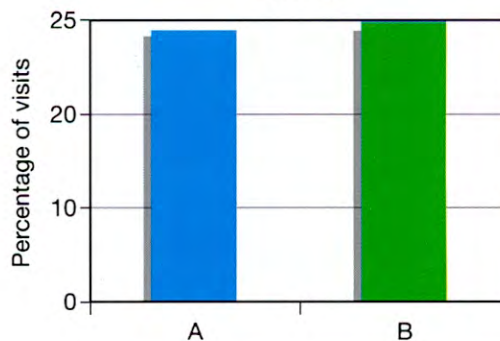
**5** Look at the tables and read sentences a–f below. Complete 1 and 2.

- 1** Label columns A and B *male* or *female* (it is the same for each table).
  - 2** Match tables 1–3 with the correct title i–iii.
- i) pop ii) opera iii) classical music

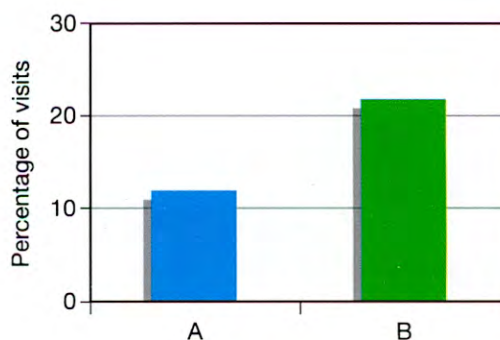
**Table 1**



**Table 2**



**Table 3**



- a** More females than males went to every event.
- b** Significantly more women than men went to a classical music event.
- c** Far fewer people – roughly half the amount – went to see classical music compared to opera.
- d** Slightly less pop music was listened to by men than women.
- e** The most popular music event to visit overall was pop.
- f** Opera concerts were attended by a larger number of people than classical music concerts.

**6** Match the sentences a–f from 5 with a sentence below which has the same meaning.

- 1** The popularity of pop music was nearly as high with men as with women.
- 2** Fewer men than women went to the events shown.
- 3** The least popular event was classical music, though opera was also less popular than pop.
- 4** Many more people – approximately double – went to see opera compared to classical music.
- 5** Far fewer males attended classical music events than females.
- 6** A larger majority of people went to opera concerts compared to classical music.

### Technique

If there is more than one chart or graph to describe, make sure you check the axes or scales as these could be different for each one. Don't assume they are the same.

## 7 Complete the rules with words from the box.

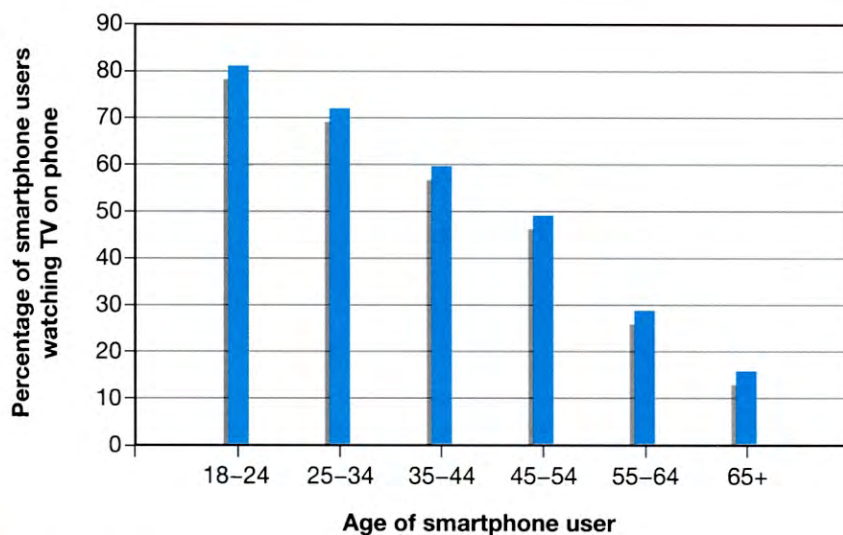
adjective (x2) ■ adjectives (x2) ■ considerably ■ countable nouns ■ far  
noun (x2) ■ significantly ■ similarity ■ slightly ■ substantially  
uncountable nouns

- 1 We can compare \_\_\_\_\_ using *more/fewer* + \_\_\_\_\_ + *than*.
- 2 We can compare \_\_\_\_\_ using *more/less* + \_\_\_\_\_ + *than*.
- 3 We can compare \_\_\_\_\_ of one syllable using \_\_\_\_\_ + *-er/-est*.
- 4 We can compare \_\_\_\_\_ of two syllables or more using *more/less/the most/the least* + \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 We can show \_\_\_\_\_ with *as* + adjective + *as*.
- 6 We can show a small difference by using \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7 We can emphasise a big difference by using \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and *many/much more*.

