

actually (*adv*)
appear (*v*)
certain (*adj*)
certainly (*adv*)
chance (*n*)
clear (*adj*)
clearly (*adv*)
confidence (*n*)
confident (*adj*)
definite (*adj*)

definitely (*adv*)
depend (*v*)
doubt (*v*)
expect (*v*)
expected (*adj*)
impossible (*adj*)
in fact (*phr*)
judge (*v*)
likely (*adj*)
perhaps (*adv*)

possibility (*n*)
possible (*adj*)
possibly (*adv*)
predict (*v*)
prediction (*n*)
seem (*v*)
sure (*adj*)
surely (*adv*)
truth (*n*)
unlikely (*adj*)

Appear and seem

Appear and seem are synonyms. Appear is more formal.

Likely and unlikely

Note that likely and unlikely are adjectives, not adverbs. They are used in the following structures:

likely/unlikely to do something

likely/unlikely that ...

A Complete the sentences using words from the box.

appears certain definitely impossible likely perhaps possibility possible
possibly seem sure unlikely



- 1 He doesn't _____ to be very happy. _____ he's had an argument with his girlfriend.
- 2 It's _____ they're going on holiday. They don't look too worried, so they're _____ to catch their train.
- 3 They're _____ on a break between classes. It's almost _____ that they know each other well.
- 4 It _____ to be quite cold, and they're watching a sport, but it's _____ to tell which one.
- 5 There's a _____ they've been queuing for a long time. It's _____ they'll all get on the next bus.
- 6 They _____ like it, so it's _____ they'll buy it.

B Choose the best words to complete the sentences.

- 1 We *certainly* / *surely* enjoyed our holiday; in fact, we can't wait to go back!
- 2 He *appear* / *seems* to be happy because he's smiling.
- 3 They need a *definite* / *possible* answer by tomorrow, or they'll rent the apartment to someone else.
- 4 It is almost *certain* / *sure* that the next school play will be *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.
- 5 I'm *definitely* / *likely* going to apply for university – there's no question about it.
- 6 We've set off so early; *certainly* / *surely* we'll get there on time.
- 7 It's *definite* / *possible* I won't be able to go to your barbecue, but I'm not sure yet.
- 8 I suppose our team might win the competition, but it isn't very *likely* / *possibly*.

C Complete the answers to the questions. Use one word or phrase from the vocabulary list on the previous page for each space. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

- 1 What caused the fire? ~ There's a _____ that it was started deliberately.
- 2 Are you going to accept that job offer? ~ I'm _____ thinking about it.
- 3 Who do you think is going to win? ~ _____ the Italian will beat the American, don't you think?
- 4 Why are there so many people at the information desk? ~ They _____ to have cancelled some flights.
- 5 Shall we meet again next week? ~ I'm afraid I'm _____ to have any free time. How about the week after?
- 6 Are the dates of your holiday likely to change? ~ No, they're _____. We've booked our flights.
- 7 Where's Harry? ~ _____ he's forgotten about the meeting. Shall I call him?
- 8 Do we need to have dinner before we go out? ~ I don't think so. There's _____ to be some food at the party.
- 9 Did you know that Jemima passed her driving test after only two lessons? ~ That's _____! I don't believe it.
- 10 Will you be free on Saturday? ~ _____. I'll let you know.

D Complete the comments using words from the box.

actually chance clearly confidence depends on doubt expect judge predictions truth

Where do you think humans will be living in 100 years' time?

I ¹_____ there will be settlements on Mars by then. I have every ²_____ that we will be able to overcome the challenges of inhabiting the Red Planet.

It ³_____ conditions on Earth. ⁴_____, we have to do more to protect the planet if we're going to stay here.

⁵_____, I think we'll be living underground. I ⁶_____ we'll be able to survive in the heat on the Earth's surface.

It's difficult to ⁷_____ how long resources on Earth will last. According to the latest ⁸_____, there will be serious problems with water in the future.

The ⁹_____ is, nobody knows what will happen in the future. There's a ¹⁰_____ we might be living in cities under the water!

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E Match the first part of the sentences (1–10) to the second part (a–j).

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 The advantages of solar power are clear; | a I'm sure she'll be good for the team. |
| 2 There's no question about what you must do; | b it's really too soon to judge. |
| 3 The company has started to lose money; | c I expect they're in your jacket pocket. |
| 4 I have every confidence in our new coach; | d we were all asleep at the time. |
| 5 You're always losing your house keys; | e it's predicted to hit the coast at around 8 a.m. |
| 6 The journey is taking longer than I expected; | f clearly, you should tell them the truth. |
| 7 I haven't decided if he's a good maths teacher; | g in fact, I really enjoyed it. |
| 8 There's going to be a hurricane tomorrow; | h they aren't very confident about its future. |
| 9 No one's sure what actually happened; | i I thought we'd be there an hour ago. |
| 10 I didn't think I'd like the film; | j there's no doubt about its benefits. |

F Complete the text. Use one word or phrase from the vocabulary list on the previous page for each space. Use the correct form of the words.

There is no longer any ¹_____ that climate change is causing sea levels to rise. ²_____, NASA has calculated that the average sea level rise is currently 3.41 mm per year. It is ³_____ that the areas most likely to be affected by rising sea levels are low-lying islands, such as the Maldives. The World Bank ⁴_____ that this island nation in the Indian Ocean could be completely under water by 2100. By the end of this century, sea levels are ⁵_____ to rise between 10 cm and 100 cm. The Maldives government is fighting the ⁶_____ by taking a number of measures. A sea wall has been built around the capital Malé, which will give the city a better ⁷_____ of surviving against the rising waters. The government is also ⁸_____ it can achieve an economy free from carbon emissions by 2020. It hopes that this will help stop climate change. The ⁹_____ is, rising sea levels are not the only problem facing the country. The future of tourism in the area ¹⁰_____ the climate: currently, violent storms are keeping tourists away.