



1. In the table write down some events that could happen to you. Then say whether they are *likely* or *not likely* to happen. The first two have been done for you.

Event	Likely or Not likely
I will sleep at home tonight.	Likely
I will still be awake at midnight tonight.	Unlikely

2. Put one of the following words in the table with the events:

**Impossible**

**Unlikely**

**Likely**

**Certain**

Event	Probability
I will see King Henry VIII tonight.	Impossible
The sun will shine at some time tomorrow.	Likely
It will snow tomorrow.	
If I choose a card from a pack, it will be a heart.	
I will see a rainbow tomorrow.	
The sun will rise tomorrow.	
If I put a tennis ball on water, it will float.	



1. In the table write down some events that could happen to your parents or guardians. Then say whether they are *likely* or *not likely* to happen. Two suggestions have been made for you.

Event	Likely or Not likely
My parent/guardian will use a computer tomorrow.	
My parent/guardian will eat chocolate tomorrow.	

2. Put one of the following words in the table with the events:

**Impossible**

**Unlikely**

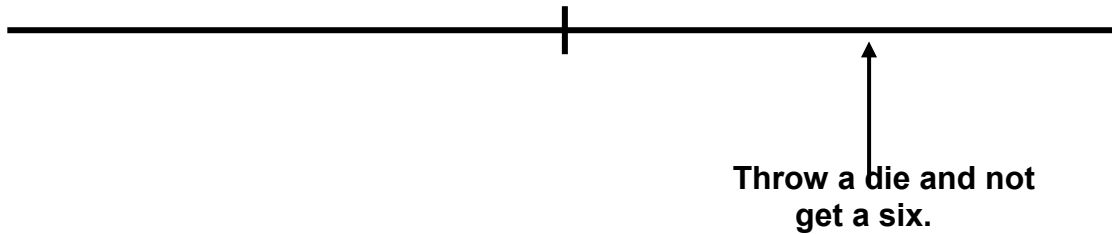
**Likely**

**Certain**

Event	Probability
I will eat carrots this evening.	
My teacher's birthday is on a Friday this year.	
It will rain for most of next Sunday.	
If I choose a card from a pack, it will be a heart, diamond, club or spade.	
If I type a sum into a calculator, it will give me the correct answer.	
If I put a football on the side of a hill, it will roll uphill.	
I shall know all my tables by the time I am fourteen years old.	

1. Draw out this probability scale and put the following events on it in the right places. One has been done for you.

No chance                  Poor chance                  Even chance                  Good chance                  Certain



- a) Throw a die and not get a six.
- b) Toss a coin and get a head.
- c) Toss a coin and get a 4.
- d) You being on television tonight.
- e) Choose a card from a pack and it is not the ace of clubs.
- f) Put your hand in your pocket now and pull out a £10 note.

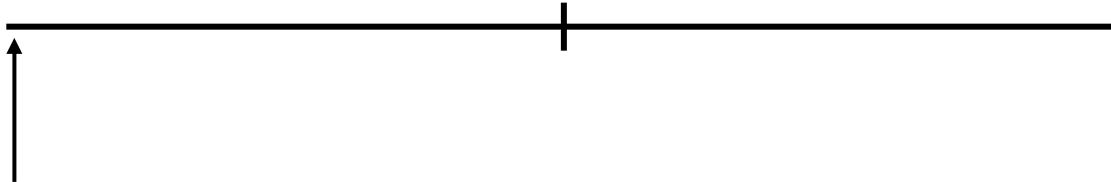
2. Can you write down some events that only have two outcomes? Here are some to start you off:

- a) Toss a coin and get a head or a tail.
- b) Pass or fail a swimming test.
- c) Throw a die and obtain an even number or an odd number.
- d)
- e)
- f)
- g)
- h)

Are all these events in the centre of the probability scale?

1. Draw out this probability scale and put the following events on it in the right places. One has been done for you.

No chance                  Poor chance                  Even chance                  Good chance                  Certain



**Catch a whale with a normal fishing rod.**

- a) Catch a whale with a normal fishing rod.
- b) A giraffe giving birth to a lion.
- c) Choosing a letter of the alphabet at random and it being a consonant.
- d) Choose a season at random and it being summer or autumn
- e) Choose a number from **one** to **ten** at random. The probability of it being seven or greater.
- f) A person in your class being more than **140**cm tall.

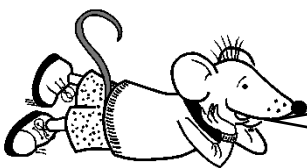
2. Can you write down some events that only have two outcomes? Choose one of the outcomes and put this on the probability scale.

e.g. Choose a factor of **16** at random. What is the probability of this factor being **even**?

The factors of **16** are **1, 2, 4, 8** and **16**, so the probability of one of these chosen at random being **even** is high (near the 'certain' on the probability scale)

**Now write down some of your own.**

Are all these events in the centre of the probability scale?



What's the probability of me falling asleep in the next five minutes?

Pretty high, I'd say.





## Answers

### Page 1

1. Answers will vary according to events children choose.
2. Snow: unlikely (depends on time of year)  
Heart: unlikely  
Rainbow: unlikely  
Sunrise: likely (almost certain)  
Tennis ball: Likely (almost certain)

### Page 2

1. Answers will vary according to events children choose.
2. Carrots: likely or unlikely according to diet of children  
Teacher's birthday: unlikely  
Rain on Sunday: unlikely  
Card: Certain  
Calculator: Likely (almost certain)  
Football: impossible  
Tables: Likely

### Page 3

1. **a)** Good chance    **b)** Even chance    **c)** No chance    **d)** Nearly no chance  
**e)** Very good chance    **f)** (Probably) very poor chance
2. All these events are not necessarily in the centre of the probability scale. Eg passing or failing a swimming test depends on the difficulty of the test and the ability of the swimmer.

### Page 4

1. **a)** Almost no chance  
**b)** No chance  
**c)** Good chance  
**d)** Even chance  
**e)** Poor chance  
**f)** Depends on class.
2. These events are unlikely all to be in the centre of the probability scale. Children should realise that just because there are two possible outcomes to an event, they are not necessarily equally likely.