



THE FUTURE - DEGREES OF CERTAINTY

MIND THE TRAP!

IN AFFIRMATIVE SENTENCES THE ADVERB GOES **BETWEEN WILL AND THE MAIN VERB.**
 IT WILL PROBABLY HAPPEN.
 IN NEGATIVE SENTENCES THE ADVERB GOES **AFTER WON'T.**
 IT PROBABLY WON'T HAPPEN.

In English language we don't have one future tense. We use several forms to talk about different ideas about the future. **Will, won't, may** and **might** are used to make predictions based on opinions: something that we believe or calculate.

Jack *may be coming* to see us tomorrow.
 We'll *probably finish* the project by tomorrow.

- **May/might/will**

We use **may/might (not) + infinitive without to** to express an uncertain prediction.

Example:

They **may not be** very happy about our visit. (= perhaps they will not be happy)
 There **might not be** a meeting on Friday because the director is ill. (= perhaps there will not be a meeting)

- **Will for opinion-based predictions**

We use **will** for general predictions based on opinions, beliefs and knowledge.

Example:

I think I'll **pass** the exam in June. (=It's based on her opinion, not evidence.)

- We can combine will and won't and some adverbs to express the probability of a future event happening. We also use certain adjectives (likely, unlikely, sure, sure not to) after the Present Simple of the verb to be.

Example:

I'll *probably/possibly/certainly cook* something for dinner.
 We *are likely to face* these dangers in our lifetime.

Expressing degrees of certainty

To say how sure we are about something in the future, we use:

- *certainly, definitely, probably, possibly, with will/won't*
- *likely, unlikely, sure, sure not to, with the Present Simple of the verb to be*

100 %	It <i>will definitely</i> happen. It <i>is sure to</i> happen.
75 %	It <i>will probably</i> happen. It <i>is likely to</i> happen.
50 %	It <i>might/may (not)</i> happen. <i>It's possible it will</i> happen.
25 %	It <i>probably won't</i> happen. It <i>is unlikely to</i> happen.
0%	It <i>certainly won't</i> happen. It <i>is sure not to</i> happen

Task 1

Write questions on what possible changes may take place in the next 30 years. Use the prompts below. Then answer the questions and give reasons for your opinion.

In the next 30 years...

... robots - do the housework? Do you think robots will do the housework?

Robots will likely do all of our housework. - Because we already have this type of robot today. People use robots to build cars so they will certainly use them for housework in the future.

- 1.... we - make contact with aliens?
- 2... parents - be able to choose their baby IQ?
- 3.... China - be the most powerful country in the world?
- 4.... everyone - spend less time watching TV?
- 5.... people - still read books?
- 6.... clothes - look completely different?
- 7.... cars - use batteries instead of petrol?

Task 2 Use the probability in brackets to complete these predictions about climate change during the twenty-first century.

(Exercise 4, p 43, textbook)

The quantity of greenhouse gases/double. (75%)

The quantity of greenhouse gases will probably double/ The quantity of greenhouse gases is likely to double.

Task 3 Use the words in brackets to rewrite the predictions without changing the meaning. (Exercise 5, p 43, textbook)

The Earth is sure not to disappear into black hole. (certainly)

The Earth certainly won't disappear into a black hole.

Task 4

1. Watch a short segment from "Deep Impact":

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEChaxaTm2Y>

and complete the sentences from the President's speech with **will** or **might**.

- a) It's a bit complicated, so it (1) _____ take some time, so I hope you (2) _____ bear with me, hear what I have to say.
- b) If this comet continues on its path around the sun and keeps its present course, sometime on August 16th roughly a year from now, there's a chance that we (3) _____ have impact.
- c) In 2 months, they (4) _____ leave on the shuttle "Atlantis" to board the "Messiah". This is the crew that (5) _____ stop the comet.
- d) Our society (6) _____ continue as normal. Work (7) _____ go on. You (8) _____ pay your bills. There (9) _____ be no hoarding. There (10) _____ be no sudden profiteering. I'm freezing all wages, all prices. What a bottle of water cost you yesterday, it (11) _____ cost you tomorrow.

2. Make your own predictions on what you think will happen after the President's speech.

Task 5 Workbook Unit 5

Do the following: Exercises 1, 2, 3 (p 40), 4, 5 (p 41)

NASTAVA NA DALJINU

UNIT 5 - WHAT A DISASTER!

PART 2 - THE FUTURE - DEGREES OF CERTAINTY

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