

# 88 Probability

## Next week in the life of pessimistic Poppy, aged 15



Sunday: I'm going to a barbecue next Saturday. I'll definitely see Max (the boy I fancy).

Monday: My best friend Sarah said she's going. She's prettier than me, so Max is more likely to fancy her.

Tuesday: I've got nothing to wear - I doubt that he'll even notice me.

Wednesday: If he does speak to me, I expect he'll think I'm silly.

Thursday: I've heard there's another party on Saturday - Max might go there instead.

Friday: There's a good chance it'll rain tomorrow. The barbecue will be a disaster.

Saturday: Woke up with a spot on my face - I'm definitely not going. It's so unfair!

### GLOSSARY

<b>pessimistic</b>	always believing bad things will happen <b>OPP optimistic</b>
<b>(about sth)</b>	
<b>definitely</b>	certainly; for sure
<b>fancy sb inf</b>	be sexually attracted to sb
<b>likely (to do sth)</b>	If sth is <b>likely</b> , it will probably happen. <b>OPP unlikely (to do sth)</b>
<b>doubt (that)</b>	think that sth probably will not happen or is not true
<b>expect</b>	think or believe sth will happen
<b>silly</b>	not sensible or clever; stupid
<b>might</b>	used to say that sth is possible <b>SYN may</b>
<b>a chance</b>	a possibility <b>a good chance</b> a more than 50% possibility
<b>spot</b>	an unpleasant red or yellow mark on the skin. Many teenagers have them.
<b>unfair</b>	not right, or not having the same advantages as sb else <b>OPP fair</b>

### 1 Good news or bad? Write G or B.

► I'm optimistic about the weather. G

1 They fancy each other. ....

2 She thinks he's silly. ....

3 The exam results were very unfair. ....

4 I've got a big spot on my nose. ....

5 She's very unlikely to fail the test. ....

6 There's a good chance we'll win. ....

7 I don't expect to get the job. ....

### 2 Complete the definitions.

► If you are **pessimistic** that something will happen, you believe it won't happen.

1 If something is **definitely** going to happen, it will ..... happen.

2 If something is **likely** to happen, it will ..... happen.

3 If something **might** happen, you can also say that it ..... happen.

4 If there's **a chance** that something will happen, it means it's ..... that it will happen.

5 If you **expect** something to happen, it means you ..... it will happen.

6 If you think that something is **unlikely**, it means it is ..... not going to happen.

7 If you **doubt that** something will happen, it means you ..... think it is going to happen.

8 If you are **optimistic**, you always believe that ..... things will happen.

### 3 Rewrite the sentences using the word in capital letters.

► I'm not sure if we'll go out or not. **MIGHT** We **might** go out.

1 It's probable we'll lose the match. **LIKELY** .....

2 I'm sure you'll get there on time. **DEFINITELY** .....

3 I'm not sure if Keira will come. **MAY** .....

4 It's 75/25 whether they'll win the election. **CHANCE** .....

5 I don't think we'll see the film at 10.00. **DOUBT** .....

6 I think prices will probably go up. **EXPECT** .....

7 I don't think the sales results will be good. **PESSIMISTIC** .....



### TEST YOURSELF