

Is that a fair conclusion?

Does the graph support the claim?

AIMS

How confident are you now? Circle one face for each aim at the end of the lesson.

Content Judge if a graph supports a claim.



Language Say what the data shows and what it does not show.



Skills Fix claims that say too much.



Read: Text A

Read the article and look at the graph. Notice what each person claims.

Teacher: In this version the six claims are highlighted and numbered.

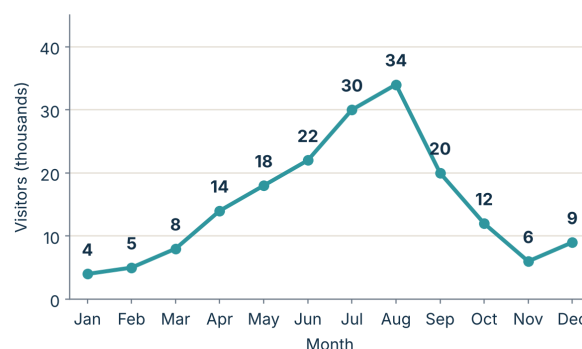
SEABAY GAZETTE • LOCAL NEWS

Seabay's summer rush: good news for the town?

Figures from the Seabay Tourist Information Office



Seabay on a summer day



Visitors to Seabay this year (thousands)

Seabay has long been popular with visitors, thanks to its sandy beach, old cobbled streets and lots of cafés. In recent years, the tourist information office has counted visitors every month. This graph shows the figures for this year.

The figures show a busy summer. **August was the busiest month, with 34 thousand visitors, [1]** and **January had the fewest, with only 4 thousand. [2]** **Visitor numbers fell every month after August. [3]** The town also holds a Christmas market in December.

A tourist office spokesperson said the summer was strong. **“At least 30 thousand people visited in each summer month, [4]”** she said.

Beach café owner Sam Reid thinks he knows why. **“The August heatwave brought more tourists to Seabay, [5]”** he said.

Mayor Ellis welcomed the news. **“Seabay will have more visitors next summer, so all shop owners will earn more money, [6]”** she said. The council will discuss a new car park at its next meeting.

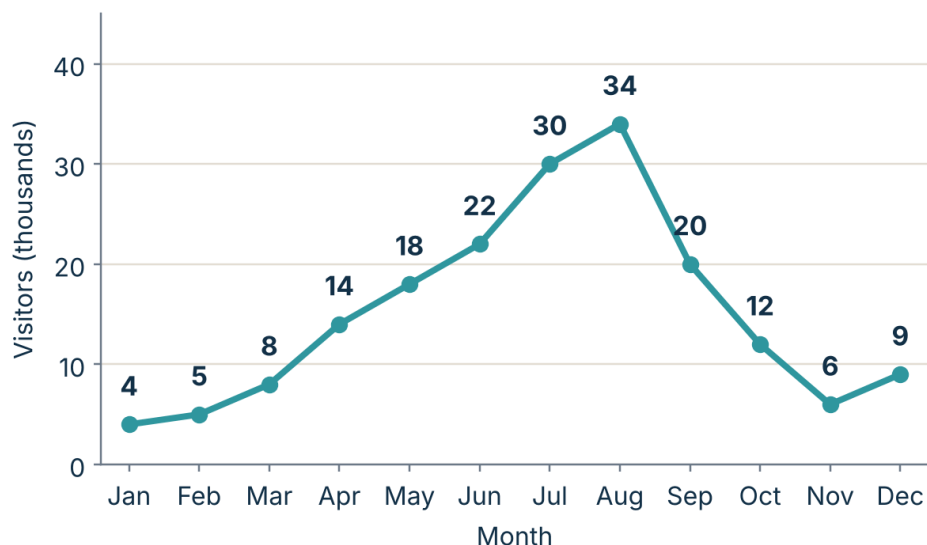
heatwave = a few days or weeks of very hot weather



Check: Judge the claims

Read each claim from Text A. Judge it against the graph. Tick one box for each claim.

Teacher: All six claims are given. Accept any evidence that points to the graph.



THE POINTING TEST

Supported point to all of it		Partly supported point to some of it		Not supported you cannot point to it	
#	CLAIM	SUPPORTED	PARTLY SUPPORTED	NOT SUPPORTED	EVIDENCE, OR WHAT IS MISSING
1	August was the busiest month.	✓			34,000 was the highest number of visitors.
2	January had the fewest visitors.	✓			4,000 was the lowest number of visitors.
3	Visitor numbers fell every month after August.		✓		They fell until November, but rose in December (9).
4	At least 30,000 people visited in each summer month.		✓		July and August fit, but June was only 22,000.
5	The August heatwave brought more tourists to Seabay.			✓	No data on the weather or on why people came.

6	Seabay will have more visitors next summer, so all shop owners will earn more money.			✓	This year only. No data on money or shops.
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Remember: Words for careful conclusions

Use this page to help you write careful conclusions.

MORE CERTAIN ↑

The graph shows...	we can see it
The data suggests...	probably true
may / might / could...	possible
does not show / cannot conclude...	the graph cannot tell us

LESS CERTAIN ↓

The more certain the word, the more evidence you need.

