

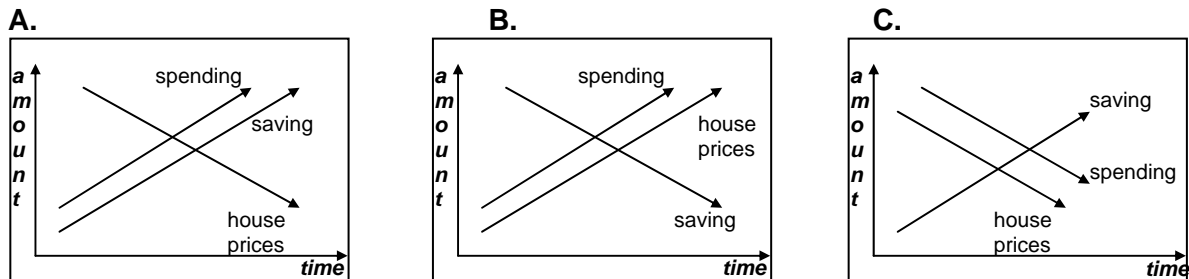
Check your ALCE Listening Skills: Part 1: Activity 3

Key and item analysis

Question 1

The following conversation takes place between the general manager and the head of the mortgage lending division.

Which table shows the pattern of US spending, saving and house prices?



ANSWER KEY

B.

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Medium

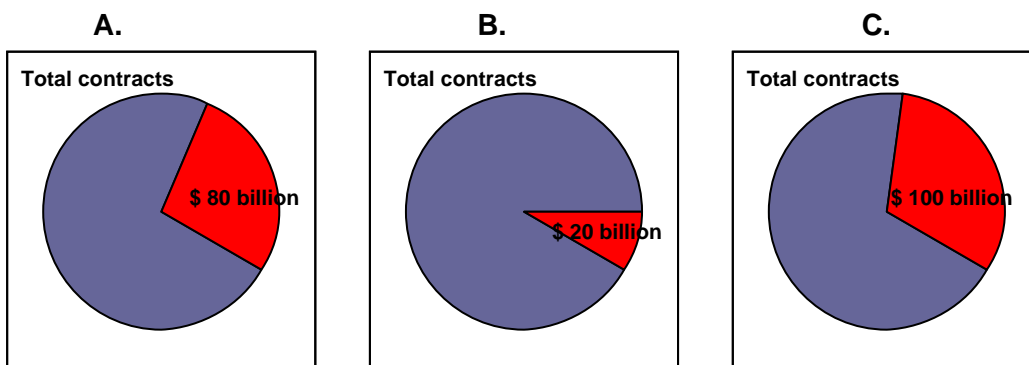
ITEM INFORMATION

The text states that American spending is rising similarly to the rise in house prices (“on the back of soaring house prices”) and that people are not saving. Therefore, B is the correct answer choice. *Note that this item appeared in an examination before the current economic crisis.*

Question 2

The following conversation takes place at the Joint Forum of financial institutions.

What will be the value of IT contracts outsourced in 2006?



ANSWER KEY

A.

