

Working with Your Partner: the Talker and the Listener

- 1) The **Talker** looks at a chart very carefully and then describes to the **Listener** what s/he sees. The **Listener** draws the chart on squared paper. – The **Talker** must make sure that the **Listener** draws and writes down what s/he, the **Talker**, sees. The **Listener** may ask for clarification and the **Talker** will answer but does not gesture or point. – These questions will be answered:

a) *What is this illustration about (“heading?”) and what is your first impression of it (“What does ‘the big picture’ look like”)?*

b) *What sort of illustration is it, a table, a chart, a pie-diagram, a bar diagram (horizontal or vertical), a curve? – (With pie-diagrams, referring to a clock-face 🕒 helps.)*

c) *What do the scales or measurements on the vertical and horizontal graph (or axis) stand for, e.g. centimetres for millions of people or dollars?*

d) *Where do curves intersect (with the grid) and at what angle?*

- 2) The **Talker** and the **Listener** compare their two charts, the original and the new one. They correct and/or complete the new chart together.
- 3) They find out what the big picture is and what message the illustration gets across. Both, the **Talker** and the **Listener**, write their interpretation down.

Useful vocabulary

profit ⇔ loss / boom ⇔ bust = slump

rally = upswing = upturn = increase in (n.)
[Aufschwung]

downturn, slump, decrease in (profits), decline / fall

to grow (by 10%) ⇔ to shrink to (a measly 2%)

(a) meagre = (a) measly = (a) miserable (2 %)

to grow (grew, grown) ⇔ to shrink (shrank, shrunk)

to go down = to drop = to fall < to plummet – to bottom out at ⇔ to go up, to rise < to soar < to jump > to shoot up / to go through the roof – to peak at

modest ~ moderate / healthy = strong / huge

growth ⇔ decline can be:

steep ⇔ gradual / slow ⇔ rapid / erratic ⇔ steady, clear

to improve ⇔ to deteriorate [-'---]

to catch up with = to gain on sb.

to gain ⇔ to lose (ground)

to forecast = to predict

to get a boost / "a shot in the arm" = financial aid

month, quarter, year, decade

century, millennium, million, billion (dollar / pound / euro)

encouraging < optimistic = confident ⇔ sceptical < pessimistic < gloomy < depressing