2.8 Numbers

2 Percentages

(a) 50 per cent
(b) 100 per cent
(c) 400 per cent

3 Simplification

(b) Scores of students applied for the scholarship.
(c) He re-wrote the essay several/ a few times.
(d) Last year dozens of books were published on biogenetics.
(e) Various names were suggested but rejected for the new chocolate bar.
(f) The students thought of a few/ several good topics for their project.

4 Further numerical phrases

(Example answers)
(a) The price of petrol has increased tenfold since 1975.
(b) Two thirds of the students in the group were women.
(c) The new high-speed train halved the journey time to Madrid.
(d) The number of students applying for the Psychology course has risen by 50 per cent.
(e) The number of visitors to the theme park doubled every year from 2007 to 2009.
(f) More than twice as many British students as Italian students complete their first degree course.
(g) Tap water is seven hundred times cheaper than bottled water.

(h) The highest rate of unemployment is in Spain and the lowest in Norway.

(i) 7 per cent of the computers produced had some kind of fault.

(j) A majority of members supported the suggestion, but a large proportion of these expressed some doubts.

5 Practice

(Example answers)

(a) A small minority spoke European languages.

(b) Maths was the most popular future course.

(c) One fifth of the group planned to study Economics.

(d) Only one student was over 23.

(e) Swimming was the favourite sport of one third of the group.

(f) The least popular sports were cycling and tennis.