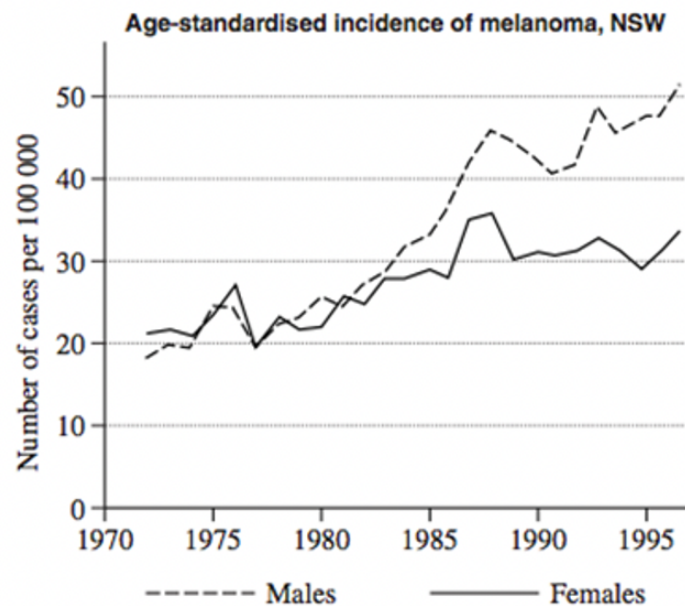


Epidemiological studies have demonstrated a relationship between ultraviolet radiation exposure and the development of melanoma, a type of skin cancer.

The graph shows the rate of occurrence of melanoma in males and females between 1972 and 1997.



A student studying the graph make the following statement.

'The incidence of melanoma will continue to increase beyond 1997 at a greater rate in males than in females.'

Analyse the data in the graph to assess the validity of this statement.

A valid epidemiological study involves a large cohort participating, non-biased questions to interview upon each individual, a study spanning over a large period of time, a number of broad factors employed to ensure that there is no bias in the collective demographic. Within the statement, it cannot be entirely proved that following 1997, the incidence of melanoma will be increasing more for males than to females as it is merely just a prediction. There is a trend identified from 1985-1995

that the number of cases 30 per 100000 then to 50 per 100000 for males approximately is evident that the “incidence of melanoma will continue to increase” . It just cannot be entirely determined that males will continue to be larger than to females following after 1997 where no established points are placed.

UPLIFT EDUCATION