

Descriptive reports: tables

1. Identifying and then describing similarities and differences

Table: Job requirements and benefit packages

	University teacher	Policewoman	Journalist
Qualifications needed	University degree and a Masters	High school diploma	University degree
Languages required	Fluent English and some Arabic	Arabic	Fluency in both Arabic and English
Annual holidays	19 weeks	18 weeks	5 weeks
Salary (per month, in AED)	22,000.00	35,000.00	14,500.00
Working hours (per day)	8	7	9

1. The journalist has holidays than the policewoman.
2. The university teacher has holidays.
3. The university teacher has a salary the journalist.
4. The policewoman has salary.
5. The journalist needs qualifications the policewoman.
6. The university teacher needs the qualifications.
7. All three jobs have working hours.

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2. The “language” of Compare & Contrast

Describing differences

1. The Middle East produces high levels of oil; however, Japan produces none.
2. The USA produces large amounts of natural gas. In contrast, South Korea produces none.
3. Germany uses a lot of solar power. On the other hand, Kuwait does not use much solar power.
4. The Middle East produces high levels of oil, whereas || while Japan produces none.
5. Qatar is not as big as the UAE.
6. There is only a minor difference in size between Kuwait and Bahrain
7. Unlike the UAE, Japan does not produce oil.
8. The UAE is much larger in size compared to Qatar.
9. The Middle East produces twice as much oil as Europe.

Describing similarities

1. Japan and South Korea produce exactly the same amount of nuclear energy.
2. Like Japan, South Korea does not produce any natural gas.
3. The UAE produced the same amount of oil as Saudi Arabia.
4. Russia consumes slightly more oil than Germany.

3. Using "Round Numbers"

When you compare and contrast, data in tables it is good to refer to round numbers:

7.1 million = "just over..." || "approximately..." || "around..." "... 7 million"

88.6 million = "just under..." || "almost..." || "nearly..." "... 90 million"

Make these numbers round

9 51 68 48.9 102 97 32 1003 998 11

Useful vocabulary

Approximately	Compare	Contrast	Describe	Differences	Similarities
Obvious	Double	Overall	Whereas	Unlike	Major
Minor	"Exactly the same"				

Add these words to the last column in the table below

Double Major difference Half Twice as big Two times smaller Quarter

Just under Just over Exactly the same Almost the same Minor difference

Table: Lucy and Daisy

Criteria	Lucy	Daisy	Vocabulary that can be used
A	100	100	
B	99	98	
C	25%	50%	
D	33	99	
E	49	51	
F	20	80	

4. Identifying important differences and interesting similarities

Table: Employment patterns over the ages

Employment sector	18 – 25 age group	26 – 40 age group	41 – 65 age group
Agriculture	5	7	9
Manufacturing	12	15	23
Catering	6	8	4
Government	6	12	18
Health	12	15	12
Retail (shopping malls and trade)	23	7	6
Law and Order	4	4	4
Accountancy	3	2	3
Education	9	12	12
Banking and Finance	21	18	9

1. Which employment sector is **exactly the same** for each age group?

2. Which sector do most people work in (most common)?

3. Which **two** sectors of the economy were least common?

4. Which sectors are the most **and** least popular in the 18-25 age group?

5. Which sectors are the most **and** least popular in the 25-40 age group?

6. Which sectors are the most **and** least popular in the 40-65 age group?

7. If you compare the age groups, which **three** sectors show the greatest difference?
 1 2 3

8. If you compare the age groups, **which sectors** show minor differences?



5. Comparing and contrasting data in a table

Table: Consumption and Production of Natural Gas (selected countries)

Country	Consumption of Natural Gas*	Production of Natural Gas*
The USA	588.9	500.0
The UK	86.1	97.3
Russia	7.1	0.4
The UAE	30.0	35.9
Australia	19.1	28.0
Japan	68.6	0
New Zealand	4.9	5.1
South Korea	18.9	0
China	24.3	25.0

* In millions of tonnes; figures for 2012

1. New Zealand consumed the gas at approximately 5 million tonnes.
2. Russia produced the amount at 0.4 million tonnes.
3. The USA was the consumer and producer of gas at 600 million tonnes and 500 respectively.
4. The USA consumed and produced natural gas than any other country.
5. South Korea consumed 18.9 million tonnes of gas;, it produced none.
6. Russia, Japan and South Korea all consumed more gas they produced.
7. Australia consumed four gas than New Zealand.
8. New Zealand consumed 5 million tonnes of gas.

6. Describing the facts and figures in a table:

What is the subject of this table?

What is being compared in the table?

How many countries are there in the table?

Table: Global Happiness Index (selected countries)

Country	Average income (in \$)	Average holiday days	Happiness score
The UK	75,015	55	93.3
Sweden	64,999	70	92.5
The UAE	85,000	90	89.1
Australia	69,000	44	77.2
Japan	80,000	46	75.0
Chile	51,670	45	71.8
Poland	48,060	30	65.1
Russia	24,030	15	45.8

1. In which countries are people the **most** and **least** satisfied?

2. Which **three** countries have approximately the same number of holidays?

1 2 3

3. For average income, write **two sentences**: one using **just under** and one using **just over**.

a.

b.

4. For average annual holidays, write **two** sentences: one using **double**, one using **three times as many**.

a.

b.

5. Swedish people earn \$65,000 (the average salary is \$64,999).

6. British citizens earn \$75,000 (the average salary is \$75,015).

7. Salaries in Poland are as those in Russia (\$48,060 and \$24,030 respectively).

