



Università degli Studi di Cagliari
Corso di Laurea Magistrale in Scienze
dell'Amministrazione

Lingua Inglese 2
A.A. 2019/2020

WHAT ABOUT PREDICTIONS?

<https://theenglishchannel.britishcouncil.org/robotics-and-artificial-intelligence>

PREDICTIONS

One of the big things will be extreme environments where it's difficult, dangerous or impossible for humans to work. That _____ be in nuclear power, in space, in deep mining, or in the oceans

- a. might b. should c. must

PREDICTIONS

One of the big things will be extreme environments where it's difficult, dangerous or impossible for humans to work. That *might* be in nuclear power, in space, in deep mining, or in the oceans

a. *might* b. should c. must

PREDICTIONS

‘So how else _____ this tech be used?’

‘AI-equipped machines _____ automate agriculture’

a. is

b. have to

c. could

PREDICTIONS

‘So how else *could* this tech be used?’
‘AI-equipped machines *could* automate
agriculture’

a. is

b. have to

c. could

PREDICTIONS

Autonomous scouts _____ be scanning the earth monitoring for biodiversity and the climate.

a. should

b. going to

c. can

PREDICTIONS

Autonomous scouts can be scanning the earth monitoring for biodiversity and the climate.

a. should

b. going to

c. can

Active grammar

Certain will definitely

- ⊕ : *Our houses _____ / **certainly** have to become much better insulated.*
- : *We **definitely** won't waste so much.*

Probable will probably

- ⊕ : *Fuel _____ become much more expensive.*
- : *Homes _____ probably won't be as big.*

Possible

- ⊕ : *The climate may / **might** / **could** change significantly.*
- : *We **may** / _____ might not all have cars.*

- 1 How does the position of the adverb (*probably, definitely, certainly*) change in positive and negative sentences?
- 2 Which modal verb can't be used in the negative to talk about possibility?

Making a guess about the future

If we make a guess about the future, we use *may (not)*, *might (not)* or *could*, but NOT *couldn't*:

*If we wait for a few days, the prices **might be** cheaper.*

*I **could** get a part-time job next summer. The tickets **may not** arrive in time.*

*~~X The engineer **could not** be able to fix it.~~ ✓ The engineer **might not** be able to fix it.*

6 Choose the correct words in *italics*.

- 1 Technology *probably will/will probably* become less expensive.
- 2 We *definitely will/will definitely* be able to do more and more online.
- 3 We *probably won't/won't probably* use so much water.
- 4 We *might not/couldn't* all have our own cars.

6 Choose the correct words in *italics*.

- 1 Technology *probably will*/*will probably* become less expensive.
- 2 We *definitely will*/*will definitely* be able to do more and more online.
- 3 We *probably won't*/*won't probably* use so much water.
- 4 We *might not*/*couldn't* all have our own cars.

New Total English Intermediate SB (p. 48)

1. I'll probably go and look at flats tomorrow.
2. I probably won't be able to afford one flight in the centre.
3. But I might find one on the outskirts of town.
4. I don't have a lot of time, so I might not be able to see very many flats tomorrow.
5. But I'll probably find one if I keep looking.
6. I could find a flatmate to help with the bills.

Study this example situation:

You are looking for Bob. Nobody is sure where he is, but you get some suggestions.

Where's Bob?

He may be in his office.

(= perhaps he is in his office)

He might be having lunch.

(= perhaps he is having lunch)

Ask Ann. She might know.

(= perhaps she knows)

We use **may** or **might** to say that something is a possibility. Usually you can use **may** or **might**, so you can say:

- It **may** be true. *or* It **might** be true. (= perhaps it is true)
- She **might** know. *or* She **may** know.

The negative forms are **may not** and **might not** (*or mightn't*):

- It **may not** be true. (= perhaps it isn't true)
- She **might not** work here any more. (= perhaps she doesn't work here)

May I? or *May we?* are used for polite requests, in the same way as *Can I?* or *Can we?*. It is a very polite form:

May I ask you a question?

May I have a glass of water, please?

- *may* is occasionally used in formal English to mean *to be allowed to*:

Guests may bring husbands or wives if they wish.

- *may* and *might* are usually used in question form only with *I* or *we*; other persons more often use the positive with *Do you think ...?:*

He might be late. — Do you think he might be late?*

The negative of *may* is *may not*. (NOT *mayn't*).

The negative of *might* is *might not* or *mightn't*.

Complete the telephone conversation using *may (not)* or *might (not)*.
Where two answers are possible, write them both.

RECEPTIONIST: Good morning, Bentley Supplies, how 1. _____ I help you?

CALLER: 2. _____ I speak to John Brown, please?

RECEPTIONIST: I'm afraid he isn't here this morning. Can I take a message?

CALLER: No, I need to speak to him personally. Do you know what time he 3 _____ be back?

RECEPTIONIST: He 4 _____ be back for an hour after lunch but he 5 _____ make it if the traffic is bad.

CALLER: I 6 _____ be able to call this afternoon as I have a meeting. Could you tell John that I'll phone him this evening at home?

RECEPTIONIST: Certainly. 7 _____ I have your name please?

CALLER: Yes, it's David Marks.

Complete the telephone conversation using *may (not)* or *might (not)*.
Where two answers are possible, write them both.

RECEPTIONIST: Good morning, Bentley Supplies, how 1. **may** I help you?

CALLER: 2. **May** I speak to John Brown, please?

RECEPTIONIST: I'm afraid he isn't here this morning. Can I take a message?

CALLER: No, I need to speak to him personally. Do you know what time he 3 **might** be back?

RECEPTIONIST: He 4 **may/might** be back for an hour after lunch but he 5 **may/might not** make it if the traffic is bad.

CALLER: I 6 **may/might not** be able to call this afternoon as I have a meeting. Could you tell John that I'll phone him this evening at home?

RECEPTIONIST: Certainly. 7 **May** I have your name please?

CALLER: Yes, it's David Marks.