hypothesis /hʌɪˈpɒθəsɪs / noun

1. an idea or explanation of sth that is based on a few known facts but that has not yet been proved to be true or correct

2. guesses and ideas that are not based on certain knowledge

SYN speculation

hypothetical /ˌhaɪpəˈθetɪkəl/ adj

***Remove fuel from asylum boats Abbott:***

**JULIA GILLARD, PRIME MINISTER: We're consulting on the floor price and there's nothing new in that.  
WAYNE SWAN, TREASURER: Well I'm not getting into the hypotheticals of that. We've got a fixed price for three years.**

***Andrew Laming: Behind the scenes on the Liberal spill:***

**and I'm hoping that we have an unsuccessful spill motion we can get going, but I will be supporting it, and if that happens, then you have the hypothetical question of: where next?**