## 8 Find an example for each rule in 7 in the sentences a–f in 5 and sentences 1–6 in 6.

## 9 The bar chart below shows the percentage of people who use their smartphones to watch television. Write five sentences comparing:

- 1 age group 18–24 to the other groups.
- 2 age groups 35–44 and 55–64.
- 3 age group 65+ to the other groups.
- 4 age groups 18–24 and 25–34.
- 5 age groups 55–64 and 25–34.



## 10 Complete the sentences about the chart with the correct age groups.

Of those who watch TV via their phones, ...

- 1 the vast majority are aged \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 a small minority are aged \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 just under 50 per cent are aged \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 roughly a third are aged \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 just over 70 per cent, nearly three-quarters, are aged \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

## Technique

Lists of comparative forms are difficult to read. Vary this with some language using proportions.

- 11** Read the text below about the chart in 9. Rewrite each underlined phrase 1–7 using a different phrase.

The bar chart illustrates the number of smartphone users in different age groups who watch television on their phones. The <sup>1</sup> largest number of those who watch television this way, <sup>2</sup> about 80 per cent of the total, come from the 18-to-24 age bracket. In contrast, the group <sup>3</sup> with the minority of users is the 65+ age group. <sup>4</sup> Just under 50 per cent of people aged 45 to 54 used their phones to watch TV, around half of this age group, compared to 60 per cent of those in the age group below. This group is <sup>5</sup> twice the size of the 55-to-64-year-old group, whereas the 25 to 34 year olds were <sup>6</sup> considerably greater in number again, totalling <sup>7</sup> slightly above 70 per cent.

- 12** Read the text again and find the three words/phrases that compare and contrast information.

- 1 i \_ c \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
2 c \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ t \_  
3 w \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

- 13** Match 1–3 in 12 with their synonyms a–c.

- a whilst/while  
b conversely/on the other hand  
c in comparison

### Technique

Use concession and contrast linkers to make sure sentences flow. As with other linkers, vary the forms and don't overuse them or the good effect will be lost.

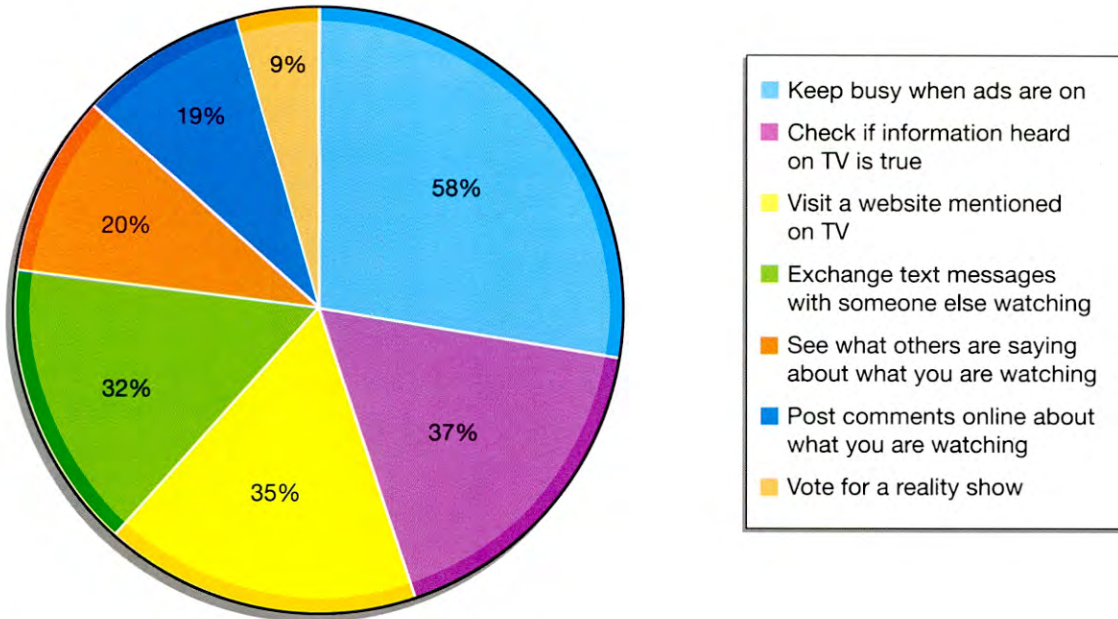
- 14** Add the words from the box to the correct place in the table about adverbial clauses.

