

## B1.10 The Future

### You can learn:

- How to talk about future possibilities.
- How to speculate about the future of the planet.

1



Read about these people talking about their attitudes to the future. Which of their opinions is closest to your own feelings.



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*I'm an optimist. I think everything will be all right in the end. I never worry when I think of the planet's future, or mine. We have all this new technology, and people are basically good. So, why worry?* Edward



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*I feel pessimistic about the planet because of global warming. Also, I'm a pessimist about my future. I often think I'm never going to meet the right man. The economy is in terrible trouble too. It's so depressing!* Amy

1

**B1.10 The Future**

2



**Read through the sentences below, each of which refers to a possible future event. Put a circle around the number which best describes your opinion about the likelihood of these sentences accurately describing *your* future in the next *two* years.**

I am going to become fit and healthy.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	<b>KEY</b> 1 Yes, definitely 2 Yes, probably 3 It's possible 4 It's too difficult to say 5 It's unlikely 6 No, probably not 7 No, definitely not
I will get promoted at work.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	
I will have a wonderful holiday somewhere new.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	
I will become romantically involved with someone new.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	
I will move to a new home in a new area.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	
I will live abroad for a while.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	
I will get a new pet (e.g. a cat, a dog or tropical fish).	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	
I will change career, or my occupation.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	
I will acquire a new skill (e.g. learn to cook/drive/type).	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	
I will have a child with someone I love.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	
I will save up a lot of money for something special.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	
I am going to do something creative (e.g. paint a picture).	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	

**Now discuss your answers with your partner. Discuss the reasons why you think each of these events is likely, or unlikely, to occur in *your* respective futures, in the next *two* years.**

**B1.10 The Future**

3



**Now read through the sentences below, each of which refers to a possible future event. Put a circle around the number which best describes your opinion about the likelihood of these sentences accurately describing the future of the planet and your country in the next ten years.**

There will be a female President of the U.S.A..	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
My country's economy will improve.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
The European Union will break up.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
An AIDS vaccine will be discovered.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Global warming will cause environmental disasters.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Nuclear weapons will be used in a war between two countries.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
There will be female priests in the Roman Catholic church.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
My country will elect a female leader.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Alternative sources of energy will totally replace fossil fuels.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
There will be a global food, or water, shortage.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Developments in technology will lead to longer life expectancy.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
There will be more economic inequality in my country.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7

**KEY**

- 1 Yes, definitely
- 2 Yes, probably
- 3 It's possible
- 4 It's too difficult to say
- 5 It's unlikely
- 6 No, probably not
- 7 No, definitely not

**Now discuss your answers with your partner. Discuss the reasons why you think each of these events is likely, or unlikely, to occur in the future, over the next ten years.**



**B1.10 The Future**

4



Look at the four pictures below. Together with your partner, speculate about what "will" or, "is going to" happen. What are the people going to say? What are they going to do? What next?



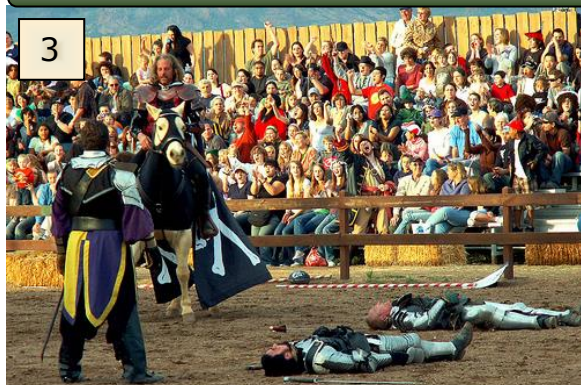
1

Image Attribution to Mr.Wright



2

Image Attribution to Not So Much



3

Image Attribution to cobalt 123



4

Image Attribution toFlickrDelusions

4

*I think in Picture 1, the bride is going to hit the other woman who has taken off her veil. She looks so angry, I think there will be some trouble!*

*I think the woman who has her veil is going to say something about her future husband. She's going to say that he loves her instead, isn't she?*

4



Now choose one of the pictures and write a paragraph about what "is going to happen"/"will happen" next.

*Snow White is going to collapse and then the witch is...*

