

Christine Röll

Worksheets

Expressing Likelihood

Degrees of Likelihood

Certainty (100%)

Probability (~75%)

Possibility (~50% or less)

Improbability (90% or less)

Impossibility (0 percent)

How to express likelihood

Certainty	<p>I am sure/certain that food prices will rise.</p> <p>Food prices will certainly/definitely rise.</p>
Probability	<p>It is highly likely that.../It is very probable that the young people of today will live longer than their parents.</p> <p>The young people of today are likely to live longer than their parents.</p>
Possibility	<p>I'm very busy today. But I may join you later at the pub.</p> <p>I might come later but I don't think so.</p> <p>("Might" is less likely than "may".)</p>
Improbability	<p>John hasn't studied for the exam.</p> <p>It is unlikely that he will pass it./He is unlikely to pass the exam.</p> <p>It is improbable that he will pass the exam.</p> <p>According to the weather forecast, it shouldn't rain today.</p>
Impossibility	<p>According to the weather forecast, it certainly will not rain tomorrow.</p> <p>It definitely won't rain tomorrow.</p> <p>It can't possibly rain tomorrow.</p>

Future trends

In your opinion, what does the future of the following aspects of our lives look like?

Take some notes before you discuss them with your partner(s).

Example: It is highly likely that there will be more electric cars and self-driving vehicles in the future. I'm certain that there is no future for petrol-powered cars.

Trend	My opinion
Mobility and Transport	
Work and leisure	
Artificial intelligence and uses of robots	
The future of learning and education	