Technology Connections
Excel Charting Puzzles

Here are some puzzles to challenge your *Excel* charting skills. Use one *Excel* workbook with each puzzle as one or more sheets. For each puzzle, include **your name in the footer** and print both the data and the chart on the same or separate pages. **In the first three puzzles, you need to use one bar, one line, and one pie chart—see which one works best for each puzzle**. The type of chart you use for Puzzle 4 will depend on your question.

Puzzle 1

Some of your teachers grade on total points. Others have a weighted system where some work is a certain percentage of the grade. Think about the type of graph that best shows how items compare to each other as a part of a whole. Graph the data to the right. **Provide enough detail for an audience that may not understand weighted grades.**

Tests and quizzes	40%
Daily work	30%
Personal reading	10%
Final project	10%
Participation	10%

Puzzle 2

Six students kept track of their best typing speed each week over the course of eight weeks. Use *Excel* to create an appropriate graphical representation of their progress. In the fourth week numbers were included in the timings, and in the sixth week timings were increased from two to three minutes. In your chart, be sure to:

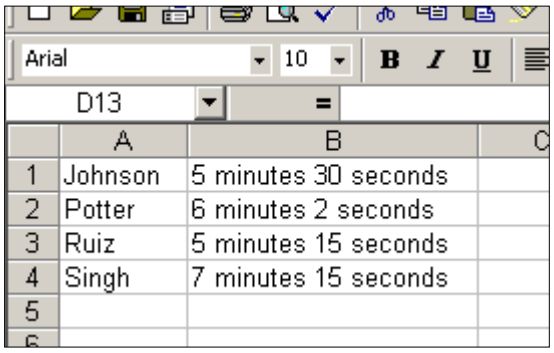
- Include an appropriate title
- Include x and y axis labels
- Include a legend if necessary
- Adjust the scale to allow easier viewing
- Create text boxes that point out the pattern in weeks four and six

Chris: 22, 24, 30, 28, 32, 32, 34, 37
Pat: 35, 48, 53, 53, 58, 55, 57, 61
Tracey: 25, 26, 25, 22, 24, 20, 22, 20
Ari: 38, 43, 56, 58, 64, 65, 72, 77
Mica: 21, 29, 33, 30, 34, 33, 36, 39
Corey: 26, 27, 25, 25, 31, 37, 38, 37

Write a paragraph in a text box at the bottom of the page describing the source of the data and the conclusions you drew from the data. **Your audience is someone who has never taken a speed test or seen your data.**

Puzzle 3

Jordan timed four runners at the track meet in the mile. After keying the results in *Excel* as shown to the right, Jordan couldn't figure out why the graphs were not working. **Fix Jordan's problem and create a graph that would be appropriate for this data.**



Puzzle 4

Interview ten of your classmates. Ask them one question (number of pets, favorite music, eye color, etc.). Use *Excel* to create a chart for the question. Be sure to **include enough detail that someone who knows nothing about your survey can interpret your graph**.