

3.4 Speaking and writing

Speaking saying how likely something is to happen

1 Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first, using the word in bold.

- 1 I definitely wouldn't do that. **chance**
There is no chance of me doing that.
- 2 I really don't think he will go there. **doubt**
I _____ go there.
- 3 I expect she will take the job. **surprised**
I _____ took the job.
- 4 It's possible that we will move house. **suppose**
I _____ move house.
- 5 That's sure to be better. **bound**
That's _____ better.

2a Complete the conversation with the missing words.

- A I read this article the other day which said that as robots can do more and more for us, we will have a lot more leisure time in the future. I ¹ suppose it might happen. What do you think?
- B Er, well, I think robots and other machines are ² _____ to do more and more of our housework. That's been happening for a long time. A hundred years ago, it took about four hours to wash a load of clothes.
- A Really? Now you just pop it in the machine.
- B Exactly, but I ³ _____ that it will mean we get more leisure time. I ⁴ _____ we'll just spend more time on our jobs.
- A Oh, there's no ⁵ _____ of me doing that. I spend enough time at work already!
- B Hmm. I wouldn't be ⁶ _____ if it happened.

b 3.6))) Listen and check your answers to exercise 2a. Remember that your answers might be slightly different from the listening.

Writing a balanced opinion essay

3 Complete the essay with the phrases in the box.

for example in conclusion in my opinion in recent years
others, however, feel to give another example
~~without doubt~~

Increasingly, we are relying on computers for more and more daily tasks – running transport systems, monitoring our healthcare, even flying planes. Some people believe that we are becoming too dependent on technology. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

1 Without doubt, we are becoming more and more dependent on computers for a variety of everyday tasks.

2 _____, computers have been used to control trains and planes, and now we even have driverless cars coming onto the market. Mobile phones, which nowadays are small computers, are also being used to monitor health conditions such as diabetes, as well as providing hundreds of other small services.

Some people believe that this process of computerization is completely beneficial. ³ _____, parents can now use their mobile phones to receive information about not just whether their baby is crying upstairs, but their baby's temperature, breathing patterns and so on. ⁴ _____, people with diabetes can use their phones to track their insulin levels, and the data can be sent directly to their doctor.

⁵ _____ that we are becoming too dependent on technology. For instance, consider how few people actually know the phone numbers of their friends and family. Most of us depend on our phone to dial them automatically. More seriously, we need to consider what will happen when we have robots doing many jobs. How will less-educated people make a living?

⁶ _____, it is clear that there are many benefits to the rise in technology. However, ⁷ _____, we also need to think carefully about the possible consequences in all areas of our lives.

I can ...

say how likely something is to happen.

Very well Quite well More practice

write a balanced opinion essay.