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Worksheets

Expressing Likelihood

https://www.teaching-english-and-spanish.de/
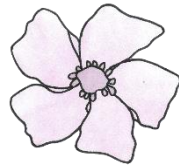
Degrees of Likelihood

Certainty (100%)

Probability (~75%)

Possibility (~50% or less)

Improbability (90% or less)

Impossibility (0 percent)

How to express likelihood

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

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	
Types of jobs and the job market	
Artificial intelligence and uses of robots	
Food and nutrition trends	
Trends in free time	

What do the following photos show?

Make assumptions.

The likelihood inc**reases.**
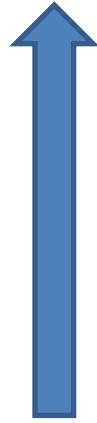
I'm sure/certain that this is a…

This must be a …

This can be a …

This could be a …

Probably this is a …

Maybe this is a…

This may be a …

This might be a …
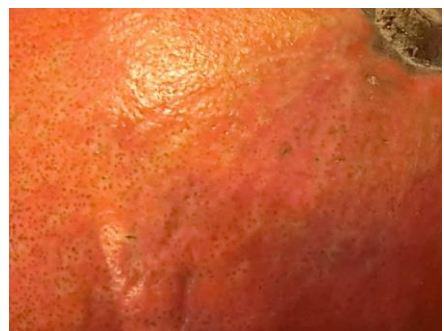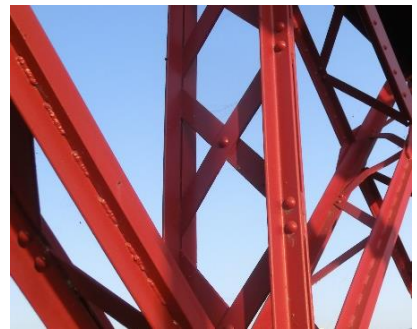
KEY

Turtles

Cactuses

Italian pasta

Tree bark

A bridge

A lamp

Pomegranates