



| LOW | SCALE OF PROBABILITY | | HIGH |
|---|--|--|--|
| it's highly unlikely it's impossible there's no way | it's unlikely there's not much chance it might just happen | there's a 50/50 chance it's possible it may happen it could happen it's likely | there's a good chance it's highly likely it's almost certain definitely there's no doubt it's bound to happen |

Discussion


4 Work in groups of three. You are futurists. Choose a column each, A, B or C. Prepare a one-minute presentation discussing the likelihood of each event happening by 2050. Using the expressions from Exercise 3 again and take turns to present your views, answer questions and defend your ideas.

| A | B | C |
|--|--|--|
| Everyone will work from home. | Everyone will go back to university every ten years. | Nobody will work more than three days a week. |
| There will be a single world currency. | Mobile cities will be built on the oceans. | Virtual offices will be accessible from anywhere in the world. |
| There will be hotels and conference centres on the moon. | The majority of senior managers will be women. | Chinese will be the language of business. |

Internet research

Search for the keywords *Alvin Toffler* to find out about this leading futurist and his company's work.

Listening

5  2:42 Listen to a conversation between two friends at a party, and mark the future events in the box *U* (unlikely) or *P* (planned).

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> go freelance | <input type="checkbox"/> start evening classes | <input type="checkbox"/> stay at Artip | <input type="checkbox"/> find a new job |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Artip take-over | <input type="checkbox"/> read the job ads | <input type="checkbox"/> give up smoking and drinking | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> retrain as a marketing assistant | | | |

Which arrangement has Ashley forgotten to mention?

Discussion

6 With a partner, discuss your plans, intentions and hopes for the future. Talk about:

- the rest of the day
- this evening
- tomorrow
- the weekend
- next week
- next month
- next holidays
- next term
- next year
- your next job
- the next 25 years
- your retirement. (It's never too soon to plan ahead!)