Part A: Match the words on the left with their synonyms on the right. There are two synonyms for each.

1) Increase
   6) slightly
   3) stabilize

2) Decrease
   8) quickly
   1) grow

3) Remain Steady
   1) rise
   2) decline

4) Fluctuate
   4) oscillate
   5) steady

5) Gradual
   2) drop
   7) sharply

6) Moderately
   6) mildly
   5) slow

7) Dramatically
   3) level off
   4) change

8) Rapidly
   7) drastically
   8) fast

Part B

1) Which of the following sentences show an overall trend?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: Let’s go over each sentence.

Choice A: This sentence only tells us about one point on the graph for one of the three countries. It is not an overall trend statement. In fact, it is a mechanical statement and would not the best sentence even for your second paragraph.

Choice B: This is the correct answer. It covers the entire time period of the graph and also tells us what happens (from beginning to end) for each of the three regions. While it doesn’t tell us all of the individual ups and downs that each country experienced, it is a good overall trend statement. We can focus more on the details later.

Choice C: This is a better choice than A in that it covers more of the time period and talks about two countries. However, it leaves off our third region completely and does not tell us anything about what happened from 1985 to 1988.