

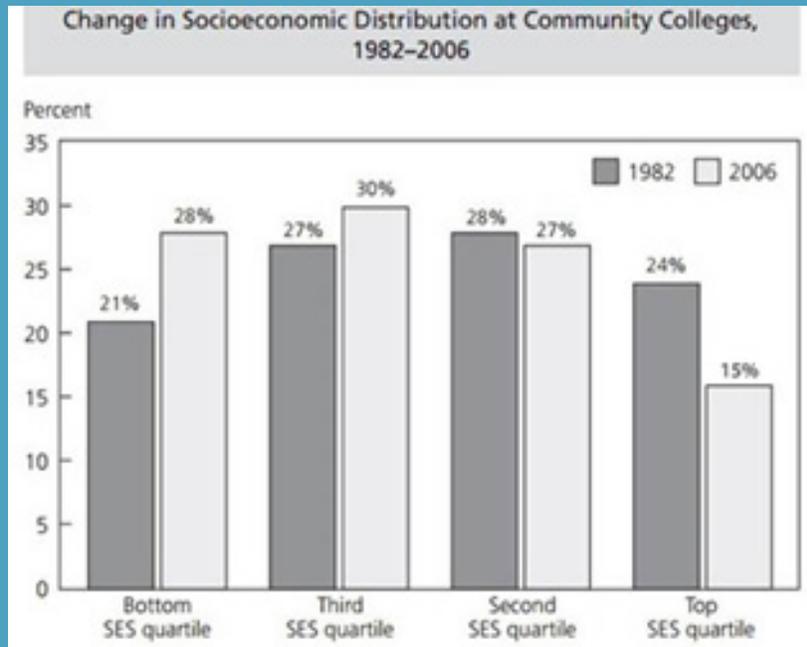


English I: Reading: Module 5: Practice 2: Section 5

Analyze Graphical Sources

Analyzing Graphs

Instructions: Remember to get your bearings first and then make observations as you read the graphs that follow. Your first challenge is a graph from an article by David Leonhardt entitled “The Changing Face of Community Colleges.” It was published by the *New York Times* in 2013. Use the space provided below the graph to “get your bearings” by answering several questions about the graph. You will then be asked to write some observations about the information presented.



Source: Anthony P. Carnevale and Jeff Strohl, “How Increasing College Access Is Increasing Inequality, and What to Do About It,” in *Rewarding Strivers: Helping Low-Income Students Succeed in College*, ed. Richard D. Kahlenberg (New York: Century Foundation Press, 2010), 136–37, Figures 3.6 and 3.7.

The first questions are about outside knowledge you can't figure out by looking at the graph. Take a guess for each question, then mouse over the “Suggested Response” button to see a sample response.

What does SES stand for? (**Hint:** Look at the title above the graph.):

Suggested Response

What is a quartile? (**Hint:** Look at how many there are.)

Suggested Response



Now, continue to write out some answers for “getting your bearings.”

Why are some bars dark gray and some light gray?

Suggested Response

What are the numbers for on top of each column?

Suggested Response

Which percentages will add up to 100 percent?

Suggested Response

What does this graph say about how many students from each group go to community colleges?

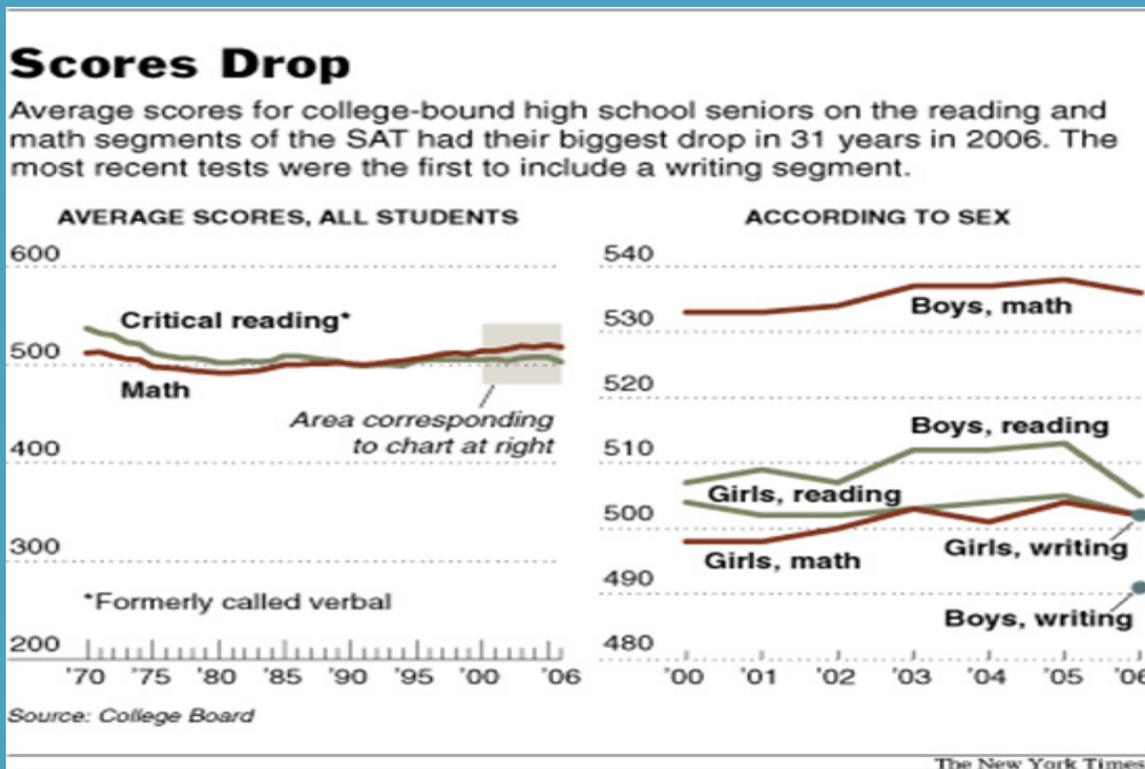
Suggested Response

Now, make some observations. You should be able to make at least four statements about the information in this graph.

Suggested Response



The second part of your challenge is to read several line graphs. These graphs were included in an article by Karen W. Arenson, "SAT Reading and Math Scores Show Decline." The article was published by the *New York Times* in 2006.



"SAT Reading and Math Scores Show Decline." *New York Times*, 2006.

Getting Your Bearings: Write at least six comments that will help you get your bearings. (Keep in mind that these comments should just be about what the lines, numbers, and words in the graph represent. Save comments about the information you can make from the graph for the observations section on the next page.) When you are finished, mouse over the "Suggested Response" button to see a sample response.

Suggested Response



Now, make some observations. You should be able to make at least four statements about the information in this graph.

Suggested Response