Lesson 89

Bar charts — drawing and reading

MODULE 7 · DATA, CHANCE AND THE CO-ORDINATE PLANE DATA & CHANCE

A **bar chart** shows frequencies as bars. Every bar must have the **same width** with **equal gaps** between them. The vertical scale shows how many — choose a sensible step (e.g. 1, 2, 5, 10) so the tallest bar fits.

→ If the highest frequency is 18, a scale going up in **2s** to 20 fits cleanly.

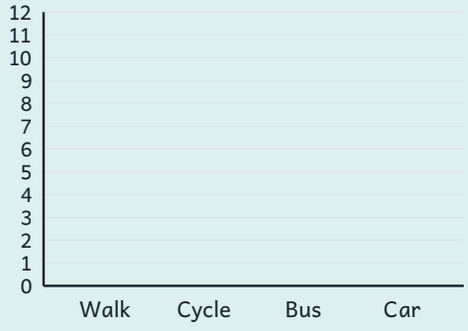
→ If you only have one or two of each, a scale in **1s** is fine.

HOW TO ANSWER TODAY

- **Read a bar chart.** Read the top of each bar. Check the y-axis scale to see what each grid line is worth.
  Each grid line = 5, bar reaches the 4th line → value is 20

TRY IT ON THE LINE

Use each tally total to draw a bar of the right height.



1. **Walk**: tally = 8 — draw a bar to **8**.
2. **Cycle**: tally = 3 — draw a bar to **3**.
3. **Bus**: tally = 5 — draw a bar to **5**.
4. **Car**: tally = 11 — draw a bar to **11**.
5. Which way of getting to school is the **most common** in this data? _____

PRACTICE

1. Mr Ó Briain's 5th class made a bar chart of favourite fruits for their healthy-eating display. The bars show Apple: **27**, Pear: **19**, Orange: **34** and Banana: **28**. By how much does the Pear bar differ from the Orange bar?

   > A bar chart shows fruit preferences in a class. Apple: 27, Pear: 19, Orange: 34, Banana: 28. By how much does the Pear bar differ from the Orange bar?

2. Mr Ó Briain made a bar chart of favourite fruits in 5th class. The bars show Apple: **29**, Pear: **10**, Orange: **27** and Banana: **17**. By how much does the Orange bar differ from the Pear bar?

   > A bar chart shows fruit preferences in a class. Apple: 29, Pear: 10, Orange: 27, Banana: 17. By how much does the Orange bar differ from the Pear bar?

CHALLENGE

1. 5th class made a bar chart of points scored by each team at the Cumann na mBunscol hurling blitz. The Shamrocks scored **17**, the Harps scored **30**, the Gaels scored **18**, the Rovers scored **19** and the Celts scored **32**. How many points were scored in total across the blitz?

   > A bar chart shows fruit preferences in a class. Apple: 17, Pear: 30, Orange: 18, Banana: 19, Plum: 32. How many pupils took part in total?

2. 5th class ran a fruit survey across the whole school for Healthy Eating Week. Their bar chart shows Apple: **20**, Pear: **30**, Orange: **37**, Banana: **11**, Plum: **40**. How many pupils took part in the survey in total?