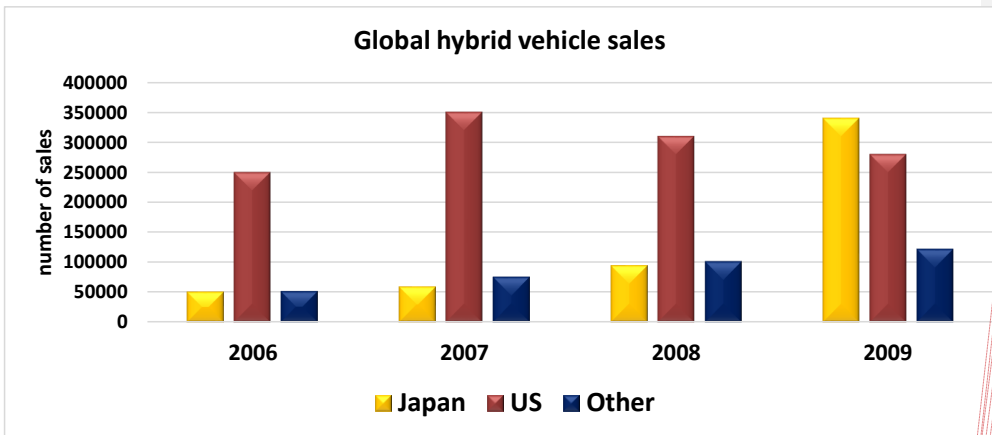


## IELTS Academic Writing Task 1: Sample Feedback

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The diagram below shows the number of sales of hybrid vehicles in three different locations from 2006 to 2009.

Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant. Write at least 150 words.



The bar chart provides source of the world sales of hybrid vehicles, based on countries and total sales in thousands from 2006 to 2009. Overall, it is apparent from the data that the US had the highest in sales of hybrid vehicles and it fluctuated throughout a period except in 2009 which was overtaken by Japan. The total world sales of Japan and other countries were increased more than 2 times.

To begin with according to the data, in 2006 the greatest sale of the hybrid vehicle was the US, it stood at 250,000, then the sales minimally increased to 350,000 after a year which gained it's highest selling point. However, there was a slight decrease of sales in 2008 by 40,000, then it continuously dropped to 290 thousand on the last period.

In contrary, sale of hybrid vehicles in Japan in 2006 was around 50,000. Then over the two years, the number of sales doubled and it was a hundred thousand lower than USA. In addition in 2009, the total sales, in Japan rose dramatically 3 times higher than previous years and it passed over US sale to around 325,000. Moreover, in other countries from the beginning to the end of the period, the data showed in the chart that it grew steadily from 50,000 to almost 120,000.

219 words

Commented [A1]: Missing article "the source"

Commented [A2]: See task report below - INTRODUCTION

Commented [A3]: . See task report below - LEXIS

Commented [A4]: Incorrect article use: Should be "the"

Commented [A5]: Incorrect use of passive. Use active here "increased"

Commented [A6]: See task report below - TASK ACHIEVEMENT

Commented [A7]: See task report below - LEXIS

Commented [A8]: Add a comma between "2006" and "the greatest..." ("in 2006" is an adverbial phrase)

Commented [A9]: Change to "sales"

Commented [A10]: delete "the" - hybrid vehicles

Commented [A11]: were + "to"

Commented [A12]: See task report - LEXIS

Commented [A13]: Add a comma between "year" and "which" because "which ..." is a non-defining relative clause.

Commented [A14]: change to "was"

Commented [A15]: should use the possessive pronoun "its", not "it is", a subject and a verb"

Commented [A16]: change to "in"

Commented [A17]: change to "In contrast" or "On the contrary"

Commented [A18]: change to "sales"

Commented [A19]: ad a comma between "addition" and "in", "In addition" is a linking phrase, while "in 2009" is an adverbial phrase.

Commented [A20]: Remove the comma between "sales" and "in"

Commented [A21]: See task report - LEXIS

Commented [A22]: Add a comma between "dramatically" and "3 times" ("3 times higher..." is not a part of the main sentence, it's an adjective phrase

Commented [A23]: Add a comma between "years" and "and", as the clause from "and" is additional information.

