

likely1. ['laɪkli] *a*1. *обыкн. predic* вероятный, возможный

where are you likely to be this evening? - где вы предполагаете быть сегодня вечером?, где вы скорее всего будете сегодня вечером?

it is quite likely - весьма вероятно

I am likely to be in London next week - я, вероятно, буду в Лондоне на следующей неделе

he is not likely to forget her - он вряд ли забудет её

an incident likely to lead to war - инцидент, который вполне может привести к войне

2. правдоподобный; заслуживающий доверия

a likely story - правдоподобная история

a likely account - заслуживающий доверия отчёт

that's a likely story! - *ирон.* конечно!, всё так и было!

3. 1) подходящий, удовлетворительный

he seems a likely young fellow for the job - он, по-видимому, подходящий молодой человек для этой работы

2) подходящий, удобный (для чего-л.)

likely place - подходящее место

what is the likeliest time to find him at home? - в какое время легче /удобнее/ всего застать его дома?

4. подающий надежды

a likely subject - многообещающая тема

a fine likely boy - славный малый, который может далеко пойти

5. *амер.* красивый; с располагающей внешностью

a likely child - милое /очаровательно/ дитя

2. ['laɪkli] *adv*

вероятно (*обыкн.* most likely, very likely)

I shall very likely see you again - я скорее всего ещё увижусь с вами

as likely as not - вполне вероятно, возможно

he will forget all about it as likely as not - не исключено, что он обо всём этом забудет

likely

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

like·ly [likely **likelier** **likeliest**] **adjective, adverb** *BrE* ['laɪkli] ^m *NAmE* ['laɪkli] ^e

adjective (**like-lier**, **like-li-est**) **more likely** and **most likely** are the usual forms

1. probable or expected

• the most likely outcome

• ~ **(to do sth)** Tickets are likely to be expensive.

• ~ **(that...)** It's **more than likely that** the thieves don't know how much it is worth.

• They might refuse to let us do it, but it's **hardly likely** .

2. seeming suitable for a purpose

Syn: ↑promising

• She seems the most likely candidate for the job.

Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old Norse líkligr, from líkr; related to ↑alike.

Thesaurus:

likely *adj.*

• What is the most likely cause of the infection?

possible • • **potential** • • **prospective** • • **prone to sth** • • **inclined to do sth** • • **liable to sth** • |especially written **probable** •

Opp: unlikely

be likely/possible/probable **that...**

likely/prone/inclined/liable **to do sth**

a likely/possible/potential/probable **cause/effect/consequence/outcome**

Likely or probable? Probable is much more frequent in written than in spoken English. **Likely** is very frequent in both, and used in a far wider range of structures and registers than **probable** :

• sb/sth is likely to do sth

✗ sb/sth is probable to do sth

Language Bank:**expect***Discussing predictions*

▪ The number of people using mobile phones to purchase goods and services is **expected** ▪ / **likely** ▪ to more than double by the end of 2015.

▪ Experts have **predicted** ▪ / **forecast** ▪ that the number of people using their mobile phones to pay for goods and services should exceed 190 million in 2015.

▪ This figure **is set to** ▪ reach 200 million by 2016.

By ▪ 2015, 800 million mobile phone users worldwide **will** ▪ be participating in social networks via their phone.

▪ Sales of mobile phones in 2009 were lower **than expected** ▪.

▪ The company's announcement of 1.26 billion handsets sold for the year is **in line with predictions** ▪.

Language Banks at ↑fall, ↑illustrate, ↑increase, ↑proportion

Example Bank:

- It is entirely likely that the company will make another offer.
- It is highly likely that the factory will have to close.
- It seems very likely that he will be forced to resign.
- Juries became increasingly likely to acquit.
- The doctors didn't think it likely that she would ever heal completely.
- They're hardly likely to get home before ten.
- This match was never likely to be a classic.
- a development they believed would make nuclear war more likely
- the best deal they are ever likely to get
- It's more than likely that the thieves don't know how much it is worth.
- They might refuse to let us do it, but it's hardly likely.
- What is the most likely cause of the infection?

