

English Vocabulary – Looking into the Future

1) to preview (regular verb)

This verb is usually used to talk about upcoming shows, films and events. They can provide a “peek” or “trailer” or “spoiler”. The word literally means “look before”.

- Cinemas always **preview** the films of the following week.

2) to predict (regular verb)

This verb means that you “guess” what will happen in the future and is not limited in scope.

- It's difficult to **predict** the outcome of the game, as both teams are excellent.

3) to forecast (forecast / forecast / forecast)

This verb is mostly used to talk about the weather or political events.

- It's difficult to **forecast** the weather for more than 5 days ahead.

4) to foresee (foresee / foresaw / foreseen)

This verb means that you imagine what will happen in the future and is used by mediums who claim they can “see” the future.

- Medium: “I **foresee** that you will marry a girl with red hair and have 6 children.”

5) to prophesize (regular verb)

This verb means that you “know” the future through some divine knowledge and that you pass the knowledge on to others.

- Noah **prophesized** a great flood, but nobody believed him.



6) to foretell (foretell / foretold / foretold)

This verb is similar to “foresee” but means that you “talk about” what you “see” in the future.

- Many people **foretold** that the end of the world would be in the year 2012.

7) to augur (regular verb)

This verb means to give an omen or anticipatory sign of what will happen.

- His performance at school **augurs** well for his future.

8) to portend (regular verb)

This verb means to give an omen or anticipatory sign of what will happen, but usually bad things!

- A black cat **portends** trouble.

9) to forebode (regular verb)

This verb is similar to “portend”.

- Such dark clouds **forebode** a storm.

10) to divine (regular verb)

This verb means to predict future events or discover hidden knowledge usually by the interpretation of omens or by supernatural powers.

- Noah **divined** God's intention to flood the world.