

SPECULATING

B2-C1 | Conversation practice examples for discussing possibilities carefully

Conversation: A sudden fall in attendance

Coordinator	Attendance at the evening classes dropped this month. Have people lost interest?
Trustee	One possibility is that the new bus timetable makes it harder to get home afterwards.
Coordinator	That changed in September, didn't it? The last bus now leaves at eight forty.
Trustee	Yes. It may well be that people don't want to leave a class halfway through.
Coordinator	Should we move the start time earlier?
Trustee	Perhaps, but we can't assume that transport is the only reason. Some classes haven't been affected.
Coordinator	So we should ask the people who stopped coming before changing everything.
Trustee	Exactly. I wouldn't rule out the fees being a factor too, especially for people attending more than one course.

Key phrases: One possibility is that / It may well be that / we can't assume that / I wouldn't rule out

Conversation: Unexpectedly slow website orders

Iris	We've had more website visits this week, but fewer completed orders. That seems odd.
Mark	It's possible that visitors are comparing prices rather than planning to buy straight away.
Iris	The drop started after we added the new payment option. Could that be connected?
Mark	It could. There's a chance that the payment page isn't loading correctly on some phones.
Iris	The desktop version works when I test it.
Mark	That helps, but it's unlikely that a desktop test would reveal every mobile problem.
Iris	I'll ask the technical team to check the main phone types before we change the prices.
Mark	Good. It remains to be seen whether this is a technical fault or a change in customer behaviour.

Key phrases: It's possible that / There's a chance that / it's unlikely that / It remains to be seen whether

Create your own conversation

Choose one prompt. Use at least two key phrases and include a natural response and follow-up.

Prompt 1: Explore several explanations for falling attendance. Identify what evidence would help distinguish them.

Prompt 2: Discuss an unexpected online sales pattern. Separate plausible explanations from what your checks actually show.