## Reading Graphs – In-class Examples

[ex1, page 62]

The bar graph shows the cents charged per kilowatt-hour for selected electricity companies.

- a. Which company charges the highest rate?
- b. Which company charges the lowest rate?
- c. Approximate the electricity rate charged by the first four companies listed.



d. Approximate the difference in the rates charged by the companies in parts (a) and (b).

[ex] The graph illustrates how the profit a company expects on the sale of a certain item depends on its selling price. The horizontal axis is labeled s and represents the selling price of an item (in dollars). The vertical axis is labeled P and represents the profit (in thousands of dollars) that the company earns. Use the information given in this graph to describe how the profit relates to the selling price.



[ex] The accompanying graph illustrates the level of a certain substance in the blood after a medication containing the substance is taken. The horizontal axis, labeled m, represents the number of minutes after the medication is taken. The vertical axis, labeled A, represents the amount of the substance (measured in milligrams) present in the blood.



- a. How many milligrams of the substance are present in the blood before any medication is taken? This is the body's normal level of the substance.
- b. How long does it take until the amount of this substance reaches its maximum level in the blood?
- c. How long after taking the medication does the level of the substance return to normal?

[ex] The accompanying graph illustrates two possible wage plans for an employee that include a weekly salary plus commission. The line labeled L represents the weekly wages W (in dollars) under the first plan if the employee sells n items. The line labeled M represents the weekly wages W (in dollars) under the second plan if the employee sells n items.

a. If no items are sold, find the weekly salary under each plan. This is called the *base salary*.



- b. Under what conditions will the wages received under the two plans be the same?
- c. Describe how an employee should decide whether to choose plan L or plan M.