Reading and drawing time-series line graphs

Learn and practise | Free preview

A sample from this topic. The complete topic collection contains three different resources and worked solutions.

Show your thinking using words, working or a labelled drawing. Use the explanations and example first.

What you will practise

• Reading and drawing time-series line graphs

• Explain and check an answer with an appropriate representation.

Useful starting skills: Use objects, drawings or a number line to explain a simple idea.

A line graph places an ordered variable, often time, on the horizontal axis and a measured value on the vertical axis. Plot each observation accurately, then join consecutive points when a continuous trend is meaningful.

Read labels and scale intervals before describing the pattern. A rising or falling line describes the recorded variable; it does not by itself explain why the change happened.

Worked example

Temperature readings are 12°C at 8 am and 16°C at 10 am. What change is recorded?

Subtract the earlier value from the later value:16-12=4.

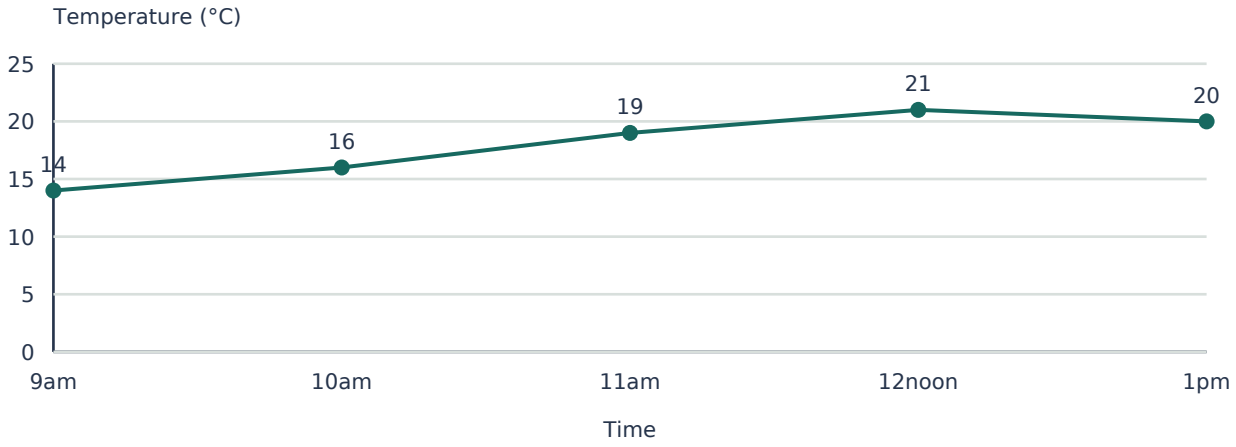
State both the amount and the time interval.

Answer: A rise of 4°C over two hours

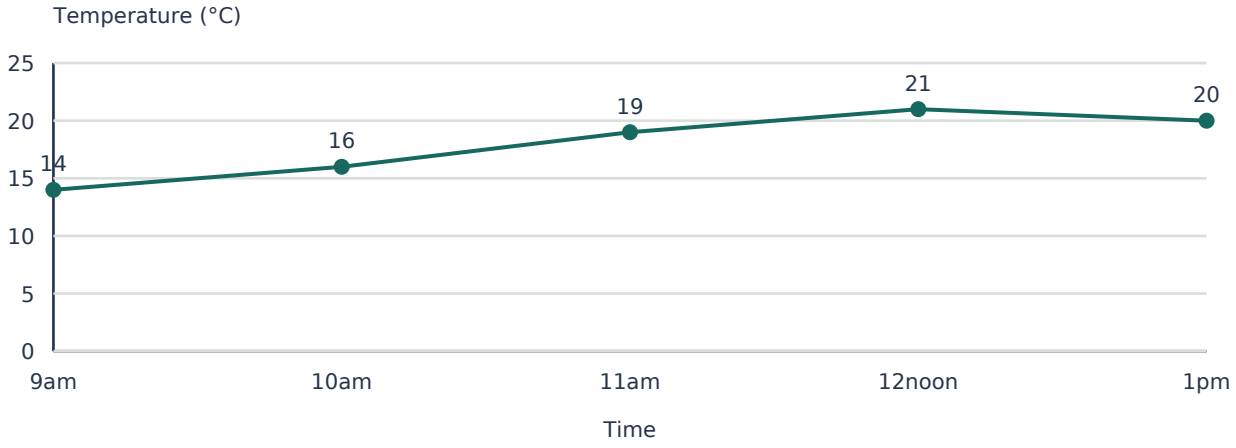
Try it yourself

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Read the temperature at 11 am.



2. During which one-hour interval did temperature rise the most?



Answers and explanations

Check the method as well as the final answer. An alternative correct method is also valid.

1. 19°C

Find 11 am on the horizontal axis and follow to the plotted point.

2. 10 am–11 am

The increases are 2°C, 3°C and 2°C, followed by a decrease of 1°C.

Curriculum reference: VC2M5ST02

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