

Unit 4 Grammar

- A. Choose the option that best completes each statement about the use of modal verbs and expressions.

SPECULATING ABOUT THE FUTURE

A Modal verbs & expressions

We use a range of modal verbs and expressions to speculate about the future: *will, can, could, may, might, going to*. (See page 18 for more information about the use of these modals for speculating about the past.)

We use *will, can't* and *going to* to make ⁽¹⁾*confident / tentative* predictions:

This is what's going to drive businesses in the future.

We use *may, could, might* to express ⁽²⁾*confident / tentative* predictions. We add *well* after *could, might, may* to increase the level of certainty:

It might well affect almost all industries.

We use modal + *be* + verb + *-ing* to describe an action ⁽³⁾*in progress at / completed by* a given point in time in the future:

Consumers of the future will be asking for durability.

We use modal + *have* + past participle to describe an action ⁽⁴⁾*in progress at / completed by* a given point in time in the future:

Those companies that haven't been able to adapt will have disappeared.

B Adverbs

We use **adverbs** to add information about how ⁽⁵⁾*frequent / certain* we think a future event or state might be.

We use *possibly* and *probably* to show that we are ⁽⁶⁾*confident / not so confident*:

It could possibly be one of the best ways to move forward.

We use *certainly, definitely* to show that we are ⁽⁷⁾*confident / not so confident*:

Car manufacturers will certainly have to change their business models.

The adverbs usually come ⁽⁸⁾*before / after* an affirmative modal verb and ⁽⁹⁾*before / after* a negative modal verb.

C Common expressions

Which of the expressions below is the most/least confident?

⁽¹⁰⁾ <i>it's likely to/that</i>	<i>it's sure to</i>
<i>it's unlikely to/that</i>	<i>there's a (good) chance that...</i>
<i>it's bound to</i>	<i>(the) chances are that...</i>

- B. Choose the option with the correct structure of each sentence with modal verbs and expressions.
- The sharing economy will certainly change the way we do business.
 - The sharing economy certainly will change the way we do business.
- a. The sharing economy could be a big success in my country.
- b. It's sure that the sharing economy could be a big success in my country.
- a. It might surely be hard to convince people about the sharing economy movement.
- b. It will be hard to convince people about the sharing economy movement.
- a. I like the idea of sharing, but I'm unlikely to want to share my car.
- b. I like the idea of sharing, but I'm bound to want to share my car.
- a. Finding enough people willing to share their possessions will possibly be difficult to start with.
- b. Finding enough people willing to share their possessions will have been possibly be difficult to start with.

