METHOD < COMMENTING ON A DOCUMENT >

to figure 2

from figure 1

STAGE 1: INTRODUCTION - PRESENTING A DOCUMENT 1. The different types of documents

- map, plan
- line graph, bar graph, pie chart
- table
- photograph, poster, cartoon, engraving
- diagram, flow chart
- text (letter, treaty, speech)
- 2. The presentation
- Rephrase the references (type, title, author, source, publication date and place) in a proper sentence with a verb.
- Define a notion, a word if necessary.
- Give the context:
- geographic: the scale of the document, the type of country mentioned (e.g. on a national scale in the UK a developed country);
- historical: the position of the document in a world history period as precisely dated and defined as possible (i.e. at the beginning of the Cold War, the indirect conflict between the USA and the USSR which took place from 1947 to 1991).

STAGE 2: ANALYSING A DOCUMENT

1. Description: What you see

- **Structure** : Spot the different parts of the document or create different categories to structure your destruction and give them a title.
- **Detail** : Describe each part, category in detail as precisely as possible (give figures, countries, their evolution; describe the elements of a picture).

2. Interpretation: What you know

- **Detail** : Add key notions or knowledge to check if what the document shows is right or wrong, to explain contradictions, to explicit names or events.
- If possible also structure the interpretation: find different parts and give them a title

STAGE 3: CONCLUDING

- Assess the document : Is it reliable (can you believe, trust this doc?) and if it's biased (giving the author's opinion, not neutral).
- Sum up its ideas : Recap what the document really shows. Globally your recap should be nuanced (positive and negative aspects, generality but exception, problem/solution or vice-versa ...).



an/to in-

crease

to go up

by/of

from

to reach a peak /to peak

between

to decrease

to go down

a/to drop

a/to fall

to be stable

to stagnate

date

→ to

Studying a pie chart or circle graph



Studying a map



Studying a text





date

