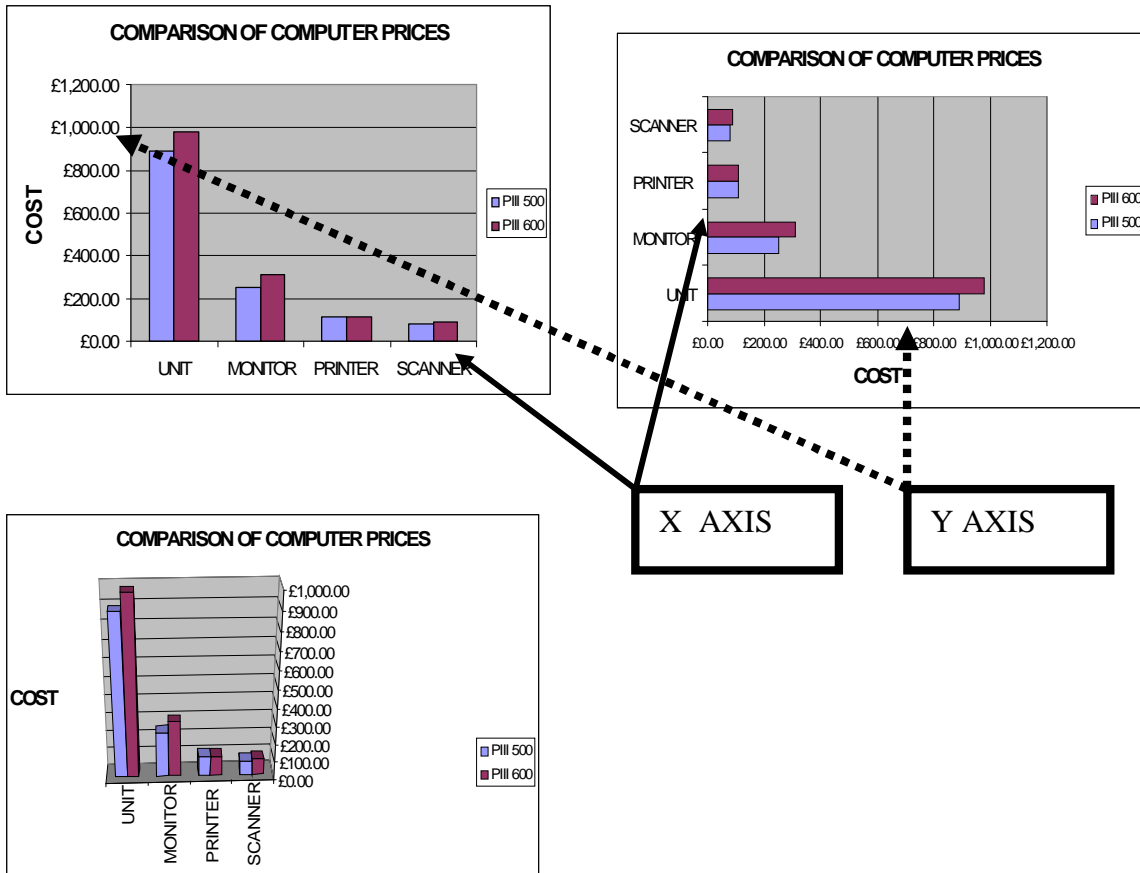


KEYSKILLS

BAR CHARTS

Bar charts are a way of displaying numerical information so that it is easier to understand and interpret. The information can be shown in a number of different ways including columns, bars and 3D blocks. The method of finding information from bar charts is the same in all cases.