Commented [A24]: change to "overtook US sales"

Commented [A25]: see task report below - TASK ACHIEVEMENT

## Academic Writing Task 1: Sample Report

### Task Achievement: Band 5

**Overall comment:** You generally addressed the task – answered the question - but you focused too much on describing the US data (most of paragraph 2) and only mentioned other countries in the final sentence. Your answer is too long – 219 – words. This is mainly because your first paragraph is too long (71 words) This could mean you spend more than 20 minutes on the task which will leave you less time for task 2. You have included data to support your descriptions.

### Suggestions

The introduction (first sentence) is well written – some good paraphrasing but don't copy parts of sentences from the task description. For example, “*over a 4-year period*” instead of “*from 2006 to 2009*”

The overview is the main aspect you need to address. It is too long and contains information more suitable for the main paragraphs such “*The total world sales of Japan and other countries were increased more than 2 times.*” In the overview, for dynamic charts (trends), describe the main trend from start to finish for the categories (countries) Example: “*Overall, there was an increase in sales in all the places over the stated period of time.*”

In addition, try to avoid listing data for one category; make more comparisons and contrasts.

### Coherence and Cohesion: Band 6

**Overall comment:** Your answer is well organized into clear and separate paragraphs. This is a positive so, keep using this structure. You have used some very good cohesive devices to show contrast and addition “*moreover*”, “*in addition*” etc. There's only one mistake – “*in contrary*” should be “*in contrast*”. You have also made good use of referencing (pronouns) and substitution (synonyms)

**Suggestions:** To hit that band 7 in Coherence and cohesion remember that linking words do not always need to be at the start of the sentence. You can use them within sentences too. Example – “*Moreover, in other countries...*” can be “*In other countries, moreover,*”

### Lexis: Band 5

**Overall comment:** Good use of vocabulary to describe trends “*minimally increased*”, “*rose dramatically*”. *try* to vary these more with combinations of verb + adverb and noun + adjective.

You used some lexical chunks – memorized phrases such as “*it is apparent from the data that*”, “*to begin with according to the data*” – this can have a very negative impact on your Lexis band score. According to the Public Band Descriptors using these memorized phrases will result in an automatic band 4.

**Suggestions:** Vary your lexis when describing trends This will increase your range and therefore your score. Avoid using memorized chunks of language. You should have got a band 6 in Lexis, but the use of these chunks brought down the score.

## Grammar: Band 6

**Overall comment:** Good use of past tenses. You used the correct tenses all the way through your answer. This is a positive. Even though you made occasional mistakes, they did not impede communication. You tried to use more complex sentences which is also a positive.

**Suggestions:** The main areas of grammar you should focus on and study more are...

Active Vs passive. Example, “*were increased*” – should be “*increased*” Using passive shows a higher level (more complex) sentence. Example “*35,000 vehicles were sold in the US in 2007*”

You’ve made quite a few mistakes in the use of articles (a, an, the and no article). You should make studying these a priority.

Study preposition of time and place.

Study punctuation for more complex sentences.

