



# CAPACITARTE

*Es ser líder de tu vida*



## EJERCITACIÓN MÓDULO 2 – Clase 4

### 1. Security and planning

1.1 Read the article below and place the events a-e on the chart.

Many readers have posted comments to *The Globe Online* voicing their concerns about the recent offshore oil spill. So our reporters contacted some experts to help us assess the risks. Here are their answers to our questions.

We asked our first specialist: How serious is the oil spill for our region generally?

“If the oil continues to leak from the well for weeks, or even months,” he told us, “the effect on the area will probably be very serious indeed.”

So it’s a calamity for the region?

“I wouldn’t say calamitous, but it is likely to be critical,” he agreed. “The likelihood of severe damage is very high, I must say.”

We then spoke to another expert on oil spills, with some knowledge of the local economy. Can the seafood industry escape the worst of the damage, we wondered?

“No, it can’t,” he told us. “The spill will be disastrous for the local seafood industry if the oil reaches the main fishing grounds. And it’s virtually certain that it will spread that far. The stuff is pumping out of the well at a rate of thousands of barrels a day.”

So, it’s terrible news for the local fishing community. And what about the wider environment? Will the oil affect the bird population, for example? We asked a marine biologist for her views. She had slightly better news.

“If the oil doesn’t reach the land, but stays in the sea, there’s a possibility that the oil will do only minimal damage to the bird population,” she said. “The negative effect will be quite small.”

But if it does reach the land? Here she was less hopeful.

“Well, if it reaches the land,” she replied, “there’s a chance that it will do a certain amount of damage to the seabirds there.”

We turned finally to an expert who has seen many beaches destroyed by oil slicks. If the oil hits the beaches, will it destroy our local tourism industry? His answer was surprisingly upbeat.

“No, I don’t think so,” he replied. “Even if the oil hits the land, the effect on tourism will be negligible. The damage will be virtually zero, because even in the worst case, the oil can only hit one small beach, not the other larger ones. And anyway, there’s only a slim chance that the oil will hit any beaches at all, because of its direction of flow.”

The effect on the oil spill on:

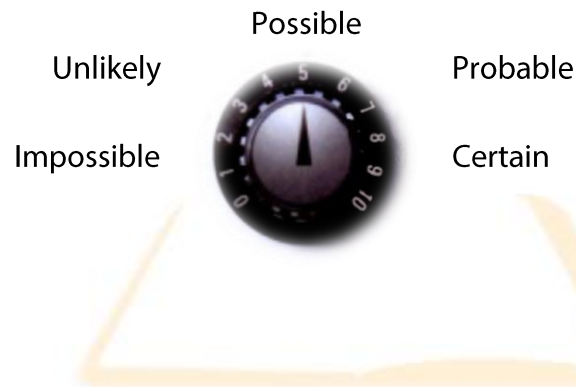
- The region generally
- The local seafood industry
- Bird population (if oil doesn’t reach land)
- Bird population (if oil reaches land)
- Tourism in the area

Probability	very	unlikely	possible	probable	almost certain
Damage	Unlikely				
Catastrophic					
Severe					
Moderate					
Minor					
Insignificant					

1.2 Find these words and phrases (used to describe damage) in the news article. Then match each one with the closest synonym in the left-hand column of the risk assessment chart in 1.1.

1. very serious indeed	3. critical	5. minimal	7. negligible
2. calamitous	4. disastrous	6. a certain amount of	8. virtually zero