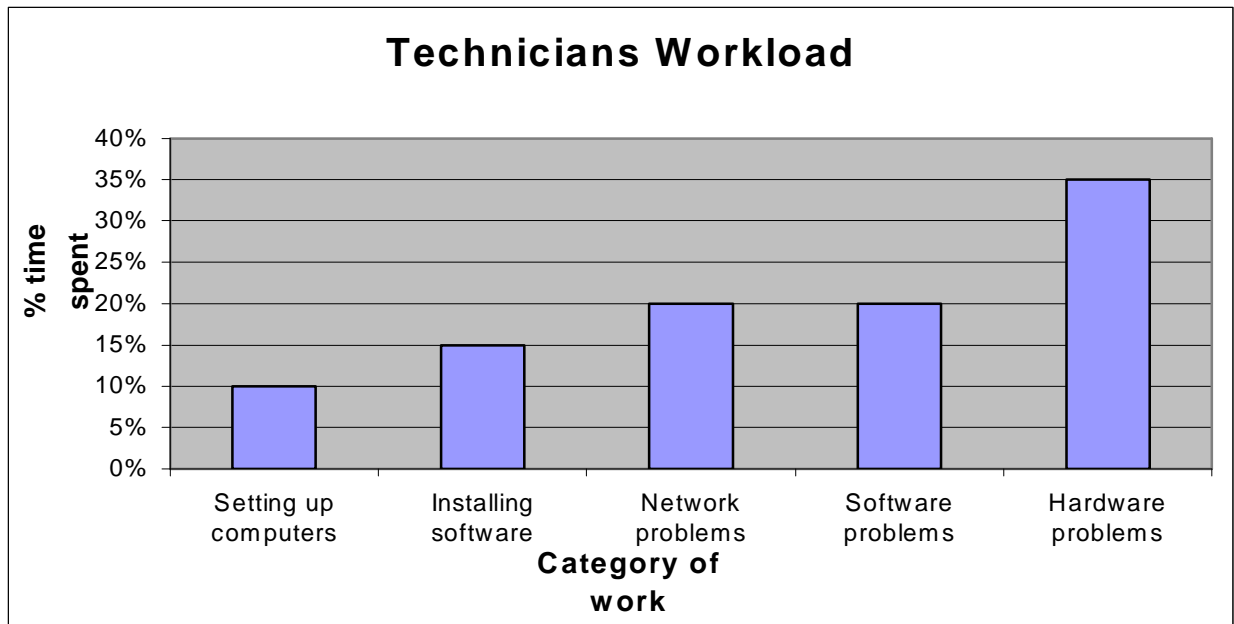


FINDING INFORMATION FROM BAR GRAPHS

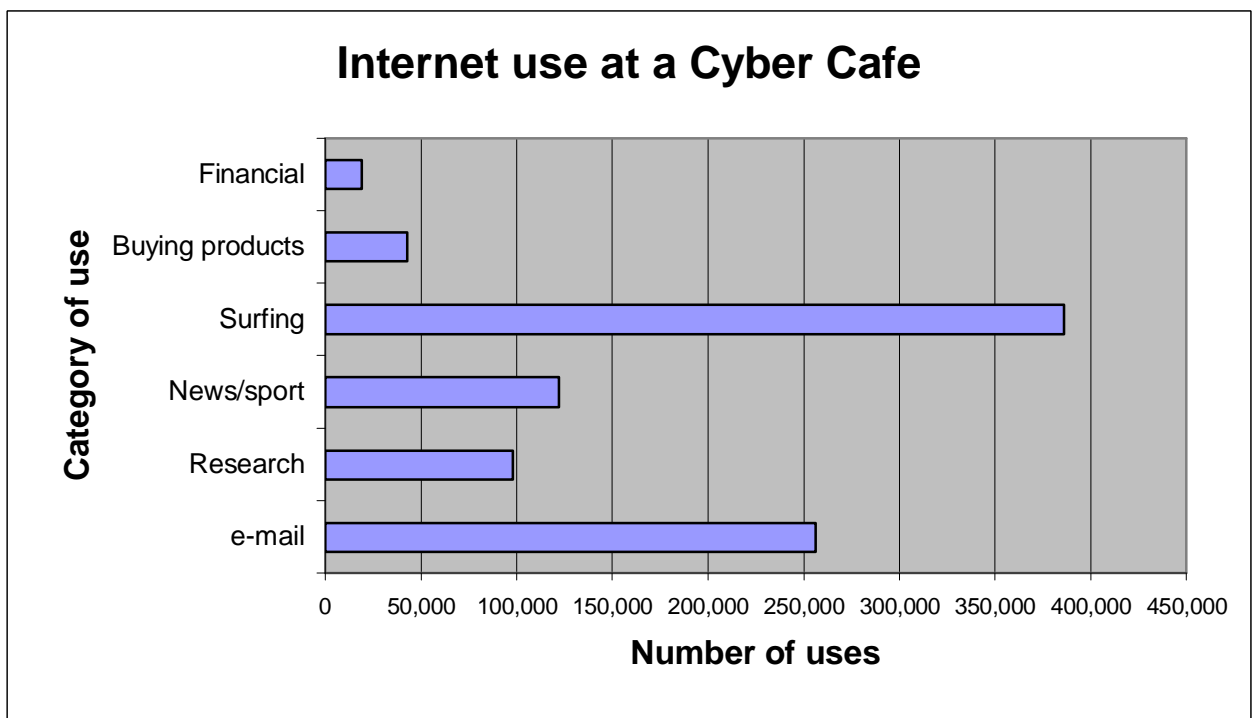
1. Identify the x and y axes; the x-axis is for the categories and the y-axis is for the values.
2. Find out the value for each sector of the y-axis, i.e. for the bar and column charts above each sector has a value of £200, while for the 3D chart the sector value is £100.
3. Find the sector below the end of the column or bar, i.e. for the graphs above the 'unit' category has values greater than £800 and less than £1,000.
4. Estimate a more accurate value, i.e. for the graphs above the 'unit' category has a value just under £1,000 for a PIII-600, which can be estimated as £980 or £990; while the PIII-500 is about half way between £800 and £1,000, which can be estimated as about £900.

