

MAKING PREDICTIONS

B2-C1 | Functional language for forecasting and anticipating change

1 Useful phrase patterns

Use these phrases to make careful predictions and explain the basis for them.

It is likely that ...

It is likely that demand will increase.

We can expect ...

We can expect some initial delays.

I anticipate that ...

I anticipate that costs will fall over time.

There is every chance that ...

There is every chance that they will agree.

It seems likely that ...

It seems likely that the trend will continue.

I would predict that ...

I would predict that sales will recover.

The outlook is ...

The outlook is positive for next year.

This is expected to ...

This is expected to improve efficiency.

2 Respond to the situations

Write one well-supported prediction for each situation. Try to use a range of phrases.

1. Customer interest has risen every month this year.

2. A company is introducing a new system to all staff.

3. Energy prices have fallen for several months.

4. A proposal has support from every department.

5. Online sales have grown steadily for two years.

6. A new training course has received strong feedback.

7. A city is investing heavily in public transport.

8. A factory is replacing old machines with automated equipment.

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B2-C1 | Suggested answers

3 Possible answers

These are examples only. Other accurate and suitable responses are also correct.

Encourage students to use a range of phrase patterns from page 1.

1. It is likely that customer demand will continue to rise.

2. We can expect some short-term problems as staff learn the new system.

3. I anticipate that production costs will fall if energy prices stay low.

4. There is every chance that the proposal will be approved.

5. It seems likely that online sales will keep growing.

6. I would predict that more staff will join the training course.

7. The outlook is positive for public transport in the city.

8. This is expected to improve speed and efficiency.
