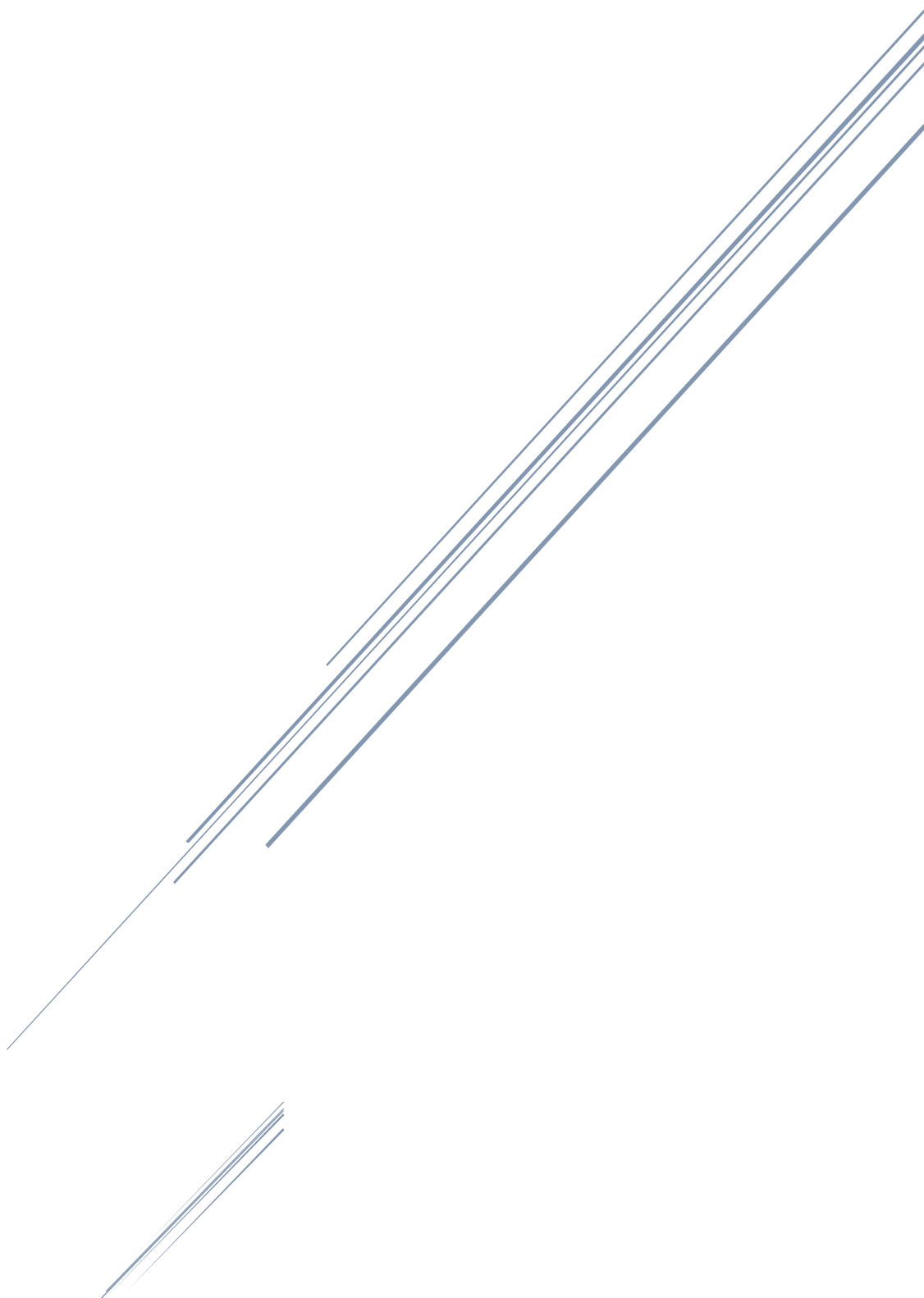


MAKING PREDICTIONS

SESSION 7

TOPICS

- Discussing predictions
- Describing the weather
- Discussing forecasts



Input 7.1A

Future cities

Look at the pictures below and discuss what cities of the future will be like.





Input 7.1B

What's the certainty?

1. By 2050 the world's population is expected to reach 9.8 billion. Nearly 70 percent of this booming population will certainly live in urban areas

2. The world will definitely run out of petroleum products. There's no question of 'if,' only 'when.'

3. The demand for water will probably drastically outstrip supply in several cities in India, China, Africa, and the Americas by the end of 2030.

Cars today

4. According to industry sources, there will perhaps be more demand for smaller cars in the future.

5. We have seen in the last decade that heavy storms and floods are becoming more and more commonplace. Weather patterns are set to become even more irregular in the years to come. In fact, it possibly will become very difficult to even try to forecast weather.

6. All buildings in the future probably will have inbuilt solar panels to make use of the sun's energy to generate electric power.

Input 7.1C**Types of forecasts**

Look at the three types of forecast below. Discuss with your partner how certain or uncertain you think these kinds of forecasts are.

1. 24-hour weather forecasts
2. Forecasts on climate change
3. Company forecasts for sales of new products

Why are some forecasts more difficult to make?

