

Lesson 7.1 Understanding Probability

An **experiment** is an activity in which results are observed. Each round of an experiment is called a **trial**, and the result of a trial is called an **outcome**. A set of one or more outcomes is an **event**.

The **probability** of an event is a measure of the likelihood that the event will occur. This measure ranges from 0 to 1 and can be written as a ratio, fraction, decimal, or percent. To calculate probability, you must first know the number of possible outcomes.

The possible outcomes when you roll a die are the following: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Every outcome is equally likely.

There is no chance that you can roll a 7.

Answer each question below based on the experiment described.

a**b**

1. You flip a coin.

Possible outcomes?

Outcomes equally likely? (Yes or no)

2. You roll a pair of dice and find the sum.

Possible outcomes?

An impossible outcome?

3. A bowl contains 15 red marbles and 5 green marbles.

Possible outcomes?

Most likely outcome?

4. Twenty names are written on slips of paper in a basket.

Possible outcomes?

Outcomes equally likely? (Yes or no)