EXERCISE 1

1. Look at the bar chart below and answer the following questions.
 - A) What percentage of time is spent on the most common tasks?
 - B) What percentage of time is spent on the least common tasks?
 - C) What is the total percentage of time taken on dealing with problems?
 - D) What is the total percentage of time taken on dealing with setting up and installing?
 - E) If the technician works a 36 hour week, how long does he/she spend on hardware problems, and how much on software problems?



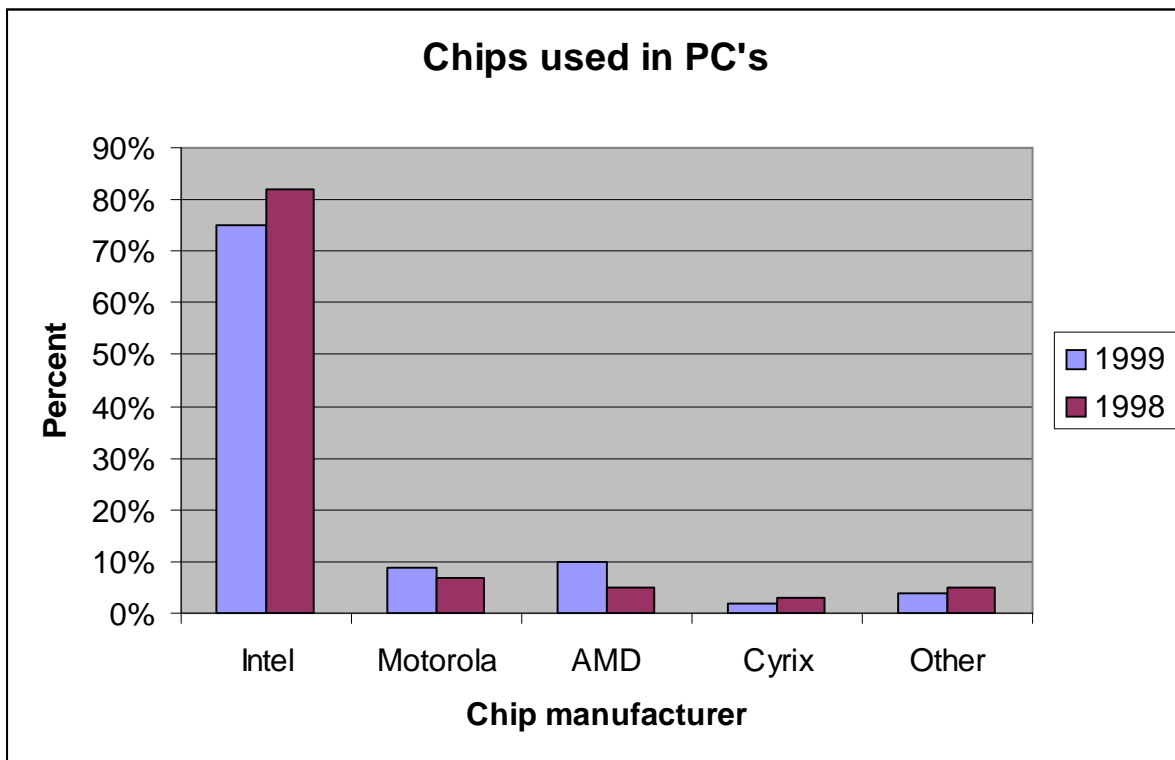
2. Look at the bar chart below:



- A) Place the categories of use into descending order
- B) Estimate the value of each of the categories

Category	Value	Category	Value
1		4	
2		5	
3		6	

- 3) Use the data in the bar chart below to describe the changes in processor use between 1998 and 1999. You must include numerical data taken from the chart.



- 4) Produce a bar chart of the following data.

Country	Computers per 1000 population
USA	450
UK	220
Japan	390
Finland	410
France	180
Germany	210

Remember to work out the scale on the Y axis of your chart before you draw in the values. You should calculate what value a large and a small square on the graph paper represents.