

2.8 Numbers

2 Percentages

- (a) 50 per cent
- (b) 100 per cent
- (c) 400 per cent

3 Simplification

- (b) Scores of students applied for the scholarship.
- (c) He re-wrote the essay several/ a few times.
- (d) Last year dozens of books were published on biogenetics.
- (e) Various names were suggested but rejected for the new chocolate bar.
- (f) The students thought of a few/ several good topics for their project.

4 Further numerical phrases

(Example answers)

- (a) The price of petrol has increased tenfold since 1975.
- (b) Two thirds of the students in the group were women.
- (c) The new high-speed train halved the journey time to Madrid.
- (d) The number of students applying for the Psychology course has risen by 50 per cent.
- (e) The number of visitors to the theme park doubled every year from 2007 to 2009.
- (f) More than twice as many British students as Italian students complete their first degree course.

- (g) Tap water is seven hundred times cheaper than bottled water.
- (h) The highest rate of unemployment is in Spain and the lowest in Norway.
- (i) 7 per cent of the computers produced had some kind of fault.
- (j) A majority of members supported the suggestion, but a large proportion of these expressed some doubts.

5 Practice

(Example answers)

- (a) A small minority spoke European languages.
- (b) Maths was the most popular future course.
- (c) One fifth of the group planned to study Economics.
- (d) Only one student was over 23.
- (e) Swimming was the favourite sport of one third of the group.
- (f) The least popular sports were cycling and tennis.