

## Predicting and Forecasting

### READ THE KEY EXPRESSIONS BELOW:

#### Key expressions used for predicting and forecasting

##### Asking for predictions:

- Is... likely to....? (*Is the office likely to close?*)
- Are ... likely to...? (*Are employees likely to quit?*)
- Do you think ...will...? (*Do you think we will return to the office soon?*)
- Do you expect...? (*Do you expect to see an increase in productivity?*)



##### Making predictions:

- ... will probably / definitely... (*Our employees will probably feel more motivated.*)
- ... probably / definitely won't.... (*It definitely won't be easy for people.*)
- ... is /are (more-less) likely / unlikely to... (*The office is unlikely to close completely. / "Teleworkers are less likely to get promoted because they are missing face-time with their bosses" - Adam Grant.*)

##### Expressing hope:

- I hope... will / won't .. (*We hope the new scheme will save the company a lot of money.*)
- Hopefully... will / won't ... (*Hopefully, our teleworkers will have similar results.*)

### THINK AND CHECK:

Now, try to say each sentence in a different way using the word in brackets.

- 1 Do you think you'll be more productive? (expect)
  - 2 I'm sure we'll save money. (definitely)
  - 3 I hope I won't work in the evenings. (Hopefully)
  - 4 You'll probably find it difficult at first. (likely)
  - 5 I'm unlikely to work from home. (probably)
- Example: Do you expect to be more productive?*

Write them down in your notebook and then check your answers on the following page:



**3** Complete the extract from a radio interview with the words in the list.

*hopefully likely ~~think~~ are probably will*

A So, what do you <sup>1</sup> think are the most urgent effects of climate change to deal with?

B Well, water levels are rising and many coastal areas <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ likely to be flooded in the future.

<sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, governments <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ take more measures to protect communities near the sea. If they don't, a lot of people will <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ die.

A Are we doing enough to cut carbon emissions?

B I think there are positive signs. If governments, companies and each of us continue to reduce our carbon footprint, global warming is <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ to slow down as scientists have predicted.