

Varied Fluency

Step 4: Using Adverbs to Indicate Degrees of Possibility

National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 5: (5G1.6) [Using adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility](#)

English Year 5: (5G1.6) [Indicating degrees of possibility using adverbs \[for example, perhaps, surely\]](#)

Differentiation:

Developing Questions to support using adverbs to show certainty or uncertainty in single-clause sentences. For example, 'It is likely you will win the contest.'

Expected Questions to support using adverbs to show certainty or uncertainty in multi-clause sentences. Includes sentences with different types of adverbs. For example, 'The children were unlikely to tiptoe into the playground as they would all be too keen to run around and scream.'

Greater Depth Questions to support using adverbs to show certainty or uncertainty in multi-clause sentences. Includes sentences with different types of adverbs. Uses adverbs to show certainty in negative situations. For example, 'Maybe she forgot her medical appointment this afternoon because she was very busy at work and lost track of time.'

[More resources](#) from our Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling scheme of work.

Did you like this resource? Don't forget to [review](#) it on our website.

Using Adverbs to Indicate Degrees of Possibility

1a. Insert the adverb you could use in the sentence below to show certainty.

The boxes will _____ be gone by next week.

definitely

possibly



VF

Using Adverbs to Indicate Degrees of Possibility

1b. Insert the adverb you could use in the sentence below to show uncertainty.

_____ the washing will dry when the wind blows.

maybe

certainly



VF

2a. Rewrite the sentence making it less certain.

The assembly will definitely finish by playtime.



VF

2b. Rewrite the sentence making it more certain.

Maybe the birds sing louder in the morning.



VF

3a. Change the adverb in the sentence to make it seem less certain.

At the harbour, we could probably catch some crabs.



VF

3b. Change the adverb in the sentence to make it seem more certain.

The churchyard possibly looks eerie in the moonlight.



VF

4a. True or false? You could change the adverb from 'of course' to 'perhaps' in the sentence below and not change its degree of certainty.

Every donation could, of course, make a big difference.



VF

4b. True or false? You could change the adverb from 'probably' to 'possibly' in the sentence below and not change its degree of certainty.

The handkerchief was probably in his back pocket.



VF

Using Adverbs to Indicate Degrees of Possibility

5a. Insert the adverb you could use in the sentence below to show uncertainty.

_____ you could travel by coach instead if the train is going to be more expensive.

maybe	perhaps
of course	definitely



VF

Using Adverbs to Indicate Degrees of Possibility

5b. Insert the adverb you could use in the sentence below to show certainty.

The children were _____ in for a surprise when they got home as their parents had booked a trip to London.

of course	definitely
maybe	clearly



VF

6a. Rewrite the sentence making it more certain.

The boys walked confidently across the playground to the girls who would possibly go to the disco with them.



VF

6b. Rewrite the sentence making it less certain.

The plane would certainly be taking off before three o'clock, meaning we would arrive after midnight.



VF

7a. Change the adverb in the sentence to make it seem less certain.

We could definitely have a garden party on Saturday as it is forecast to be sunny and dry.



VF

7b. Change the adverb in the sentence to make it seem more certain.

It is unlikely that the parcel will arrive in time for her birthday, which is next Tuesday.



VF

8a. True or false? You could change the adverb from 'truly' to 'undoubtedly' in the sentence below and not change its degree of certainty.

The sunset on the horizon was truly amazing, so they couldn't wait until tomorrow to watch it all over again.



VF

8b. True or false? You could change the adverb from 'perhaps' to 'certainly' in the sentence below and not change its degree of certainty.

Trees in Autumn will perhaps lose their leaves, so walking through the woods could be fun.



VF

Using Adverbs to Indicate Degrees of Possibility

9a. Insert the adverb you could use in the sentence below to show certainty.

_____ it rained last night as there is a lot of moisture on the grass and pavements.

undoubtedly	possibly
clearly	obviously



VF

Using Adverbs to Indicate Degrees of Possibility

9b. Insert the adverb you could use in the sentence below to show uncertainty.

Due to the unexpected fire drill this morning, we will _____ have a chance to start our activity.

barely	definitely
certainly	potentially



VF

10a. Rewrite the sentence making it less certain.

Samira had been unwell all week so she would clearly be able to go to the party at the weekend.



VF

10b. Rewrite the sentence making it more certain.

Benjamin was a big fan of the band so it was highly possible he wouldn't go to the concert.



VF

11a. Change the adverb in the sentence to make it seem less certain.

Pigs can certainly understand far more than humans think they can, and are incredibly intelligent animals.



VF

11b. Change the adverb in the sentence to make it seem more certain.

The scientist would potentially find a cure for the strange alien illness that swept the world, before the end of the day.



VF

12a. True or false? You could change the adverb from 'indeed' to 'undoubtedly' in the sentence below and not change its degree of certainty.

The shed will indeed be completed by Bonfire Night, so we will be able to shelter inside during the fireworks.



VF

12b. True or false? You could change the adverb from 'certainly' to 'definitely' in the sentence below and not change its degree of certainty.

They certainly couldn't believe that they had enough money to go on their dream holiday, so they checked three times before booking.



VF

Varied Fluency

Using Adverbs to Indicate Degrees of Possibility

Developing

- 1a. **definitely**
- 2a. Various answers, for example: The assembly will maybe finish by playtime.
- 3a. Various answers, for example: possibly
- 4a. False. Using perhaps will change the degree of certainty to become less certain.

Expected

- 5a. **maybe or perhaps**
- 6a. Various answers, for example: The boys walked confidently across the playground to the girls who would surely go to the disco with them.
- 7a. Various answers, for example: potentially
- 8a. **True**

Greater Depth

- 9a. **clearly, obviously, undoubtedly**
- 10a. Various answers, for example: Samira had been unwell all week so it would be likely that she is unable to go to the party at the weekend.
- 11a. Various answers, for example: probably
- 12a. **True**

Varied Fluency

Using Adverbs to Indicate Degrees of Possibility

Developing

- 1b. **maybe**
- 2b. Various answers, for example: The birds definitely sing louder in the morning.
- 3b. Various answers, for example: definitely
- 4b. False, using perhaps will change the degree of certainty to become less certain.

Expected

- 5b. **definitely**
- 6b. Various answers, for example: The plane would be unlikely to take off before three o'clock, meaning we would arrive after midnight.
- 7b. Various answers, for example: likely
- 8b. False. Changing the word 'perhaps' to 'certainly' makes the sentence more certain.

Greater Depth

- 9b. **definitely**
- 10b. Various answers, for example: Benjamin was a big fan of the band so it was highly unlikely he wouldn't go to the concert.
- 11b. Various answers, for example: undoubtedly
- 12b. **True**