1.3 Write the closest number 0-10 from the scale below next to these statements.



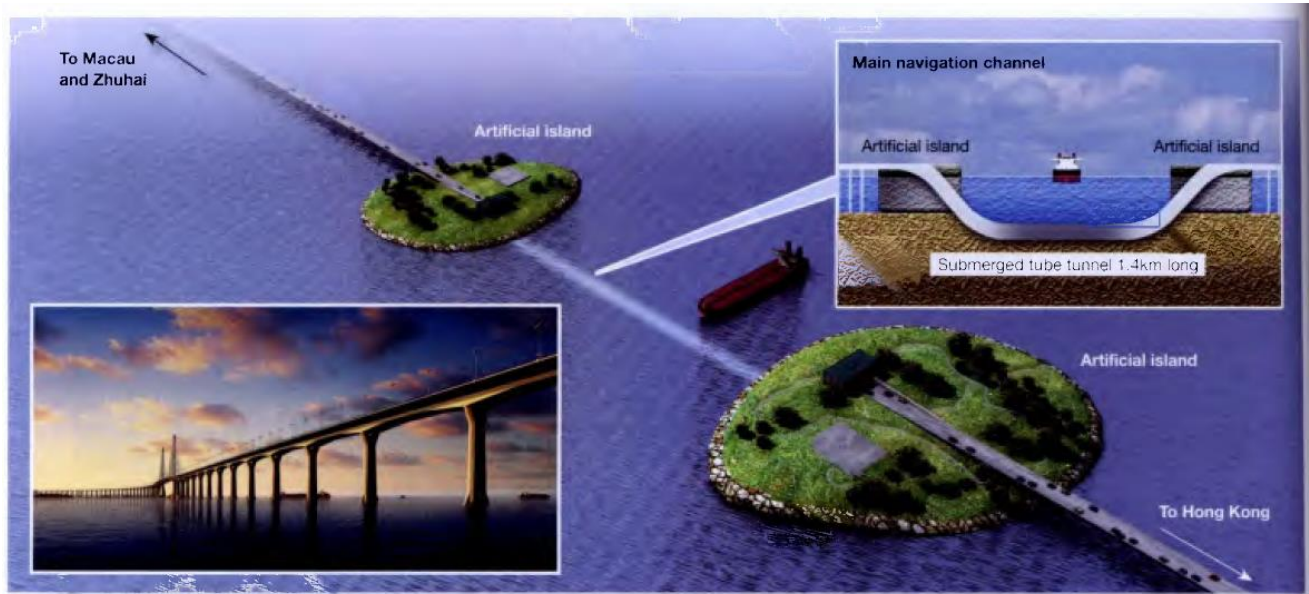
1. It's virtually certain that another earthquake will hit your city this year. (...)
2. There's a small chance that serious floods will occur un the next two weeks. (...)
3. We'll probably be able to prevent landslides by building a wall here. (...)
4. There's virtually no chance that underwater robots can repair the wall ...
5. It's highly unlikely that there will be an avalanche on this mountain. (...)
6. This forest fire will definitely cause severe damage to local wildlife. (...)
7. There's a slim chance that the dam will burst if we don't repair it. (...)
8. The likelihood that the volcano will erupt again this century is very high. (...)

1.4 Rewrite the sentences in 1.3 with different certainty levels, using a variety of forms from the language box above. Write the number of the certainty level 0-10 you have chosen after each new sentence.

Example: 1. There's a slim chance that aother earthwyake wikek hit our city this year. (2)

## 2. Discussing projects. Short and long term Objectives.

### 2.1 Read this project summary



# HONG KONG – MACAU SEA BRIDGE

## SUMMARY OF PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposal is to construct a bridge that will link southern Guangdong province, China's main manufacturing hub, with Hong Kong and Macau. Upon completion, projected for 2016, the bridge is expected to be the world's longest sea-crossing bridge.

The scale of the proposed project is breathtaking. The structure will be one of the most technically complicated transport projects in the history of the world. Not many bridges, for example, include a section that travels underwater. When finished, the structure will also be aesthetically stunning (see Appendix A).

Extending 29.6 km over the mouth of the Pearl River, the bridge will solve the problems associated with current modes of travel (see Appendix B) between the economic powerhouses and tourist attractions of Zhuhai, Hong Kong and Macau. Driving times from Zhuhai / Macau to Hong Kong are expected to be reduced to around 30 minutes, which includes about 15 minutes at the expected maximum speed of 100 kph on the bridge itself.

The main bridge will form a technically complex bridge-cum-tunnel structure (see Appendix C). Land will be reclaimed in the middle of the Pearl River estuary to form two large man-made islands, each of which will act as the terminal for a section of

bridge (see the illustration above). The islands will be connected to each other by the tunnel section, which will allow shipping traffic to pass between the islands.

Once constructed, the bridge will be capable of resisting powerful typhoons, earthquakes up to a magnitude of 8.0 on the Richter scale and the impact of a 300,000-tonne vessel.

Each of the bridge's piers will have an overall height of 170 metres. The engineering contractors claim that any negative effect of the structure on river flows will be minimised by limiting the size and number of columns in the water.

