Exercise 1

Looking for information at speed

The bar chart below shows the results of a questionnaire to find why native and non-native speakers of English at a university in Australia learn languages. The questionnaire was given to 1,000 students.
As you prepare for IELTS you need to develop your speed in using language and finding information from a graph, chart or diagram. Write down the answers to the questions below about the bar chart as quickly as you can. Remember to write the information accurately.

1. What does the bar chart show? ___________________________________
2. How many students participated in the survey? ______________________
3. Where were the students from? ____________________________________
4. Which of the two groups was more positive about language learning?  __________________
5. Which reason comes top among non-native speakers of English?  __________________
6. What is the percentage? _________________________________________
7. What percentage of native speakers found language learning useful for work?  __________________
8. What percentage of second language speakers found language acquisition useful for work?  __________________
9. Which reason comes top among native speakers?  ____________________
10. What is the percentage? _________________________________________
11. Which reason comes bottom among native speakers?  __________________
12. What is the percentage? _________________________________________
Exercise 2

Write sentences for each piece of information from the chart.

Examples:

1. The bar chart shows the results of a survey.
2. One thousand students took part in the survey.
3. The students were from a university in Australia.

Use the sentences to help you make a continuous text.

Example:

The bar chart shows the results of a survey on the reasons behind learning languages among 1,000 native and non-native speakers of English at a university in Australia.
Exercise 3

Partially jumbled text

In the model answer below, nine parts of the text have been jumbled. Put the words in the right order and write out the whole text.

The bar chart shows the results of a survey on the reasons behind learning languages among 1,000 native and non-native speakers of English at a university in Australia.

The chart striking most the feature of is that those students for mother not English whom their is tongue had a more positive attitude to language learning than native speakers. prospects in is job Improvement mentioned by just over 90% of non-native speakers as an incentive to acquiring languages, for by closely usefulness followed travel and work and importance for studying at 90, 90 and just below 90 respectively. In this group, personal development improvement bottom 70% with comes.

This attitude contrasts acquisition sharply language with to that of native speakers, whose approval was lower than non-native speakers on all accounts. While improvement in job prospects, for example, the attracted with approval giving most 60% it as a reason, this was considerably less than for non-native speakers. Usefulness for work and improvement in personal development next came of at respondents 50%. Only 20% of native speakers, however, think enjoyable is languages learning with only 25% considering it important for studying.

So it is clear that native speakers of English are more negative about learning languages than non-native speakers.
The bar chart shows the results of a survey on the reasons behind learning languages among 1,000 native and non-native speakers of English at a university in Australia.

The 1 __________________ is that those students 2 __________________ had a more positive attitude to language learning than native speakers. 3 ________________ by just over 90% of non-native speakers as an incentive to acquiring languages, 4 ________________ travel and work and importance for studying at 90, 90 and just below 90 respectively. In this group, personal development improvement 5 ________________.

This 6 ________________ of native speakers, whose approval was lower than non-native speakers on all accounts. While improvement in job prospects, for example, 7 ________________ as a reason, this was considerably less than for non-native speakers. Usefulness for work and improvement in personal development 8 _________________. Only 20% of native speakers, however, 9 ________________ with only 25% considering it important for studying.

So it is clear that native speakers of English are more negative about learning languages than non-native speakers.
Exercise 4

More complex jumble

In the model answer below nine parts of the text have been jumbled. Put the words in the right order and write out the whole text.

The bar ¹languages native shows and results the among a of on the reasons learning survey 1,000 behind chart non-native speakers of English at a university in Australia.

The ²chart striking most that those the feature of is students ³for positive had mother not English whom learning their is tongue a more attitude to language than native speakers. ⁴prospects by in is job over improvement 90% mentioned just of non-native speakers as an incentive to acquiring languages, ⁵for by and closely travel work and usefulness followed importance for studying at 90, 90 and just below 90 respectively. In this group, personal ⁶bottom development 70% with improvement comes.

⁷this contrasts attitude native sharply language with to acquisition that of speakers, whose approval was lower than non-native speakers on all accounts. While improvement in job prospects, for example, ⁸the attracted a with as it approval giving most 60% reason, this was considerably less than for non-native speakers. Usefulness for work and ⁹personal in improvement next development came of at respondents 50%. Only 20% of native speakers, however, ¹⁰think enjoyable considering is languages learning with it only 25% important for studying.

So it is clear that native speakers of English are more negative about learning languages than non-native speakers.
Exercise 5

Find the following words in the text below relating to the chart in Exercise 1. What other words or phrases can replace them.

1. striking
2. feature
3. mentioned
4. just over
5. comes
6. however
7. acquiring
8. on all accounts
9. considerably
10. while
11. respondents

The bar chart shows the results of a survey on the reasons behind learning languages among 1,000 native and non-native English speakers at a university in Australia.

The most striking feature of the chart is that those students for whom English is not their mother tongue had a more positive attitude to language learning than native speakers. Improvement in job prospects is mentioned by just over 90% of non-native speakers as an incentive to acquiring languages, followed closely by usefulness for travel and work and importance for studying at 90, 90 and just below 90 respectively. In this group, personal development improvement comes bottom with 70%.

