Predict next year's school enrolment

PREDICTING NEXT YEAR'S SCHOOL ENROLMENT

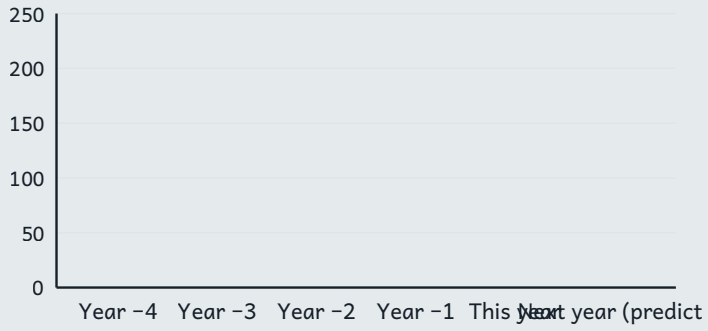
1. This year: **240 pupils**. Next year, **30 pupils** in 6th class are leaving and **35** Junior Infants are starting.
2. Predicted total: 240 − 30 + 35 = **245 pupils**.
3. That's an **increase** of 5 pupils — about 5/240 ≈ **2.1%**.
4. If the trend holds, the school will pass **250 pupils** within two more years.

HOW TO ANSWER TODAY

- **Mean (average).** Add ALL the numbers. Divide by HOW MANY there are.
  Mean of 2, 5, 6, 9 → (2+5+6+9) ÷ 4 = 22 ÷ 4 = 5.5
- **Find the rule.** Look at how each input changes to its output. Try × first, then + or −.
  3 → 6, 5 → 10, 7 → 14 → rule is × 2
- **Pie chart.** A full circle = 360°. A segment's angle ÷ 360° gives its fraction; multiply by 360° to go the other way.
  90° ÷ 360° = 1/4 · 3/5 of 360° = 216°

TRY IT ON THE LINE

Plot enrolment for the last five years as a bar chart, look at the trend, then extend with one extra bar predicting next year.



1. Sample data: 180, 195, 205, 220, 230 → plot one bar each.
2. Look at the bar tops — does enrolment go up by about the same amount each year? _____
3. Draw a dashed bar for next year. Your prediction: _____ pupils.
4. Justify your prediction in one sentence.