## Overall: Band 5.5

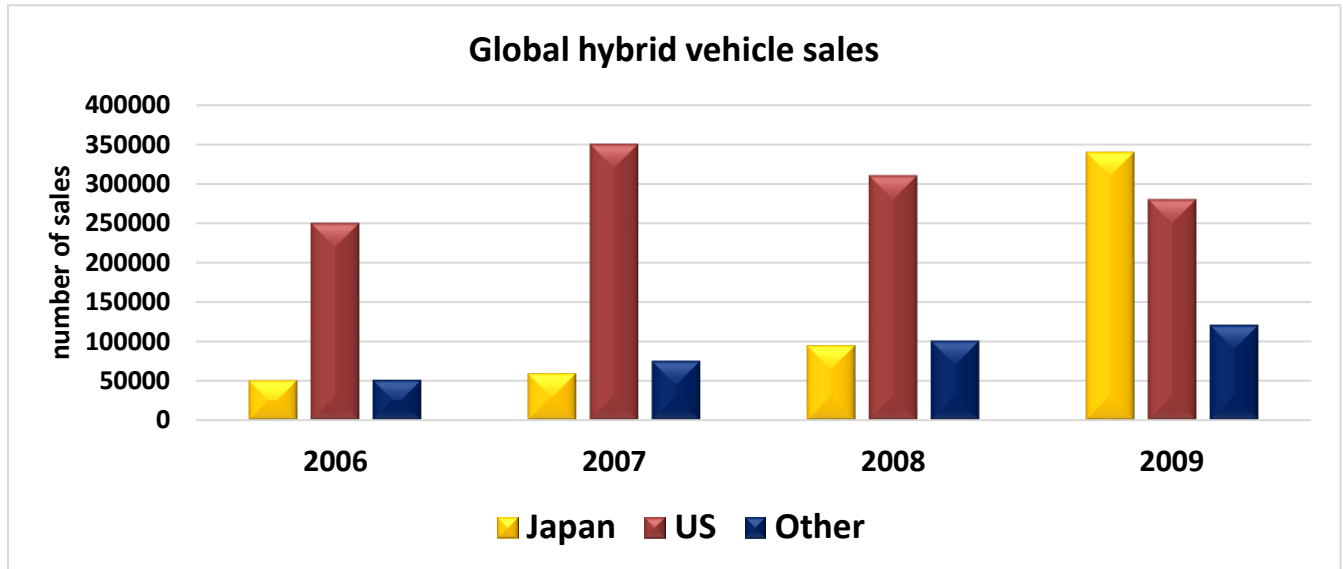
- Aim for 160 to 170 words for task 1.
- keep the overview concise – 1 sentence describing the general trends from start to finish.
- Study the diagram for a few minutes before writing.
- Include all the key features – do not focus too much on one or two.
- Study the grammar points mentioned above.
- Avoid memorized phrases.
- Keep the same 3 paragraph structure.
- Try to use linking words within sentences.

## Sample Answer

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

*The diagram below shows the number of sales of hybrid vehicles in three different locations from 2006 to 2009.*

Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant. Write at least 150 words.



Illustrated in the bar graph is the total number of dual-power vehicles sold worldwide, particularly in America and Japan, as well as other countries, between 2006 and 2009. Overall, there was an increase in sales in all the places, with the US purchasing more of these automobiles throughout most of the period stated.

In 2006, the greatest sales of this vehicle type were to the US, recording 250,000 units purchased, with Japan and the group of other nations having much lower figures of only 50,000 each. In the final year, however, Japan replaced the US when its sales sharply increased to almost 350,000 from 2008. In contrast, that of the US decreased to below 300,000 in the same year after reaching a peak of 350,000 in 2007.

Meanwhile, this number in other regions witnessed a minimal but continuous rise, increasing by approximately 20,000 to just below 30,000 each year. Nevertheless, it remained the least throughout the period, reaching only 120,000 in 2009.

**162 words**

## Additional Resources

Check out the free resources on the Total-IELTS website and YouTube channel.

### Grading:

<https://www.total-ielts.com/ielts-academic-writing-task-1>

### Introduction:

<https://www.total-ielts.com/ielts-academic-writing-task-1-introduction-overview-paraphrase>

<https://youtu.be/scxTbnfLWaE>

### Main Features:

<https://www.total-ielts.com/ielts-academic-writing-task-1-main-features-comparisons>

<https://youtu.be/RBXzneDX63s>

### Sample Answers

<https://www.total-ielts.com/ielts-academic-writing-task-1-sample-answers>

<https://www.total-ielts.com/ielts-blog>

<https://youtu.be/3Rt7yIMdP9A>

<https://youtu.be/gkbGuuGQsi8>

<https://youtu.be/b3UQ29dcSGU>

<https://youtu.be/PXFvohCeYbk>

<https://youtu.be/lcsJgjNrGBY>

<https://youtu.be/mVRd5SXwo4I>

### E-Books

<https://www.total-ielts.com/ielts-ebooks>