

Look at the pie chart, exam question and sample answer and do the exercises to practise and improve your writing skills.

### Preparation

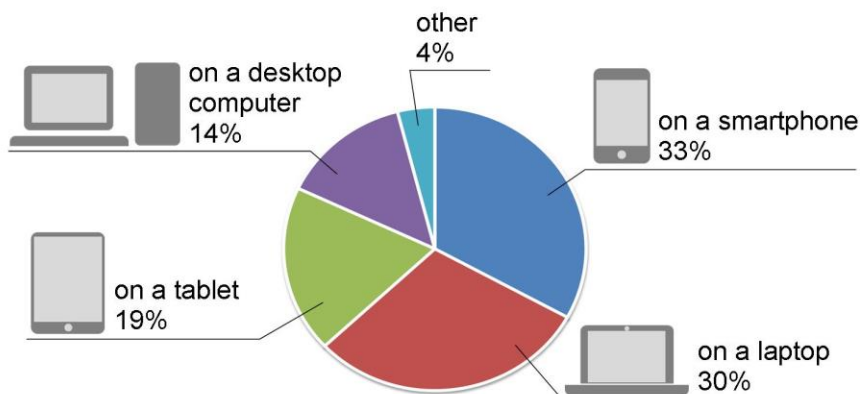
Match the numbers with the phrases and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

- |        |                      |    |      |
|--------|----------------------|----|------|
| 1..... | nearly a third       | a. | 100% |
| 2..... | just over half       | b. | 85%  |
| 3..... | about three-quarters | c. | 76%  |
| 4..... | a small minority     | d. | 52%  |
| 5..... | the vast majority    | e. | 31%  |
| 6..... | all                  | f. | 4%   |

**Writing skills practice: Writing about a pie chart – exercises**
**Exam question**

The pie chart below illustrates how internet users aged 16+ prefer to access the internet at home and in other places.

Summarise the information in the pie chart by selecting and reporting the main features.



This graph shows the results of a survey in which people aged 16 and over were asked about their preferred devices for accessing the internet. The question referred to going online at home and in other places. Participants mentioned four main devices in their answers: a smartphone, a laptop, a tablet and a desktop computer.

From the pie chart it is clear that the majority of participants prefer to use smartphones and laptops, with just three per cent difference between the two. Nearly a third of participants prefer to go online with a smartphone. Thirty per cent like to use a laptop. A desktop computer accounts for fourteen per cent of users' preferred devices. Only a small minority prefer a device other than these main four.

In conclusion, since mobile and portable devices are the most popular choices, it is clear that many participants are accessing the internet outside their homes. The desktop computer is the least popular of the four main devices. In future, we can probably expect to see more and more people accessing the internet with smartphones as their preferred choice.

**Top Tips for writing**

1. Start by saying exactly what the pie chart shows. Avoid copying words in the question – use other words with the same or similar meanings.
2. Mention the survey question that participants answered.
3. Explain what the different sections of the pie chart refer to.
4. Describe the key findings shown in the chart.

**1. Check your writing: gap fill**

Complete the sentences with a word from the box.

From	Over	over	in
about	between	for	of

- The participants were aged 16 and \_\_\_\_\_.
- People were asked \_\_\_\_\_ their preferred devices for going online.
- \_\_\_\_\_ the pie chart it is clear that most people prefer to use a smartphone.
- 30% \_\_\_\_\_ participants prefer using a laptop.
- The desktop computer is last \_\_\_\_\_ terms of popularity.
- Most of the participants prefer to use smartphones and laptops, with a difference of just three percentage points \_\_\_\_\_ the two.
- A tablet accounts \_\_\_\_\_ 19% of users' preferred devices.
- \_\_\_\_\_ half of the participants prefer a smartphone or laptop.

**2. Check your writing: gap fill**

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the word in brackets.

- The pie chart \_\_\_\_\_ the results of a survey. (*show*)
- People were asked about their \_\_\_\_\_ devices for accessing the internet. (*prefer*)
- The devices are \_\_\_\_\_ in red, green, purple and blue. (*show*)
- Nearly a third of \_\_\_\_\_ prefer to access the internet using a smartphone. (*participate*)
- The laptop is second in terms of \_\_\_\_\_. (*popular*)
- There is a \_\_\_\_\_ of just three percentage points between the two. (*differ*)
- A desktop computer \_\_\_\_\_ for 14% of users' preferred devices. (*account*)
- In conclusion, the \_\_\_\_\_ of people prefer to use a smartphone or laptop. (*major*)

**Discussion**

What devices do you use to go online?