

## Working with scale - Answers

- The three graphs represent the same information. Explain why they look so different.

The scales are different. The actual data only ranges from 513 - 545 learners but the three graphs cover different ranges of data and the scale increments vary greatly.

Graph 1 covers the data range 510 - 550 and the scale has increments of 5 learners. Therefore, small changes can be made to look more significant.

Graph 2 covers the data range 450 - 600 and the scale has increments of 25 learners.

Graph 3 covers the data range 0 - 600 and the scale has increments of 100 learners. Therefore, large changes can be made to look less significant.

- Which graph might be used to:
  - argue for the need for redundancies at the college  
Graph A makes it look as though there has been a huge drop in the number of learners
  - include in a college brochure  
Graph C might be used to disguise the fact that there has been a drop in learner numbers
- Give a context in which graph A could give a false impression of the facts  
A small decrease in prices could be made to look like a large decrease
- Give a context in which graph C could give a false impression of the facts  
A significant reduction in the number of trains on time could be made to look like there has been no significant change