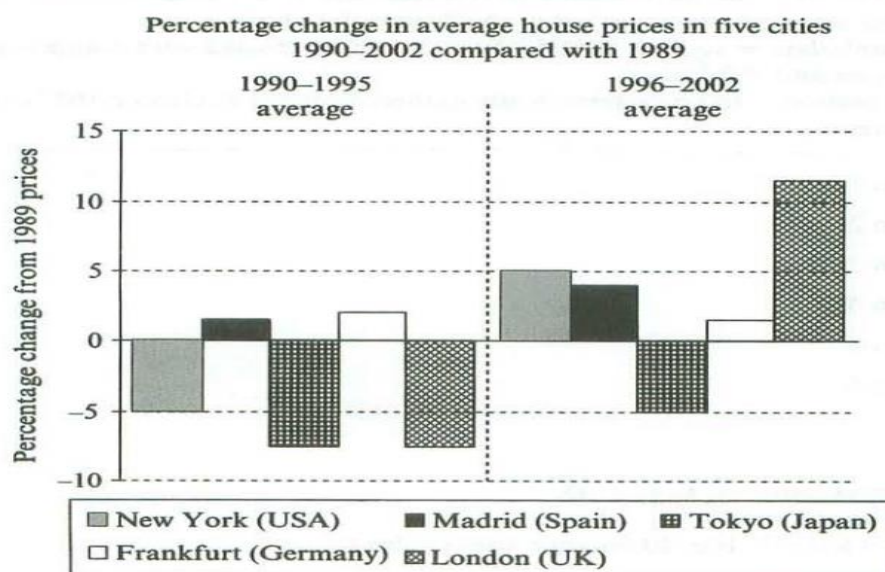# 3.2 BAR CHARTS

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

> *The chart below shows information about changes in average house prices in five different cities between 1990 and 2002 compared with the average house prices in 1989.*
>
> *Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.*

Write at least 150 words.

Percentage change in average house prices in five cities 1990–2002 compared with 1989

- For bar charts that present data like graphs over a period of time, use the comparing and contrasting language given there: *... increased more than; there was a greater increase in ... than ...*
- The survey took place in the past not the present, but you can use either the past simple or the present simple to describe the data.
- Try to classify the items and divide them into groups rather than writing about each one in turn: *the (factors) can be divided into two main groups ...*
    - Name the groups: *... namely those related to ... and those (connected) with ...*
    - Compare the two groups: *... of the two, the former is the larger.*
    - State an important feature in this group: *with ... being the most popular with 40 per cent.*
- Compare and contrast the other items. Use some of the following:
    - *morel/less than ...*
    - *(bigger) than .. .*
    - *(not) as big as .. .*
    - *twice as big/much as ...*
    - *rather than ...*

- *as against/as opposed to/compared with/in comparison with ...*
- *in (sharp) contrast to the biggest/smallest (change) ...*
- *more (women) cited/achieved/participated/took part in/were involved in ... than ...*
- *there were more (men) than (women) who ...*

• To quote from the results of the survey, you can use:

- *... percent quoted / cited/mentioned/considered ... as important*
- *... was quoted/cited/mentioned/considered as the most/least important factor by ...*
- *... came top/bottom/second/next, followed (closely) by ... at ... and ... respectively.*