Introduction to Graphs

Introduction

A graph is an abstract representation of a set of objects where some pairs of the objects are connected by links.

It is a visual display of some data and data exists in the form of a table.

It makes easier to understand or interpret the data that is being presented.

There are many different types of graphs.

A Bar graph

A bar graph is a graph drawn using rectangular bars to show how large each value is. The bars can be vertical or horizontal.

For example:



Birthdays of Students by Month

DOUBLE BAR GRAPH

A bar graph is also useful for comparing values between groups of items. Such a graph is called a **double bar graph**. These types of bar graphs are known as **clustered bar** graphs.





Graphs are visual representation of data collected. A bar graph is used to show comparison among categories.

A Pie graph (or a circle-graph)

A pie graph is a type of graph that is circular and is cut into sections, like a pie.

Each section often represents some percentage. Sum of all the mentioned percentages in a pie graph is equal to 100%.

For example: The given pie graph represents percentage of students of a school involve in different sports like-Football, cricket, Handball and Swimming.



According to this, 20% of the total students play football, 40% plays Cricket, 10% of the total students play handball and 30% are involved in swimming.



A histogram

A histogram is a kind of bar graph that shows data in intervals. It has adjacent bars over the intervals.

For example: This histogram represents number of students having marks between 0-20, 20-40, 40-60, 60-80 and 80-100.



A jagged line () has been used along horizontal line to indicate that we are not showing numbers between 0 and 120.

A line graph

A line graph is a graph that uses points connected by lines to show data changes as time goes by or as something else happens.

A time-temperature graph is representing variation of temperature of a sick child with time.





In the graph notice that on y axis, there is a gap of 1 square between two consecutive temperatures. So, the scale of y axis is 1 square or 1 unit= $2 \degree F$.

Example: The given graph represents the total runs scored by two batsmen A and B, during each of the ten different matches in the year 2010. Study the graph and answer the following questions.





- 1. What information is given on the two axes?
- 2. Which line shows the runs scored by batsman A?
- 3. Were the run scored by them same in any match in 2010? If so, in which match?
- 4. Among the two batsmen, who is steadier? How do you judge it?

Solution:

- 1. The horizontal axis (or the *x*-axis) indicates the matches played during the year 2010. The vertical axis (or the *y*-axis) shows the total runs scored in each match.
- 2. The dotted line shows the runs scored by Batsman A. (This is already indicated at the top of the graph).
- 3. During the 4th match, both have scored the same number of 60 runs. (This is indicated by the point at which both graphs meet).
- 4. Batsman A has one great "peak" but many deep "valleys". He does not appear to be consistent. B, on the other hand has never scored below a total of 40 runs, even though his highest score is only 100 in comparison to 115 of A. Also A has scored a zero in two matches and in a total of 5 matches he has scored less than 40 runs. Since A has a lot of ups and downs, B is a more consistent and reliable batsman.

Linear Graphs

Location of a point

A linear graph is different from a line graph.

In a linear graph, the set of points on the graph are in an orderly manner.

A linear graph is a graph that consists of a single straight line segment. The Cartesian system was introduced by Rene Descartes.

CARTESIAN SYSTEM



Rene Descartes (1596-1650) introduces Cartesian system.



Rene Descartes (1596-1650)

When we draw a graph we start with two straight lines at right angles to each other.

The horizontal line in graph is called the X-axis of the graph. The vertical line is called the Y-axis of the graph.

Coordinates

Every point is represented by 2 coordinates as (x, y) where x represents the x coordinate and y represents the y coordinate.

For Example: (4, 4) (3, 10) (6, 5)

Here 4, 3, 6 are the x-coordinate and 4, 10, 5 are the y- coordinate. Points are plotted on a graph sheet as shown.





A graph sheet consists of a square grid. The horizontal axis is called x-axis and the vertical axis is called y-axis.

Point (0, 0) is called as Origin.



Some Applications

The graph of a proportional relationship results in a linear graph. A proportional relationship is expressed as an equation containing two variables. An independent variable can have any value.





A dependent variable's value is determined by the independent variable.

If after joining two or more points on a graph a single straight line is drawn then the graph is a 'Linear graph'.

For Example:

In the graph after joining points (2, 6), (3, 5), (5, 3) and (6, 2) we got a straight line.



Hence this represents a Linear Graph.

