

CELEBRATIONS

Predict the Future

Teacher's notes

Age: Teenagers/Adults

Level: Intermediate (B1)

Time: 30 minutes

Activity: In this lesson, students will:

1. Play a dice game;
2. Make predictions about the year ahead.

Language focus: *will* and *won't* for future predictions

Materials: one copy of the worksheet per student; three dice for the game; a spinning object (such as a pen or a bottle); blank paper cut up into slips for students to write their predictions

Procedure

1. Ask students what they think will happen in the year ahead, both in the world and in their personal lives. Elicit some suggestions and write these on the board. Draw attention to the use of *will* (and *won't*).
2. Ask if students think it's possible to predict the future, and what methods are used (they might come up with: tarot cards, horoscopes, fortune cookies, looking in a crystal ball, dreams and visions, palm readings, and so on). Add throwing dice to the list if students don't mention it, and tell them that they are going to use dice to find out about their future.
3. Hand out copies of the worksheet. Ask students to first read the introduction and instructions, and clarify any unfamiliar vocabulary or phrases as a class. Then tell them to turn over the page.
4. Divide the class into three groups. One student in each group throws a dice at the same time. The students add up the numbers – the total gives the final number for all three students. Then they turn over the page and read out the prediction. As an alternative, you could divide the class into smaller groups, and students in each group take turns to throw three dice and read out their individual prediction. As this would require multiple dice, you could direct students to an online dice thrower like <https://www.random.org/dice/?num=3>, which allows them to 'throw' three dice at once.
5. Give each student two slips of paper, and ask them to write a prediction on each. One prediction must be personal, e.g. *You'll get married this year*, and one must be about the world, e.g. *England will win the World Cup*. The prediction can be good or bad (i.e. they can use *will* or *won't*), but depending on the age and maturity of your students, you may want to remind them that it will be read aloud so shouldn't be anything embarrassing! Get students to fold their slips of paper in half once they've written their predictions, and then collect them and place them in a circle on the table.
6. Explain that students are going to use a 'prediction spinner' (a system used by Napoleon). Place a bottle, pen or other spinning object in the middle of the circle. Students take it in turns to spin the object. When it stops spinning, the student takes the slip of paper it's pointing to, reads out the prediction and keeps the piece of paper. Ask them if they think the prediction will come true or not! Continue until all the pieces of paper have been taken.

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Worksheet

Predict the future

There are many ways of predicting the future. Foretelling the future with dice used to be very popular in the old days. It was generally accepted that Fridays and Sundays were unlucky days to throw dice, so we recommend you do not try this activity on those days.



Take three dice (if you have only one dice then you'll have to throw it three times), shake them in your hand or in a container, and throw them on the table. Add together the value of the three dice. For example, if you throw three 2s, the total value is six. If any of the dice fall off the table, that means that there is a bad feeling in the room!

Now roll the dice and read the information that corresponds with the value of the dice to see what your future holds ...



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Worksheet

Add up your total, find the number, and read your prediction! Do you think it will come true?

- 3.** This will be a very good time for you. Soon you will receive an unexpected gift that will change your opinion of someone you have known for a long time.
- 4.** Beware! Someone very close to you will cause you problems. Try not to become too involved in other people's business or you will find yourself in a difficult situation.
- 5.** In the next few weeks you will meet someone who will become a very close friend. If you are lucky, they will become a best friend for life.
- 6.** Danger! If you are not careful, you will lose something important. Keep a close eye on your personal belongings and check your insurance policy.
- 7.** Warning! Don't tell other people your secrets or they won't be secret for long. You know how hard it is to keep secrets, so don't expect your friends to be able to do it.
- 8.** You will soon have to live with the consequences of something you did wrong in the past. If you recognize where you went wrong and say sorry, if you haven't already, then nothing serious will happen.
- 9.** Congratulations! This number indicates that you will soon be committing yourself to a romantic relationship. It could even mean an engagement or wedding.
- 10.** You will soon hear news of a birth. Your relationship with the baby will be very important in the future. If you are pregnant then you will have a baby boy.
- 11.** This number often means unhappiness for you or someone close to you. Don't worry too much because you will be able to see the light at the end of the tunnel.
- 12.** You will soon receive an important letter or phone call. It will probably be related to work and might mean a move to another town.
- 13.** This number indicates depression and worry, although you must recognize that you will be worrying about something that is not very important. So ... don't worry!
- 14.** You are about to get a bit richer. If you don't play the lottery, it could be a good idea to buy a ticket! Just don't blame us if this prediction means you only find a dropped coin in the street ...
- 15.** Don't involve yourself in a stupid argument or start some unnecessary gossip. The consequences will be very bad for you, and you could lose your best friends.
- 16.** You are about to travel and have fun. Your next holiday will be the best you have ever had, and you will probably spend it somewhere incredibly exotic.
- 17.** This is a happy number. You will be very positive for the next few months and very busy, travelling from place to place and maybe moving to a new house.
- 18.** This is the luckiest number of all. You will be promoted at work, become very, very rich, have an incredible relationship and live happily ever after.