This attitude to language acquisition contrasts sharply with that of native speakers, whose approval was lower than non-native speakers on all accounts. While improvement in job prospects, for example, attracted the most approval with 60% giving it as a reason, this was considerably less than for non-native speakers. Usefulness for work and improvement in personal development came next at 50% of respondents. Only 20% of native speakers,
however, think learning languages is enjoyable with only 25% thinking it important for studying.

So it is clear that native speakers of English are more negative about learning languages than non-native speakers.
Exercise 6

In the text below replace the words and phrases with synonyms. There will be more than one answer in each case.

The bar chart provides information about the results of a survey on the reasons behind learning languages among 1,000 native and non-native English speakers at a university in Australia.

The most noticeable characteristic of the chart is that those students for whom English is not their mother tongue had a more positive attitude to language learning than native speakers. Improvement in job prospects is quoted by just over 90% of non-native speakers as a/an reason for learning languages, followed closely by usefulness for travel and work and importance for studying at 90, 90 and almost 90 respectively. In this category, personal development improvement is last with 70%.

This attitude to language acquisition is the opposite of native speakers, whose approval was lower than non-native speakers for all items. Whereas improvement in job prospects, for example, attracted the most approval with 60% giving it as a reason, this was significantly less than for non-native speakers. Usefulness for work and improvement in personal development came next at 50% of those sampled. Only 20% of native speakers, however, think learning languages is enjoyable with only 25% regarding it important for studying.

So it is clear that native speakers of English are more negative about learning languages than non-native speakers.
Exercise 7

In the text below some of the words and phrases underlined are not quite right. Decide which ones are wrong and replace them with a word or phrase that fits. There will be more than one answer in each case.

The bar chart provides informations about the results of a survey on the reasons behind learning languages among 1,000 native and non-native English speakers at a university in Australia.

The most clear point of the chart is that those students for whom English is not their mother tongue had a more positive attitude to language learning than native speakers. Improvement in job prospects is quoted by just over 90% of non-native speakers as an cause for learning languages, followed closely by usefulness for travel and work and importance for studying at 90, 90 and around 90 respectively. In this bunch, personal development improvement is last with 70%.

This attitude to language acquisition contrasts with native speakers, whose approval was lower than non-native speakers for all. However, improvement in job prospects, for example, attracted the most approval with 60% giving it as a reason, this was significantly less than for non-native speakers. Usefulness for work and improvement in personal development came next at 50% of them. Only 20% of native speakers, however, think learning languages is enjoyable with only 25% seeing it important for studying.

So it is clear that native speakers of English are more negative about learning languages than non-native speakers.
Exercise 8

Read the text below and use the notes in the column on the right to help you decide if corrections are needed to the text.

The bar chart shows results of a survey on the reasons behind learning languages among 1,000 native and non-native English speaker at a university in Australia.

The striking feature of the chart is that those students for whom English is not their mother tongue have a more positive attitude to language learning than native speaker. Improvement in job prospects was mentioned by just over 80% of non-native speakers as a persuasion to acquiring, followed closely by usefulness for travel and work and importance for studying at 90, 90 and just below 90 respectively. In this group, personal development improvement came bottom with 70%.

This attitude to language acquisition contrasted sharply with that of native speakers, whose approval was lower than non-native speakers on all account. While improvement in job prospects, for example, attracted the most approval with 60% give it as a reason, this was considerably less than for non-native speakers. Usefulness for work and improvement in personal development came next at 50% of respondents. Only 20% of native speakers, though, think earning languages is enjoyable with only 25% thinking it important for studying.

So it is clear that native speakers of English are more negative about learning languages than non-native speakers.

1. A word missing?
2. Spelling?
3. Singular?
4. A word missing?
5. Spelling? Tense?
6. Spelling? Singular?
7. Correct data?
8. Correct word?
9. Spelling?
10. Tense?
11. Tense?
12. Singular/plural?
13. Correct verb form?
14. Correct register?
15. Spelling?
Exercise 9

In the text below parts of the text are missing. Complete the text below paying particular attention to the spelling and grammatical structure.

The bar chart shows the hind learning languages among 1,000 native and non-native English speakers at a university in Australia.

The most structure of the chart is that those students for English is not their mother tongue had a more positive attitude to language learning than native speakers. Improvement in job prospects was ment\% of non-native speakers as an incentive closely by usefulness for travel and work and importance for studying at 90, 90 and just below 90 respectively. In this group, percent came bottom with 70%.

This attitude to language acquisition contr\% of native speakers, whose approval was lower than non-native speakers on all accounts. While improvement in job prospects, for example, attracted al with 60% giving it as a reason, this was considerably less than for non-native speakers. Usefulness for work and improvement at 50% of respondents. Only 20% of native speakers, however, think learning languages is enjoyable with only 25% think\% tant for studying.

So it is clear that native speakers of English are more negative about learning languages than non-native speakers.
Exercise 10

Dictation

Complete the missing details on the graph below.

Reasons for ______1_________

Improves own language

Important for studying

______5_____

_____6_____

_____7_____

______2_____

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

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Taken from the Exams section in www.onestopenglish.com
Chart 1 for multiple use
Chart 2 for multiple use
Chart 3 for multiple use

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Chart 4 for multiple use