Idioms: ↑as likely as not ▪ ↑likely story ▪ ↑most likely ▪ ↑not likely!

adverb

Grammar Point:

likely

In standard *BrE* the adverb *likely* must be used with a word such as **most**, **more** or **very**: ▪ We will most likely see him later. In informal *NAmE* *likely* is often used on its own: ▪ We will likely see him later. ◇ ▪ He said that he would likely run for President.

likely

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **like** *ly*¹ **S1 W1** /'laɪkli/ *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ **adjective** (comparative **likelier**, superlative **likeliest**)

[Word Family: noun: ↑likelihood; adverb: ↑likely; adjective: ↑likely ≠ ↑unlikely]

[Date: 1300-1400; Language: Old Norse; Origin: glikligr, from glikr 'like']

1. something that is likely will probably happen or is probably true **OPP unlikely**:

▪ Snow showers are likely tomorrow.

likely outcome/effects/consequences etc

▪ What are the likely effects of the law going to be?

▪ the most likely cause of the problem

likely to do/be something

▪ Children who live in the country's rural areas are very likely to be poor.

more/less/most/least likely

▪ Young drivers are far more likely to have accidents than older drivers.

▪ It is more than likely (=almost certain) the votes will have to be counted again.

▪ It could have been an accident, but that was hardly likely (=not very likely).

▪ He could offer no likely explanation when I asked him.

2. [only before noun] suitable for a particular purpose:

▪ the three most likely candidates for president

▪ One likely source of energy is wind power.

3. a likely story *spoken* used to tell someone you do not believe what they have just said

• • •

COLLOCATIONS

adverbs

▪ **very/highly/extremely likely** It did not seem very likely that he was still alive.

▪ **more/most likely** At this age, boys were more likely than girls to be active in sports.

▪ **quite likely** *British English* (=very likely) As parents, if we expect bad behaviour we are quite likely to get it.

▪ **less/least likely** The smallest puppies are the least likely to survive.

▪ **hardly likely** (=not very likely) It seems hardly likely that she would tell her husband about it.

▪ **more than likely** (=very likely) She'll be late, more than likely.

▪ **increasingly likely** The project looked increasingly likely to fail.

verbs

▪ **seem/appear/look likely** Which candidate seems likely to win?

nouns

▪ **a likely explanation** What is the most likely explanation for the way she acted?

▪ **a likely result/outcome** the most likely outcome of the election

▪ **a likely effect/consequence** Consider the options open to you, and their likely consequences.

▪ **the likely impact** (=the likely effect or influence of something) What is the likely impact of the new factory on the local environment?

▪ **a likely cause/reason** the likely cause of the accident

II. **likely**² *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ **adverb**

[Word Family: noun: ↑likelihood; adverb: ↑likely; adjective: ↑likely ≠ ↑unlikely]

1. probably

most/very likely

▪ I'd very likely have done the same thing in your situation.

(as) likely as not *spoken* (=very probably)

As likely as not, the meeting will take place in the village pub.

2. **not likely!** *spoken especially British English* used to disagree strongly, or to say that something will not happen:

" 'He said you'd be giving them a lift.' 'Not likely!'

• • •

THESAURUS

- **probably** *adverb* used when saying that you think something is true or will happen, although it is not completely definite: He's probably gone home. | Rod is probably going to study law. | 'Is she lying?' 'Probably.'
- **likely** *adjective* probably going to happen or probably true: The most likely result is a win for the Democrats. | The price of petrol is likely to rise again this year. | It is likely that we'll lose.
- **it looks as if/it looks like** used when saying that the present situation makes you think that something will probably happen or is probably true: It looks like Greg has been delayed. | There aren't any taxis, so it looks as if we'll have to walk.
- **may/could/might well** used when saying that you think something will probably happen or is probably true: He may well come back. | Take an umbrella. It might well rain later on. | It may well be his last game.
- **I would/should think** *spoken (also I would guess spoken)* used when saying that you think something will probably happen or is probably true, although you are not sure: 'Will the match still go ahead?' 'Yes, I would think so.' | I should think she's about 24 or 25.

likely

Freakuency Pack

12500 **429**^{MCW}

15000 **504**^{COCA}

RANGE: **1k LIKELY** 96524

likely 77915

likelier 122

likeliest 122

likelihood 6025

unlikely 12340

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

34923 **597**⁶⁵⁶²⁰ *jj*

10042 **3387**¹²²⁷⁸ *rr*

17 **192619**¹⁷ *nnu*