
DISCUSSION PLAN: Probability

1. If something *usually* happens, does that mean it will *probably* happen again?
2. If something happens *sometimes*, will it *probably* happen again?
3. If something has *never* happened before, does that mean it will *never* happen?
4. If something has *always* happened in the past, does that mean it will *always* happen in the future?
5. If something has happened *rarely* in the past, could it happen *frequently* in the future?
6. If something happens *once in a while*, it is possible that, in the future, it will happen *always*?

DISCUSSION PLAN: When do you say “probably”?

1. Linda says, “When I’m older, I’ll probably be taller than I am now.” What information does Linda have that makes her say this?
2. Linda says, “None of my baby teeth have fallen out yet, but they probably will—all of them” What reason does Linda have for saying this?
3. Linda says, “Today is Friday, so tomorrow will probably be Saturday.” Should Linda say “probably” or “certainly”?
4. Linda says, “According to the weather forecast, there’s an 80 percent chance of rain, so it probably will rain.” Why does Linda think it will probably rain, instead of saying “it’s possible that it will rain”?
5. Linda says, “Every September, as far back as I can remember, I’ve done a lot of sneezing. I’ll probably sneeze a lot this September.” What evidence does Linda have for expecting to sneeze a lot this September?
6. Linda says, “Every September I sneeze a lot; I probably have hay fever.” Does Linda have a good reason for thinking she probably has hay fever?
7. Linda says, “I don’t know where my teacher goes after school each day, but she probably goes home.” What evidence does Linda have for saying this?
8. Linda says, “School began at 9:00 on Monday, and it began at 9:00 on the four days after that, so it probably will begin at 9:00 tomorrow.” Do you agree with Linda?