

Useful Language and Vocabulary

(IELTS Academic Writing Task 1)

Make sure you know at least 3 of these words from each category from the tables below AND that you are able to use them accurately in a sentence. Also, be aware that whilst many of the words have similar meanings they are not exactly the same. I recommend that you see how they are used in news articles and magazines to get a proper idea of their slight difference in meanings.

You could also [use a 'corpus' is a huge database of examples](#) of English language in use and you can use it to show you examples of how these words are used. Simply type in the word you are looking for and you will be given lots of example sentences, pretty cool!

Useful Nouns

(For describing trends over time)

GOING UP: surge, growth, increase, rise, boom, peak

GOING DOWN: drop, fall, slump, decline, decrease, dip, reduction, plunge

GOING UP AND DOWN: variation, fluctuation, undulation

NO CHANGE: plateau, period of stability, leveling off

Useful Adjectives

(For describing trends over time)

LARGE CHANGE: sharp, vast, rapid, considerable, significant, steep, dramatic, swift, great

SMALL CHANGE: slight, modest, moderate, gradual, negligible, minor

Useful Adverbs

(For describing trends over time)

LARGE CHANGE: sharply, vastly, rapidly, considerably, significantly, steeply, dramatically, swiftly, greatly

SMALL CHANGE: slightly, modestly, moderately, gradually, negligibly