

Science Skills 6

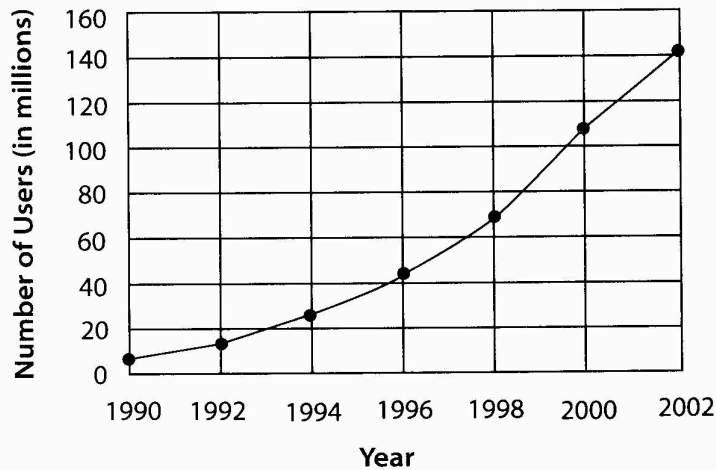
Reading Line Graphs

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Line Graphs: Hello? Are You There?

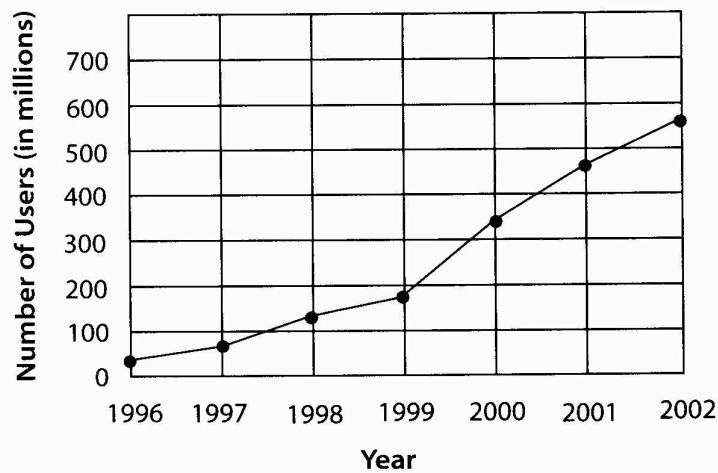
Does it sometimes seem that everywhere you look, people are talking on cell phones or instant messaging friends on the Internet? Well, they are—and in huge numbers! Look at the line graphs below to see just how many people are on the grid. Then answer the questions.

U.S. Cell-Phone Subscribers: 1990–2002



Source: *World Almanac and Book of Facts*, 2004

Internet Users: 1996–2002



Source: Global Policy Forum (www.globalpolicy.org)

Hello? Are You There? (continued)

1. About how many Americans used cell phones in 1990? _____
2. In what year did the number of people in the United States using cell phones reach 50 million? _____
3. How many people were using the Internet in 1996? _____
4. How many people were using the Internet in 1998? _____
5. Which one-year period saw the greatest increase in the number of Internet users? _____
6. Describe the rate of increase in cell-phone use from 1990 through 1996.

7. How many Americans used cell phones in 2002? _____
8. Based on the information shown in the graphs, estimate the number of cell-phone users in the U.S. in 2005. _____
9. Estimate the number of Internet users in 2005. _____
10. What similarity do you notice in these two graphs?

