Line Graphs

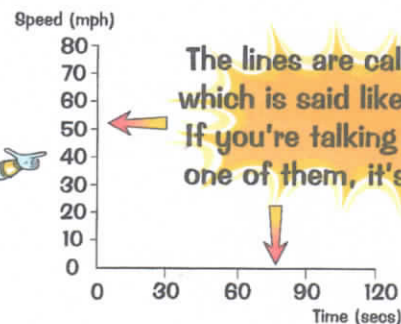## Drawing Line Graphs — just Join the Crosses

EXAMPLE: The table to the right shows the speed of Zanf the Genie at different times during his last egg and spoon race. Plot the speeds on a line graph.

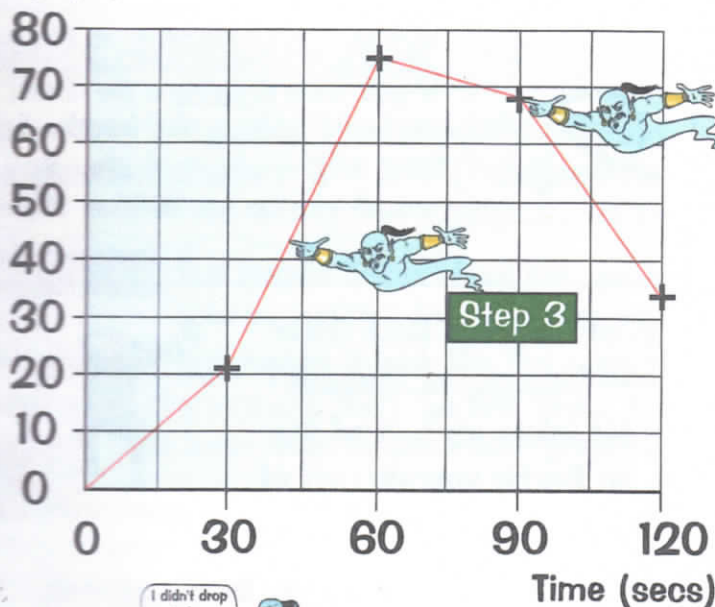| Time	Speed
30 secs	21 mph
60 secs	75 mph
90 secs	68 mph
120 secs	33 mph

Here's how it's done:

Step 1

First draw the lines on the bottom and side of the graph. You have to choose the numbers so that all the speeds and times will fit on.

The lines are called "axes", which is said like "ak-seez". If you're talking about only one of them, it's an "axis".

Step 2

Now draw a CROSS for each pair of times and speeds. First find the time along the bottom and the speed up the side. Then move a finger up from the time and another finger across from the speed. Draw the cross where they meet. (It's just like drawing coordinates on page 76.)

Step 3

Finally, join the crosses with LINES. We don't know how Zanf's speed changed between the crosses, so it's best to use STRAIGHT lines for this graph.

I didn't drop a single egg.

Hmmm...

Drawing line graphs makes me cross (X)...

Now that you've seen how to draw bar charts, pictograms and line graphs, you could try drawing some of your own. How about a bar chart of hair colour for your class, or a pictogram of your friends' favourite foods...