

1 Use the prompts to make speculations and predictions about the future.

1 We / probably / find / a cure for AIDS.

2 I / sure / people / live / until they are 150 years old.

3 We / might / have / more specialist hospitals.

4 Scientists / could / grow / new body parts.

5 People / work / for much longer.

6 I / doubt / we / live / healthier lives.

7 Children / may / learn / how to treat their own illnesses.

8 Doctors / definitely / use / more technology.

2 Work in pairs. Read the predictions from exercise 1. Which do you agree with? Which do you disagree with? Why?

3 Use the phrases below to complete the text.

could stay develop might have wants to change will definitely be
will probably check will reduce won't visit

In the future, if we ¹_____ the technology, people with long-term illnesses ²_____ their doctor. They ³_____ at home and communicate with their doctor online. They ⁴_____ special machines at home to help them with their treatment. These machines ⁵_____ the patient's health regularly. If the doctor ⁶_____ the treatment, he will use his computer to send the changes to the machine in the patient's home. I'm sure that this ⁷_____ the cost of healthcare and I think people ⁸_____ happier to stay at home when they are ill.

4 **SPEAKING** Work in groups. Think of first conditional *if* clauses to complete these sentences. Then read out the beginnings of your sentences to another group. Can they match them with the correct endings?

... I'll be really happy!

... I'll feel very sad.

... I won't go out.

... I won't speak to him.

... I'll go shopping at the weekend.

... I won't be surprised.

If my brother borrows my phone again ...

No.

... I won't speak to him.

... I won't be surprised.

Yes!

3B Speculating and predicting

Aims: To review and practise language for speculating and predicting with *may, might, could* and *will*.

Time: 10–15 minutes

Materials: One handout for each student

Exercise 1

- Give each student a handout and ask them to do exercise 1. You could do the first question together with the class and keep it up on the board as an example.

KEY

- 1 We will probably find a cure for AIDS.
- 2 I'm sure people will live until they are 150 years old.
- 3 We might have more specialist hospitals.
- 4 Scientists could grow new body parts.
- 5 People will work for much longer.
- 6 I doubt we will live healthier lives.
- 7 Children may learn how to treat their own illnesses.
- 8 Doctors will definitely use more technology.

Exercise 2

- Students read through the sentences from exercise 1 again and discuss in pairs whether or not they agree with the predictions. You could ask them to rank the predictions from 1 (most likely) to 8 (least likely). Remind them to use the adverbs *probably* and *definitely* to describe the degree of certainty.

Exercise 3

- Students complete the text with the correct phrases. Tell them to read the text very quickly first and identify two first conditional sentences (1 and 6). Check answers with the class and ask students to vote on whether or not they agree with this prediction about future healthcare.

KEY

- 1 develop
- 2 won't visit
- 3 could stay
- 4 might have
- 5 will probably check
- 6 wants to change
- 7 will reduce
- 8 will definitely be

Exercise 4

- Students write *If* clauses with their own ideas to complete the sentences and then try to guess other students' sentences. Go through the example dialogue first and remind students to use the present simple form in the *If* clause.