Cost of Grain in Germany from AD 1500 to 1700

Study the graph in order to answer the following questions:

- How does the cost of grain change in Germany between 1500 and 1700?
- Are there years when grain is inexpensive and other years when it is expensive?
- What do you think might cause changes in the price of grain?

Climate (top) and cost of rye in Germany (bottom) from 1500 to 1720
Mortality of People and Livestock in Scotland (1500-1700)

Study the graph to find answers to the following questions:

- In which years do you think life in Scotland was very difficult due to lack of food?
- What conditions can cause the death of sheep?
- What conditions do you think might cause a poor harvest?
- How do you think that the death of sheep and a poor harvest combine to affect the conditions for people living in Scotland?
- What happens to the death rate of humans when food is unavailable?
- Which occurs first: harsh winter conditions, death of sheep, poor harvest, or famine? Why do you think so?

Climate (top) and health of sheep and crops in Scotland (bottom) from 1500 to 1700 (after Lamb, 1995)