

Use a Data Point as a Prompt

Give pairs one value from a graph; they explain what it means and what it does not show.

5 min preparation | Science, Maths and Humanities

Before the lesson

Select a graph with clear axes, units and a meaningful interval.

Teach it in four steps

1. Give pairs one value from a graph; they explain what it means and what it does not show.
2. Identify a value or interval precisely.
3. Describe the relationship with quantities and direction.
4. Separate what the graph shows from an explanation that needs subject knowledge.

Worked example: Use a Data Point as a Prompt

A temperature–time graph rises from 20 °C to 28 °C over four minutes. Read the scale before saying the rise is 8 °C; the graph alone does not identify the heat source.

Teacher prompt: “Show the relationship and explain the choice you made.”

Check understanding

Change the scale and ask whether the earlier numerical statement still fits.

Fade the support

Remove the reading checklist while retaining axes and units in the response.

Adapt it across subjects

Maths: compare graph intervals. Humanities: read population or migration data before drawing conclusions.

Adjust the language support

A1-A2 access: keep the subject goal; use visuals, a small word bank, pointing or drawing and partner rehearsal. Use a home language to establish meaning where helpful.

B1-B2 extension: ask for fuller explanations, precise subject vocabulary and qualifications. Reduce sentence openings when learners can organise the response independently.

These are starting points, not placement rules. Judge support from the learner’s response to this task; proficiency can differ across skills.