

1. Test your knowledge about space exploration:

- How many people are in space right now?:
a) 0 b) 4-7 c) 10 or more
- SpaceX is:
a) NASA program b) a rocket c) a private company
- How many planets are there in the Solar System?
a) 8 b) 9 c) 7



GRAMMAR

2. Complete the bubbles with right words/phrases.

likely certain good chance bound
will unlikely strong likelihood doubt no chance

100% sure

All our computer equipment **will** be replaced in the near future.

If you have personal problems, it's **bound** to affect your work.

After all his hard work, he's **certain** to pass his exams.

almost sure

There is a **good chance** that a recession can be avoided.

Our sales are **likely** to rise next month.

There's a **strong likelihood** that he will run for president next year.

don't think so

They had begun to **doubt** that it could be done.

The lack of evidence means that the case is **unlikely** to go to court.

There is **no chance** of our company to sell more cars.

The future of space exploration

3. In pairs, discuss how likely the predictions below are. Use the language from the previous exercise.

- Privacy will become a thing of the past.
- By the early 2030s, we will be able to copy human consciousness to a computer.
- Wireless Internet connection will be available at any point of our planet.
- All forms of transport will eventually become electric.
- The effects of climate change will be irreversible.
- Physical money (coins and notes) won't exist anymore.
- Scientists will unlock the genetic secrets that could allow us to live for centuries, maybe forever.

VIDEO

4. Before watching the video, match the underlined expressions with their meanings (1-6):

- If you set your sights too low, you will not be sufficiently challenged and will be let down when you achieve your aim.
- We had to stop some flights to Spain for the winter time because they were not commercially viable during that time.
- The man in the wheelchair insisted that he was capable of taking care of himself.
- The boosters will detach from the rocket at certain altitude and return to the launch pad.
- The biggest thrill is when your team wins a game against their worst rivals.
- The latest success of SpaceX may spell trouble for other spaceflight companies as they start falling behind.

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| 1. device for increasing force or power d) | 4. having the ability or quality necessary to do or achieve a specified thing c) |
| 2. have goals which are not considered difficult to reach a) | 5. mean or have as a result f) |
| 3. a sudden feeling of excitement and pleasure e) | 6. financially sustainable b) |

5. Watch the video and answer these questions (to 3:50):

- How much more cargo than any other rocket can Falcon Heavy carry?
Almost twice as much
- What kind of Falcon Heavy features does Elon Musk name?
It's a super heavy class rocket, that's economically viable and can carry people to the Moon
- What has been the biggest challenge to make Falcon Heavy fly?
Redesigning the centre core (the middle section)
- What is Elon Musk most excited about in terms of that rocket launch?
Inspiring people to get excited about space again
- Why is SpaceX a fantastic idea according to Bill Nye?
They want to make rockets be like planes – you can use them multiple times

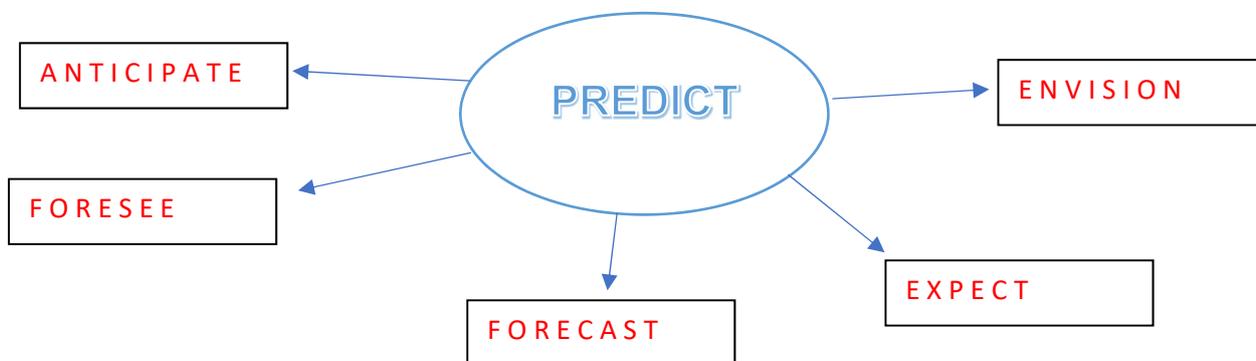
DISCUSSION

6. One of the interviewees in the video said the following:

“There are two questions we have all asked: where did we come from and are we alone in the universe? and if you want to answer those two questions you have to explore space.”

- Do you believe that these questions can be answered through space exploration?
- Are these questions something that you’ve ever thought about?
- Does the humankind really need answers to these questions?

7. Fill in the gaps to create synonyms for the word “to predict”:



8. Use the words from exercise to create 5 predictions about the future of space exploration. Discuss in pairs or groups how likely you think these predictions are.

EXAMPLE:

We predict that humans will have a permanent colony on Mars around 2030.

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