although ■ despite ■ however ■ in contrast ■ in spite of ■ nevertheless ■ though  
whereas ■ while ■ whilst

<b>Contrast</b>	Introduces contrasting information	<p>Before contrasting information; followed by subject + verb</p> <p><i>but</i></p> <p>1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____</p> <p>Introduces contrasting information in a new sentence</p> <p>4 _____</p>
<b>Concession</b>	Introduces information that seems to oppose what has come before	<p>Before concession; followed by subject + verb</p> <p>5 _____ 6 _____</p> <p>Before concession; followed by noun or noun phrase</p> <p>7 _____ 8 _____</p> <p>Before concession to open a new sentence with a subject and verb</p> <p>9 _____ 10 _____</p>

- 15 Look at the pie chart showing why people choose to watch TV on a phone. Complete the sentences using words from exercise 14. More than one answer may be possible.

Reasons for using phones to access television



### Technique

Pie charts are useful tools for comparing proportions. Some pie charts divide an item or activity into completely separate parts which total 100 per cent. Other pie charts show how items or activities overlap – in this case, because some items may appear in two categories, the total can reach more than 100 per cent. In either case the proportions will be easy to compare.

- 1 The largest number of phone users, a total of 58 per cent, use their device to keep busy when there are advertisements \_\_\_\_\_ the smallest percentage, only 9 per cent, use phones because they want to vote on interactive television programmes.
- 2 Thirty-five per cent of people watch TV on a phone in order to visit websites that are mentioned on programmes, \_\_\_\_\_ not for reading reviews of the programme itself: only 20 per cent do this.
- 3 Almost 40 per cent of people use a phone to stream TV because they want to check that the information is correct. \_\_\_\_\_, quite a small number use their phone so they can post comments themselves.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ the fact that they are watching a programme, 32 per cent use their phone so they can exchange text messages with someone else who is watching.
- 5 The lowest percentage of people use phones interactively to vote on reality shows. \_\_\_\_\_, most other activities depend upon the phone having access to the internet, e.g. to text or visit websites.

### Technique

Vary the way you express proportions and remember to include specific numbers for some examples but not every item mentioned, so the writing isn't overwhelmed with detail.

## Task 2 Hypothesis and conclusion

- 1 Add words from the box to the correct category in the table below. Some words fit in more than one category.

abstract ■ aisle ■ box office ■ curator ■ curtain ■ exhibit ■ film script ■ gig  
microphones ■ painting ■ play (n) ■ portrait ■ projector ■ screen ■ sculpture ■ speakers  
stage ■ support act ■ usher ■ vocalist

art gallery/museum	cinema	music concert	theatre
<i>abstract</i>			

- 2 Read the statements below. Do you agree or disagree with them? Why?

- 1 Unless theatre is cheaper, the price of tickets will always be a drawback, preventing it from being as popular as other art forms.
- 2 Providing that the programmes are of good quality, TV can offer many benefits to children.
- 3 On condition that they can take entrance fees, museums that charge have an advantage over ones that don't because they have more income to invest.
- 4 We should censor films and TV to ensure that they have some positive educational uses and do not harm the development of children.
- 5 Should the general public continue to download films and music illegally, without paying, there will be difficulties in financing future productions.

- 3 Look at the underlined words in 3. Write a related adjective form for each.

1 a drawback = *problematic/disadvantageous*

- 4 Rewrite each sentence in 3 using *if* and the adjectives from 4.

*If theatre isn't any cheaper, the price of tickets will always be problematic, preventing it from being as popular as other art forms.*

- 5 The sentences in exercise 3 all use hypothesis.

- 1 Underline the phrases which replace *if*.
- 2 Which one creates a negative meaning?

- 6 Look at the following Task 1 question. It is a problem-solving essay question. Do you need to suggest solutions or evaluate them?

*You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.*

**How could we encourage people to visit museums more?**

*Write at least 250 words.*

### Technique

Use modal verbs as well as other grammatical structures in order to show hypothesis or lack of certainty.

## 7 Read the model answer then complete the table below.

Ensuring that visitor numbers to museums are high is an important task at a time when there is a limited amount of money available in the arts. Unless there are sufficient visitors at museums, maintaining them will be problematic and it will be difficult for them to offer interesting exhibitions. In my opinion, this would be a massive drawback in a society that values its cultural heritage. Therefore, it is important to consider how museums might encourage people to visit. Firstly, it would be useful if museums could provide free entry. Some already do but others charge a fee. Of course, this is a helpful source of income for the museums but if we take the view that culture should be available to everyone, it is logical to suggest that the government should fund each museum. If entry was free, this would immediately encourage more people to go to museums and families would be able to take their children, who may become more enthusiastic about museums in the future, too. Of course, a disadvantage of this is the lost income but if funds could be provided centrally, this wouldn't be a problem.