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

More challenging

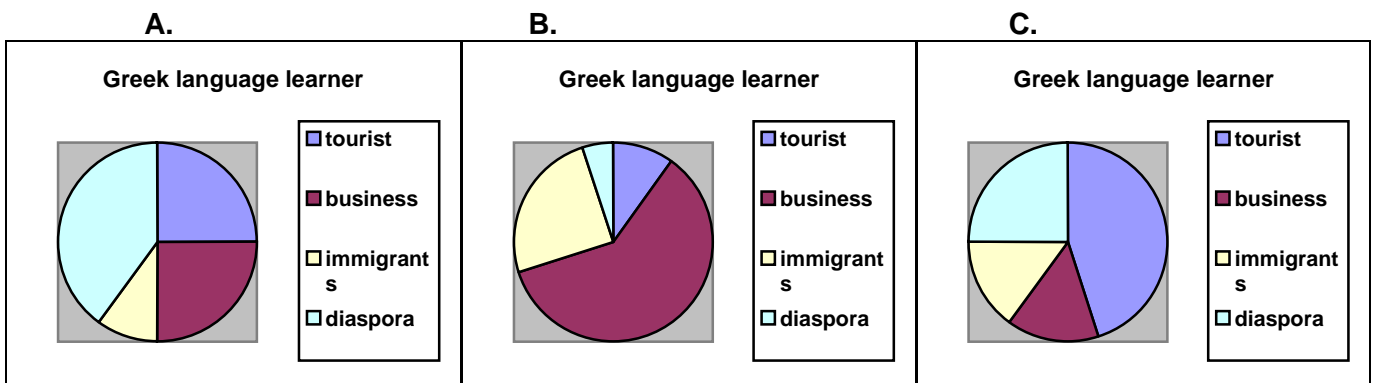
ITEM INFORMATION

The text states that in 2005, \$100 billion was outsourced (“outsourced activities in 2005”...“\$100 billion was entrusted to third parties”). For 2006, the text states that \$80 billion of the outsourced contracts will be renewed. Therefore, A is the correct answer choice.

Question 3

The following presentation takes place at a meeting in the director’s office of a language school.

Which pie chart is being discussed in the meeting?



ANSWER KEY

B.

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Less challenging

ITEM INFORMATION

The text states that the “primary focus is on the international business sector”, with immigrants in second place. It also states that tourists make up 10% of student numbers and Diaspora Greeks 5%. Therefore, B is the correct answer choice.

Question 4

The following is part of a presentation about new library facilities.

Which schedule are the presenters referring to?

A.

Completion schedule
in 6 months:
distance learning environments
next year:
virtual library search

B.

Completion schedule
in 6 months:
distance learning environments
next year:
virtual science labs

C.

Completion schedule
in 6 months:
virtual library search
next year:
virtual science labs

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Less challenging

ITEM INFORMATION

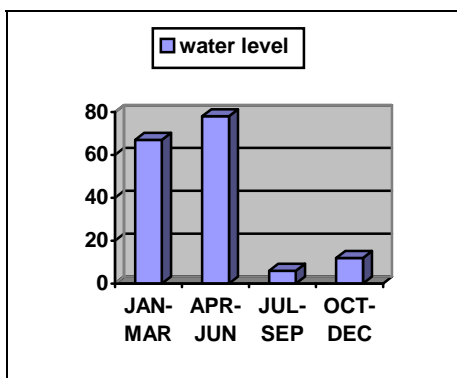
The text states that “beginning this month” the distance learning environments will be offered, and that the virtual library search feature will be available (“up and running”) in six months, but the virtual science labs will need a year. Therefore, C is the correct answer choice.

Question 5

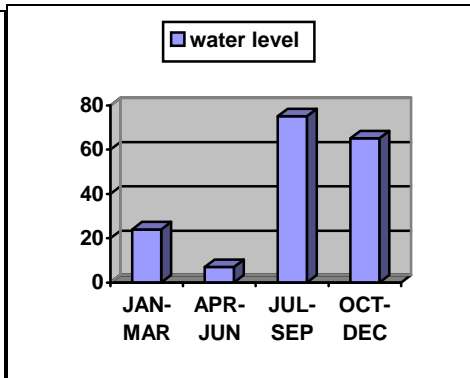
The following is part of a report about water levels.

Which chart shows the water levels over the past year?

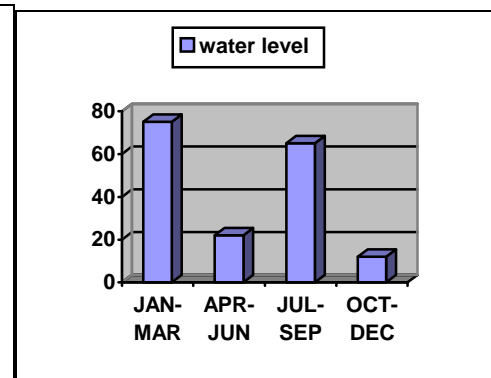
A.



B.



C.



ANSWER KEY

A.

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Medium

ITEM INFORMATION

The text states that there were “flood level conditions” for the first half of the year and that “water level have fallen to drought level”, with a high risk of forest fires “at year end”, showing that water levels were high for the first half of the year and very low for the latter half. Therefore, A is the correct answer choice.