



The first step to getting what you want out of life is this: Decide what you want.

*Ben Stein, American writer*

## Decisions, decisions

### 1 GRAMMAR *may / might*

- a Mary is 18 and in her final year of high school. She's thinking about her future. Complete her thoughts with *might* and a verb from the box.

fail    ~~go~~    get    have to    live    rent  
share    continue    not want



Next year I <sup>1</sup> *might go* to college. Or I <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ a job so I can start saving to buy a car. I <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ living at home with my family or I <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ an apartment. I <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ by myself or I <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ the apartment with my friend Sue. Then again, she <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ to share with me!

Or I <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ my final exams! Oh no! If that happens, I <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ stay in school for another year. Why is life so difficult? Maybe I should take a course in decision-making!

b Read the sentences. Circle the correct form of *may* / *might* (*not*).

- 1 If the taxi doesn't come soon, we might / **might not** miss the train.
- 2 I'm really tired, so I **may** / **may not** go out tonight.
- 3 We love skiing, so we **might** / **might not** go to the Alps for our next vacation.
- 4 Sue hasn't practiced much, so she **might** / **might not** fail her driving test.
- 5 I haven't seen Jim with Elena for a long time. They **may** / **may not** be together anymore.
- 6 If you do lots of housework, your mom **might** / **might not** give you some money.
- 7 **A** I have a temperature and a headache.  
**B** You **might** / **might not** have the flu.
- 8 My parents **may** / **may not** come to the party – they think they'll be on vacation then.

### 3 VOCABULARY noun formation

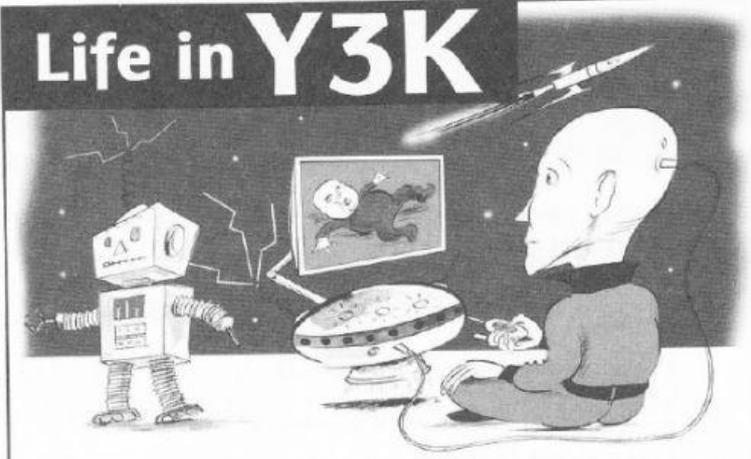
a Complete the chart with *-tion* or *-sion* nouns or the correct verb. Use your dictionary if necessary.

Verb	Noun
communicate	<i>communication</i>
<i>conclude</i>	conclusion
correct	_____
_____	confusion
demonstrate	_____
inject	_____
_____	organization
predict	_____

b Complete the sentences with verbs or nouns from a.

- 1 And finally, in conclusion, I'd just like to thank you all very much for being here today.
- 2 E-mail and cell phones have made it much easier to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 I need to go to the doctor for an \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 The scientists gave an impressive \_\_\_\_\_ of the new robot.
- 5 Let me make a \_\_\_\_\_ about the future. I don't think there will be any more global wars.
- 6 Can you help me \_\_\_\_\_ the conference?

#### 4 READING



The illustration is titled "Life in Y3K" in a large, bold, white font at the top left. It depicts a futuristic scene. On the left, a small, boxy robot with a square head and a rectangular body stands on a dark surface. In the center, a person with a bald head and a dark suit is sitting on the floor, looking towards a computer monitor. The monitor shows a small, round, white object with a face. To the right of the person is a large, round, flat object, possibly a table or a piece of equipment. In the background, there is a dark space with a bright, streaking object, possibly a rocket or a comet, moving across the sky. The overall style is a simple line drawing with some shading.

Most of us don't know what life will be like in the future, or even where we'll be a year from now, but it's fun to speculate. So, what might the world be like in the year 3000 (or Y3K as it is now called)? Here is what one expert suggests:

**Q What forms will our bodies have in Y3K?**

**A** We will be bigger and we'll need more food. The average adult male might weigh about 100 kilograms. People will live for hundreds of years and will have computers in their brains.

**Q Computers in their brains! What do you mean?**

**A** We will soon be able to repair the human brain and finally replace it completely. In the future you might be able to record all your experiences on a disk, so you can relive them when you want to. Communication will be 100 times faster, too. Now we communicate by speaking, but in the future we may communicate by thoughts and images.

**Q Will we still die?**

**A** We might be able to avoid death, replacing all our body parts when we need to. If you die, it may only be by choice. It could be your choice – or it might be the choice of the government that runs your mind computer.

**Q And what will humans do with their time?**

**A** Computers will do all the work. All manufacturing production will be automated. We might just enjoy ourselves while technology does everything.

**Q What about space travel?**

**A** We might take control of space and live there, too. There might be colonies on Mars or on other planets. Robots will travel far into the galaxy, and we may find alien life.

**Q But will we be happier?**

**A** Well, I'm an optimist. I think in the end most of us will be happy, and the world will be a better place. But who knows?

**a** Read the interview. Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| 1 People will be larger and live much longer in the future.                 | <u>T</u> |
| 2 We won't be able to replace our brains.                                   | —        |
| 3 We might be able to communicate without speaking.                         | —        |
| 4 We will definitely not die.   | —        |
| 5 We won't need to work.  | —        |
| 6 People and robots will travel in space.                                   | —        |
| 7 We won't find any aliens.   | —        |
| 8 The expert thinks the world may be a better, happier place in the future. | —        |