

Probability Puzzles

1. For which of these can you work out the probability exactly?

- a. It will rain tomorrow
- b. Sam will pass her driving test
- c. Stuart will miss the 5.30pm train
- d. Emily will throw heads when she tosses a coin
- e. Amy will come 4th in a swimming contest

2. A bag contains 3 oranges, 2 apples and 1 lemon. You are asked to close your eyes and pick a piece of fruit. In which of these are both statements true?

- a. You are certain the pick a piece of fruit. You have less chance of picking an orange.
- b. You have an even chance of picking an orange. You are certain to pick an apple
- c. You have an even chance of picking an apple. You have a more than even chance of picking an orange
- d. You have an even chance of picking an orange. You have a less than even chance of picking an apple
- e. You have an even chance of picking an apple. You have a less than even chance of picking a lemon.

3. A lucky dip bag contains the following balls:

6 red 3 blue 2 green 7 yellow 2 white

To win a prize, I have to pick a white ball.

What are the chances that I don't win a prize? _____

4. Some tin cans have lost their labels. 3 contain soup, 4 contain beans and 1 contains peas. If you pick a can at random, in which one of the following are both statements true?

- a. You have an even chance of picking beans. You have a greater than even chance of picking soup
- b. You have an even chance of picking soup. You have a less than even chance of picking peas
- c. You have a less than even chance of picking peas. You have an even chance of picking soup
- d. You have an even chance of picking beans. You have a less than even chance of picking soup
- e. You have a less than even chance of picking soup. You have a greater than even chance of picking beans.



Probability Puzzles Answersheet

***For parents' eyes only!**

1. D
2. D
3. $18/20 = 9/10$
4. D