In addition, provided that it doesn't harm any of the exhibits, more interactive exhibitions would encourage younger people to go to museums. If some interactive activities such as screen-based games were available, it would make the museum accessible to younger visitors. For example, visuals of the exhibits in their original setting or interactive quiz questions could work well. A drawback to this is that it might be expensive to manage but it seems to be worth the investment if it encourages more visitors.

Lastly, unless museums advertise, people won't be aware of what they can offer. For this reason, a good advertising campaign reminding people of how interesting museums are will possibly increase numbers. Although some people feel this might attract people with the wrong attitude or expectations and create noisy crowds within the museum, it is unlikely numbers will grow to the point where they create a hindrance.

In conclusion, museums would benefit from offering up-to-date exhibitions without charging entrance fees and their visitor numbers would increase dramatically.

<b>Suggestion 1</b> <i>Museums provide free entry</i>	Advantage:  Disadvantage:
<b>Suggestion 2</b> _____	Advantage:  Disadvantage:
<b>Suggestion 3</b> _____	Advantage:  Disadvantage:

**Technique**

In a problem-solving essay, you will need to brainstorm solutions before writing. Also consider the disadvantages of each solution so that you can mention these, too, giving a more rounded argument.

## 8 Which word(s) introduce each suggestion?

## 9 Do the following phrases add information (a) or conclude the ideas (c)? Write (a) or (c).

- |               |                        |
|---------------|------------------------|
| 1 Furthermore | 4 Moreover             |
| 2 To conclude | 5 As well as this/that |
| 3 In summary  |                        |

**Technique**

Note down a list of the linkers that you could use in your writing. When you edit, check that you have included a variety of these.

## 10 Underline the sentences that hypothesize. How many different patterns are there?

11 Look at the following examples from the text in 8 and underline the modal verbs. How would the meaning change if the verbs were changed to *will* or *could*?

In my opinion this would be a massive drawback.

Therefore it is important to consider how museums might encourage people to visit.

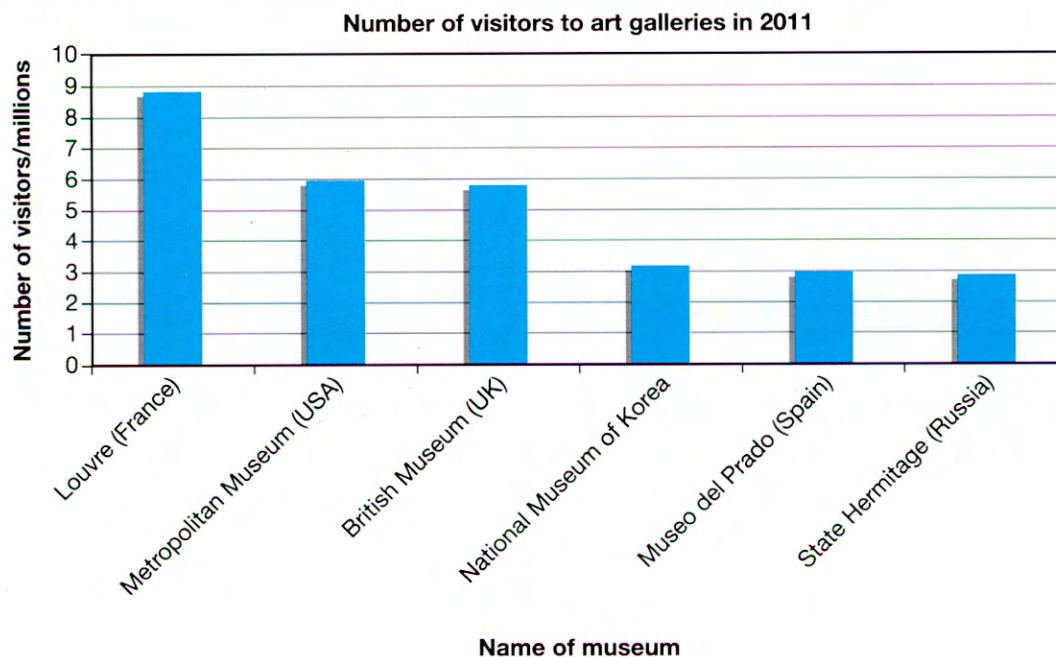
## Practice Test 4

### Task 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

**The graph shows the number of visitors to a variety of art galleries in 2011. Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.**

Write at least 150 words.



### Task 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

**How should we ensure that television is a positive influence in the life of children?**

Write at least 250 words.