**Prospects this and that side of the Atlantic**

Source: Pew [Millennium Survey](http://www.people-press.org/1999/10/24/optimism-reigns-technology-plays-key-role/), July **1999**

**Assignment**

This is about comparing your own view of the future with views held in the US.

1. Read, consider arguments pro and con and tick the appropriate boxes.
2. Compare with your partner and explain your decisions.
3. Count the resulting data in your class.
4. Guess how many in one hundred Americans might have ticked these boxes.
5. Compare your class’s expectations with the real data from polls from the US.
6. Draw a brief conclusion and prepare to present it to the class.

***Example***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [***Finding a job***](http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/files/2012/02/2012-youth-and-economy-22.png) ***for today’s young is…*** | ***easier*** | | ***harder*** | | ***the same*** | |
|  | *you* | *USA* | *you* | *USA* | *you* | *USA* |
| *[Tick the boxes that apply to you. Then in the three boxes enter the percentage of Americans that you think ticked it.]* |  | **%** |  | **%** |  | **%** |

A survey in the USA asked about the same topics. Tick the boxes to mark where you stand.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Probably / | | Definitely | |  | |
| ***There will be…*** | ***Yes*** | | ***No*** | | ***No idea*** | |
| **a better world?** | *you* | *USA* | *you* | *USA* | *you* | *USA* |
| A drug curing AIDS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A cleaner, safer environment |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Space travel for citizens |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jesus Christ back on earth |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  | |  | |
|  | Probably / | | Definitely | |  | |
| **There will be…** | ***Will happen*** | | ***Won’t Happen*** | | ***Don’t know*** | |
| ***Armageddon?*** | *you* | *USA* | *you* | *USA* | *you* | *USA* |
| Terrorists attacking the US |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| More global warming |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A disease worse than AIDS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nuclear war |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| An asteroid hitting the earth |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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