Input 7.1D**How to forecast**

One of the key things with a forecast is time – how far it looks into the future. Weather forecasts are a good example. If you watch the twenty-four-hour forecast, it'll probably be right –

or very close. If it's a seven-day forecast, it might be right, but it may be completely wrong. So when you try to look a long way into the future,

things are less predictable. Another important thing is past experience. To help predict the future, you always try to look at the past, for information. So climate change, for instance, has happened before.

And it helps us to predict how the climate will possibly change in the future. But if you've never done something before, things are much less predictable. If a company's selling a completely new product they've just developed, for example, then forecasts about how well it might sell

are very difficult to make, because there's no past information to look at. So things that are totally new are generally more unpredictable

Input 7.1E

Language summary

We can say:

It **will** **certainly** happen
definitely

when we are certain about something

We can say:

It **will** **probably** happen
probably **will**

when there is a good chance something will happen

When something is possible, we can say:

It **will** **possibly** happen
Maybe it **will** happen
Perhaps it **will** happen
It **will** **perhaps** happen

Input 7.2A**Talking about the weather**

1. What's the weather like today?
2. What's the weather been like recently, e.g. earlier in the day / earlier in the week / last weekend?
3. Would you say today's weather is typical for this time of year? If not, discuss what kind of weather is more typical.
4. How would you describe the weather, here, generally? What sort of weather is most typical in the different seasons.
5. Are there any kinds of weather you never, or very rarely, get here?

Input 7.2B

Weather vocabulary



Input 7.2C**Weather forecast**

Part A Complete the pairs of opposite weather words.

clear	dry	mild	calm
-------	-----	------	------

1. Tomorrow is going to be cold / .
2. It's going to be windy / .
3. It will be cloudy / .
4. The whole day will be wet / .

Part B Now listen to a weather forecast from a radio broadcast. Underline the correct words in the sentences in Part A.

Part C Discuss the questions below about the weather forecast.

1. Do you think the weather forecast you heard was for a place in your country?
2. If so, how common is this type of weather in your country?

Input 7.2D**Extreme weather**

Which words go together to describe extreme weather? Match the following:

deep

rain

freezing

cold

torrential

hurricane

strong

snow

dense

hot

boiling

fog

destructive

wind

Input 7.2E

Language summary

This is how we describe the weather.

a cloud

It's cloudy

the sun

It's sunny

clear, blue sky

rain

It's rainy, It's wet

heavy rain, torrential rain

It's dry

wind

It's windy

strong wind, gale, hurricane

It's still

fog

It's foggy

dense fog

It's clear

snow

It's snowing

heavy snow, deep snow

frost

It's freezing

Input 7.3A**Forecast prediction scenario**

Part A: Use these three words below to fill in the gaps: **forecast / prediction / scenario**.

1. A is a general word that means saying or guessing what will happen in the future.
2. A is a more confident view of the future. It is often an expert opinion – for example, what meteorologists think the weather will be like over the next 24 hours, or how many products a company thinks it will sell in the next 3 months.
3. A is a possible situation. It may be imaginary. It may also be a realistic possibility that might happen in the future.

Part B: What do you know about global warming? Use the words “forecast”, “predict” and “scenario” to talk about the subject.

You could also use some of the words below.

carbon dioxide (CO₂)

climatologists

polar region

ice melt

sea level

Input 7.3B

Climate change and Asia

Read the text about the impact of climate change in Asia and write down the answers for the questions.

A recent global study says that climate change is going to hit Asian countries the hardest in the next fifty years.

Asia has more people living in coastal cities than any other region in the world and hence sea level rising and extreme weather patterns will have the greatest effect on people and places in Asia.



By 2050, parts of Asia may see increasing average temperatures, destructive heat waves, torrential rainfall events, severe hurricanes, and changes in water supply.

Some countries in Asia, like Japan, South Korea and China however are expected to see lower impacts of climate change. In fact, these countries are likely to have agricultural advantages from climate change and an increase in crop yields. But there are risks to their infrastructure and to the food supply chains due to extreme weather. These will in turn have long-lasting affects around the world.

While many problems are forecast, Asia is also in a position to tackle these challenges if they want to. This is because most countries in the region are still developing their infrastructure both in the rural and urban areas. The countries here have good opportunities to make sure that whatever is built can withstand what is coming in the not-so-distant future.

1. According to the article, why will Asia be affected most by climate change? What will Asian countries experience?
2. What positive impact will climate change have on some countries? But what are the negative consequences that will affect the world?
3. Is it too late for Asia? Why or why not?

Input 7.3C

Language summary

We use **will** and **going to** to discuss forecasts that are quite certain.

Tomorrow **will be** a cold day.

It will rain later in the afternoon.

Tomorrow **is going to** be a cold day.

It's going to rain later in the afternoon.

When we make forecasts, we can use **could** discuss possibilities – things that may or may not happen.

It **could** snow at the end of the week. = It **may/might** snow.

There **could be** some rain in the evening. = There **may/might** be some rain.

We can use the first conditional to make predictions of things we are quite certain about.

If it rains in the evening, there **might** be a thunderstorm.