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~ Writing Model ~

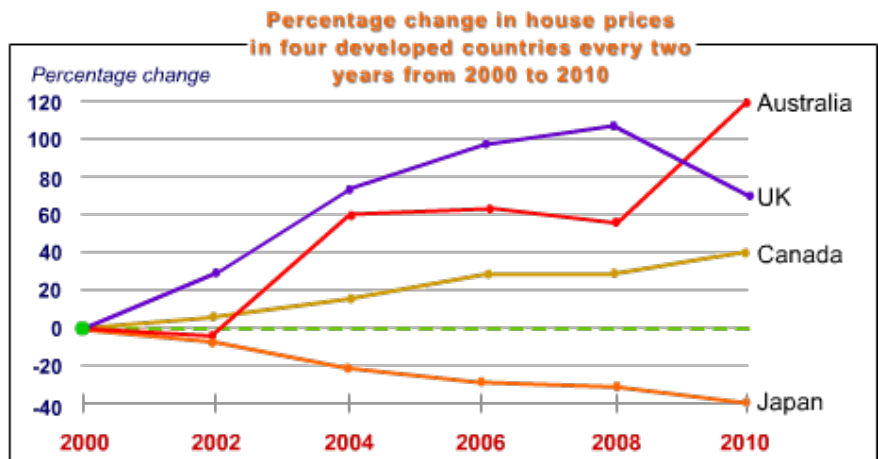
~ IELTS Academic Task 1 Writing / Model One / "Housing Prices" ~

You should spend 20 minutes on this task.

The graph and table give information about the cost of houses in selected developed countries.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Average wages and house prices in Australia in 2000 and 2010			
Year	Average yearly wage (Australian Dollars)	Average house price (Australian Dollars)	House price as % of yearly wage
2000	\$44,000	\$250,000	570%
2010	\$67,000	\$525,000	780%



Model One: "Housing Prices"

The line graph details the percentage change in house prices over a ten-year period for four countries, namely Australia, UK, Canada and Japan, while the table of data supplements the information about Australia by comparing average wages and house prices.

What is very significant about changes in house prices in the four countries over the decade is that houses in Japan declined sharply in value, falling by 40%. This contrasts very strongly with Australia. The latter did see a marginal drop in house prices from 2000 to 2002, but the next two years experienced very strong growth. After a stable period lasting four years, Australian house prices doubled in value, so that over the whole period house prices in Australia recorded growth of 120%.

Similarly, the UK saw a considerable increase in the value of houses. From 2000 to 2008, house prices more than doubled, but after that fell sharply. Canada also stands in sharp contrast because it is the only country where house price growth was regular.

The table of data shows that the 120% change in house prices in Australia was from a quarter of a million dollars to more than half a million dollars. However, average annual wages during that time only increased by about 50%. The effect of this is that in 2000 house prices equated to 570% of the yearly wage, while ten years later that figure had climbed considerably to 780%.