

UNIT 9 — future possibility and certainty (*may, might, could, will, won't, probably, definitely*)

Function

We use *may, might, and could* to talk about things that are possible in the future. We use *probably* when we are almost sure about the future. We use *definitely* when we are very sure about the future.

Form

Future possibility	Future probability
I might go there. She may study there. They could move to a new house.	I'll probably come to the party.
Future certainty	Negative future possibility
I'll definitely email her.	He may not be happy. She might not like it.
Question form	Short answers
Do you think you might ...? Do you think you'll ...?	Yes, I might. / No, I might not. Yes, I definitely/probably will.

A Read and choose the correct option.

Cameron: What are your plans for next year? Do you think you 1 **might** / **definitely** move out of your parents' house?

Janet: Yeah, I **might**. I'm not sure, though. I'm in my final year of college, so I'll 2 **might** / **probably** have to study a lot more. I 3 **probably** / **might** have to give up my part-time job, so I'll 4 **probably** / **might** not have less money.

Cameron: Yeah, the final year is tough, believe me! You'll 5 **may** / **definitely** have to study more. It 6 **may** / **probably** be a good idea to stay with your parents for another year.

Janet: Why do you think that?

Cameron: Well, it's not always easy sharing an apartment. You 7 **might** / **definitely** not get along with your roommates.

Janet: Yeah, I suppose you're right! Oh, well, Mom and Dad 8 **probably** / **could** **won't** be upset if I hang around for another year.

B Unscramble and write the sentences.

1 an / rent / next / I'll / definitely / apartment / year / .

2 probably / share / we'll / bills / the / .

3 you / next / think / do / live / you'll / alone / year / ?

4 she / study / in / different / a / may / country / .

5 might / I / not / go / the / movies / to / .

6 our / apartment / balcony / have / new / won't / probably / a / .

7 definitely / they'll / be / tomorrow / there / .