

Grammar Check 1



Talking about trends

- A** Read the short text and list five verbs in the text that refer to upward movement and downward movement.

Microfinance

According to the United Nations, one way to lower poverty levels is by supporting the development of microfinance. Microfinance enables village people in developing countries to borrow small amounts of money from Microfinance Institutions (MFI's) in order to set up small community businesses. In theory, microenterprises of this type allow their founders to

increase their income, which in turn raises consumption and the general standard of living in the community. The number of MFI's has grown steadily from a handful twenty years ago to more than 7000 today. They are now contributing actively to the UN's objective of reducing the number of people living on less than \$2 a day by 50% before 2015.

- | | |
|--|--|
| upward  | downward  |
| 1 <i>increase</i> | 1 |
| 2 | 2 |
| 3 | |

In which list would you include the following verbs?

- | | | | |
|----------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| go up | fall | rise | go down |
| decrease | drop | decline | |

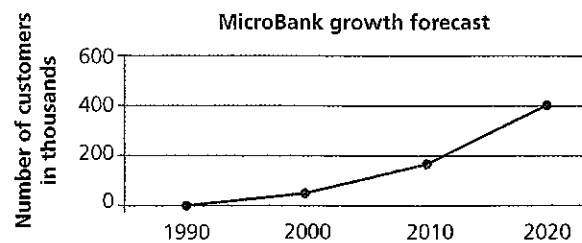
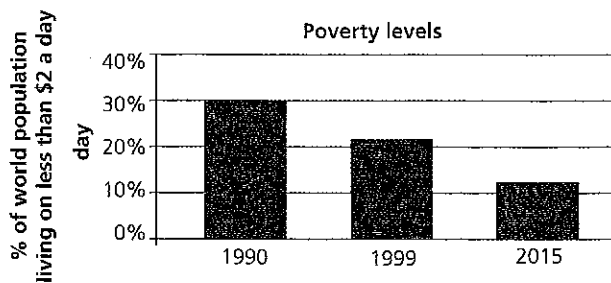
- B** The words *increase* and *decrease* can be used as nouns or verbs. Which of the other verbs in the two lists have noun forms and what are they?

- C** Find the prepositions in the text that:

- 1 situate the beginning and the end of a trend or period
- 2 give precise information about the extent of a change

- D** Look at the following bar chart and graph. What trends do they illustrate?

see page 134 in the Grammar Reference section



ACTIVE PRACTICE

Draw a simple chart/graph using the models in exercise D. Decide what your graph will represent (consumption – prices – employment – sales). Dictate the information in your chart/graph to another student.