IELTS – Task 1 - Writing Strategies

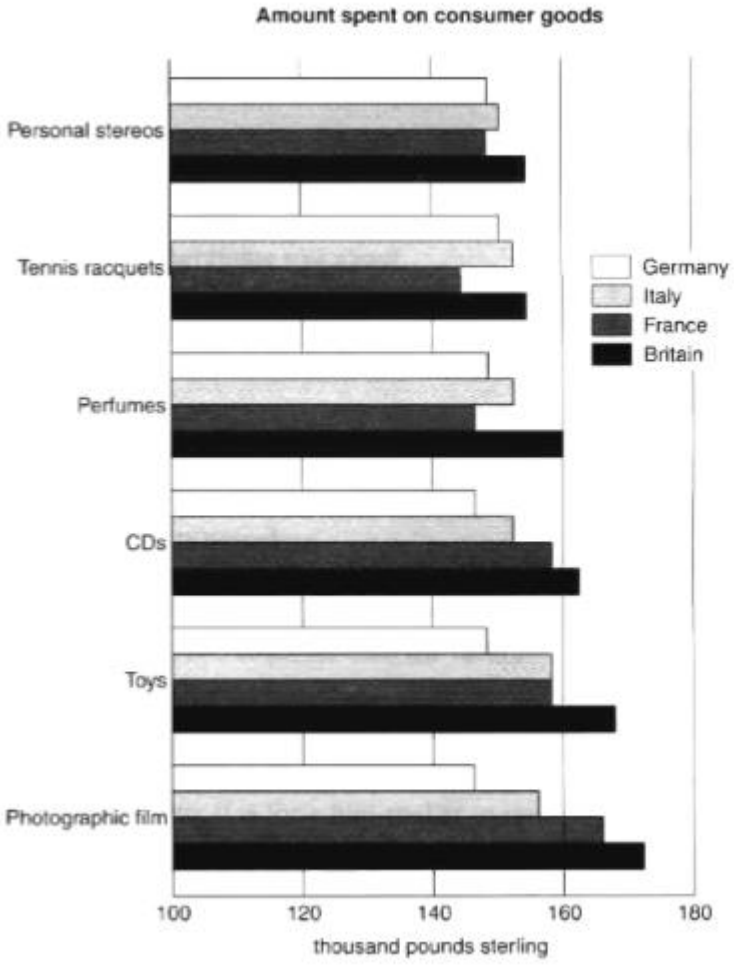
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The chart below shows the amount spent on six consumer goods in four European countries.

Write a report for a university lecturer describing the information shown below.

You should write at least 150 words.



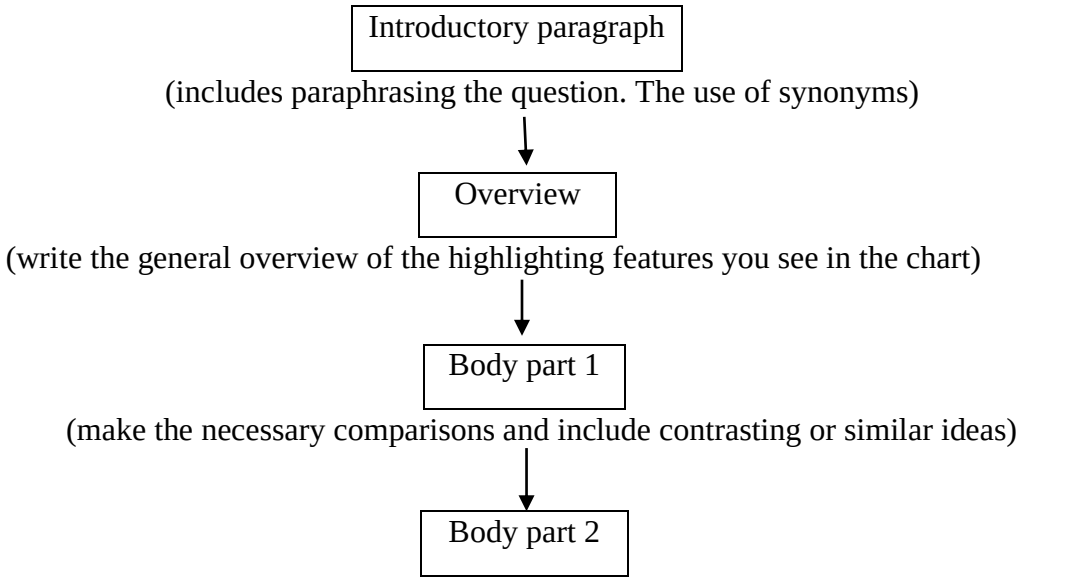
Here your task is to describe the information given in the graph by writing a 150-word report. You are not asked to give your opinion.

It is important to know on what abilities the examiner tests your writing response. These include:

1. Objective description of the graphic information.
2. The ability to compare and contrast
3. To report on such impersonal topic without giving your opinion.
4. Use of language (vocabulary) for graphic description.

How can you improve your answer?

1. It's important that you select highlighting trends from the graph rather than noting every detail otherwise you may simply outweigh the limit.
2. Your report needs to be structured into meaningful segments.



3. You will receive a higher mark if your writing uses a range of structures and vocabulary correctly rather than a limited number.
4. Also make use of the different words as well as sentence transitions mentioned in the word list provided to you to describe the increasing, decreasing or stable trends for the graph.

Let's look at the model answer for the above given bar graph:

The chart shows that Britain, among the four European countries listed, has spent most heavily on the range of consumer goods included. In every case, British spending is considerably higher than that of other countries. However, in the case of tennis racquets does another country, Italy showed almost same amount of spending. In contrast, Germany is generally the lowest spender. This is most evident in photographic film, where Germany spends much less than Britain. Germany only spends more than France, in two cases: tennis racquets and perfumes. Meanwhile, France and Italy generally maintain midway positions wherein they show an overall similar spending overall. Specifically, France spends more on CDs and photographic film but less on tennis racquets than Italy. Italy's spending on personal stereos is only marginally greater than that of France, while spending on toys is equal between the two. It is clear from the data given that there are some significant differences in spending habits within Europe.

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