

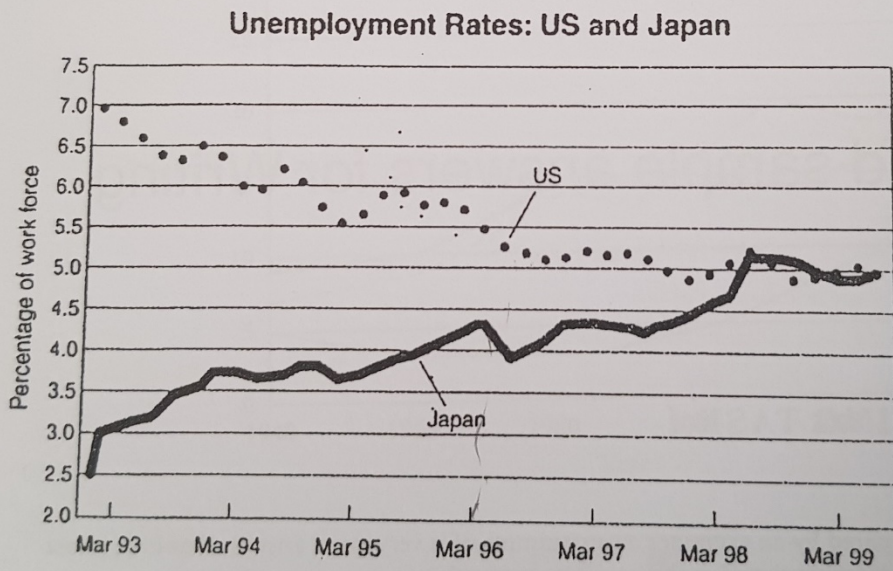
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The graph below shows the unemployment rates in the US and Japan between March 1993 and March 1999.

Write a report for a university lecturer describing the information shown below.

You should write at least 150 words.



From the graph we can receive information about unemployment tally in the corresponding period from March 1993 to March 1999.

A glance at the graph indicates that during this period, the unemployment rate in the US and Japan had opposite trends. Although the US' unemployment rate fluctuated, generally the trend was downwards while Japan was facing an upwards trend.

In March 1993 the unemployment rates in the US and Japan were 7% and 2.5% respectively. However, the US **unemployment rate** dipped to 5% after fluctuating around just under and just above 5% since March 1996 while **that** of Japan saw an exponential growth to 5%. Both unemployment rates were at the same level by March 1999.

Overall, it is clear that despite fluctuations, the unemployment rate of the US experienced a 2-percent decrease while that of Japan saw a 2.5-percent increase in the course of six years.