KEY LANGUAGE Judge a claim and fix an overclaim.

WHAT IS SHOWN AND MISSING

The graph shows ____, but there is no data on ____.

A CAREFUL CONCLUSION

The data suggests ____, but it does not show ____.

WHAT IS POSSIBLE

____ may / might ____.

WHY A CLAIM GOES TOO FAR

...so we cannot conclude ____.

JUDGE A CLAIM

This claim is partly supported because...

REMEMBER Read the key words. Write each word in your own language.

Teacher: The last column is for learners' own language.

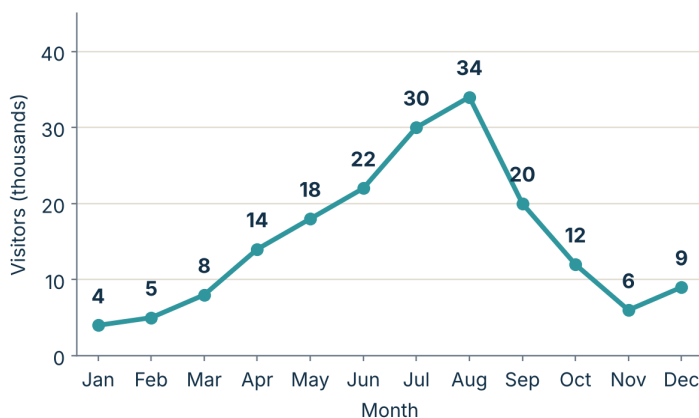
	MEANING	IN MY LANGUAGE
conclude	decide from the data	
evidence	facts or numbers	
support	show a claim is true	
suggest	say it is probably true	
overclaim	a claim that says more than the graph shows	
cause	the reason something happens	



Write: Fix the overclaims

Rewrite each claim so that the graph can support it.

Teacher: Students' own wording. Each rewrite keeps what the graph shows and says what there is no data on.



Use this graph to check your rewrites.

LANGUAGE TO HELP

The graph shows ____, but there is no data on ____.

The data suggests ____, but it does not show ____.

The data suggests ____, but it does not show ____, so we cannot conclude ____.

[5] The August heatwave brought more tourists to Seabay.

Copy the rewrite from the board, or write your own.

The graph shows that August had the most visitors, but there is no data on why people came.

[6] Seabay will have more visitors next summer, so all shop owners will earn more money.

This claim has two problems. Fix both. Stretch: end with "...so we cannot conclude...".

The graph shows that summer had more visitors, but there is no data on next summer or on shop owners' money.

[4] At least 30,000 people visited in each summer month.

Part of this is true. Change it so the whole claim is supported.

The graph shows that at least 30,000 people visited in July and August, but June had only 22,000.

STRETCH Rate this claim. Then fix it.

Visitors only come to Seabay in summer.

✓ not supported: the graph shows visitors in every month (4,000 even in January).

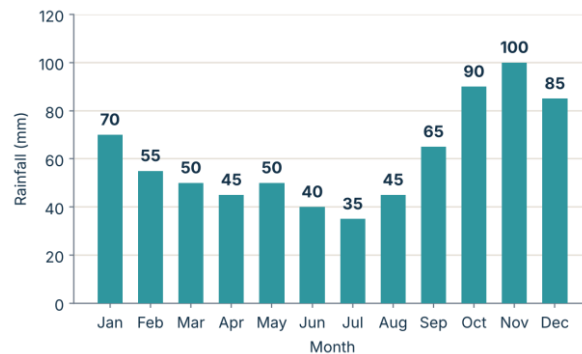
Suggested answer: The graph shows that most visitors came in summer, but it also shows visitors in every month.



Independent task

Rate every numbered sentence in the Seabay weather report. Then fix two that say too much.

Teacher: Students' own wording for the rewrites and the missing data. Each rewrite keeps what the graph shows and says what there is no data on.



Rainfall in Seabay this year (mm)

1 Rate each sentence Tick one box.

#	SENTENCE	SUPPORTED	PARTLY	NOT SUPPORTED
1	November was the wettest month, with 100 mm of rain.	✓		
2	This is why fewer tourists visit Seabay in autumn.			✓
3	July was the driest month, with 35 mm.	✓		
4	Every month from September to December had more than 80 mm of rain.		✓	
5	Rainfall rose every month from July to November.	✓		
6	Rain puts tourists off, so Seabay should build an indoor attraction.			✓
7	Seabay only gets rain in autumn.			✓

Evidence: 1 tallest bar (100 mm) · 2 a cause · 3 shortest bar (35 mm) · 4 September was 65 mm · 5 35, 45, 65, 90, 100 · 6 a reason and a plan · 7 rain in every month

2 Fix two sentences Choose two that are not fully supported. Rewrite them.

2: The graph shows that November had the most rain, but there is no data on why fewer tourists visit in autumn.

7: The graph shows that autumn had the most rain, but it also shows rain in every month.

3 Add One thing the graph does not show.

We have data on rainfall, but not on why tourists visit or stay away.