A number of environmentalists are concerned about potential risks to the local environment (see Appendix D), which they believe are likely to be caused by this project, although the authorities and the contractors claim to have devised risk-reduction strategies (see Appendix E).

The first stage of the project will be a land-reclamation operation to create the first of the two islands. On completion, this island will provide the location for the customs point for people crossing from Hong Kong to Macau.

2.2 Complete these sentences, using the correct form of the words in brackets.

- 1- over the next three weeks, a flexible, 2-km-long tube ..... (will / make).
- 2- Methanol ..... (be / going / pump) into the cap to prevent the formation of crystals
- 3- Right now, 50 kilometres of booms ..... (be / about / drop) into the sea and the BOP ..... (be / on / point / activate) by the ROVs.
- 4- Let's assume we've tried the tube and it has failed to work. By then, the mud pump .....(will / already / prepare), so it will be able to start operating immediately.
- 5- The rig for the relief well ..... (be / about / transport) to the site.
- 6- we'll be able to start drilling the relief well in six weeks' time, because by then the rig ..... (will / tow) to the site and .....(will / install).

2.3 Now, answer the following questions

- A. What will be the main benefit to the region resulting from the project, once it has been completed?
- B. Two events are described in the summary as imminent. What are they?
- C. What is the probability of environmental damage from this project, according to environmentalists? How have the planners responded to this risk?
- D. Why do you think artificial islands are going to be created as part of the project? Give two possible reasons.
- E. How are the builders planning to reduce the risk of the bridge causing obstructions to the movement of the river water?
- F. What does *upon completion* (in the first paragraph) mean? Find three more two word phrases in the text with the same meaning.

### 3. Weighing alternatives

3.1 Have you ever been to a desert? Would you like to travel across a large desert like the Sahara?



3.2 Read a survival expert's opinion and find out what will happen if you try to walk.

If they stay near the vehicle, their chances of survival are very good. With no water at all, people can survive for two days or more at temperatures of 50 °C. They need to find shelter and conserve energy. A very strong and experienced hiker might be able to walk 30 km a day if the ground is flat, but most people simply aren't fit enough. They will quickly become exhausted in the heat. Staying with your vehicle is the best alternative in nearly every case.

3.3 look at the gradable adjectives in the sentences below. Suggest more extreme adjectives you could use in their place.

- A. Our chances of survival are *very good* if we stay in the car.
- B. We'll become *very tired* if we try to walk in the heat.
- C. It's *very hot*.
- D. The water container is *very big*. We can't carry it far.
- E. I want something to eat. I'm *very hungry*.
- F. There's so much dust. I'm *very dirty*.
- G. The chances of someone driving by are *very small*.
- H. It'll be *very cold* tonight.

- I. But walking is a *very bad* idea.
- J. I'll be *very angry* if they make me walk.

3.4 Match these ungradable adjectives to the correct phrases in **3.3**

freezing   tiny   excellent   furious   exhausted   boiling   enormous  
filthy   terrible   starving



## RESPUESTAS

### 1. Security and planning

1.1 Read the article below and place the events a-e on the chart.

The effect on the oil spill on:

- a) The region generally
- b) The local seafood industry
- c) Bird population (if oil doesn't reach land)
- d) Bird population (if oil reaches land)
- e) Tourism in the area

Probability	very unlikely	unlikely	possible	probable	almost certain
Damage	Unlikely				
Catastrophic					b)
Severe				a)	
Moderate			d)		
Minor			c)		
Insignificant					e)

1.2 Find these words and phrases (used to describe damage) in the news article. Then match each one with the closest synonym in the left-hand column of the risk assessment chart in

1. very serious indeed	3. critical	5. minimal	7. negligible
2. calamitous	4. disastrous	6. a certain amount of	8. virtually zero

- 1. very serious indeed = severe
- 2. calamitous = catastrophic
- 3. critical = severe
- 4. disastrous = catastrophic
- 5. minimal = minor



6. a certain amount= moderate
7. negligible= insignificant
8. virtually zero= insignificant

1.3 Write the closest number 0-10 from the scale below next to these statements.



1. It's virtually certain that another earthquake will hit your city this year. (9)
2. There's a small chance that serious floods will occur in the next two weeks. (3)
3. We'll probably be able to prevent landslides by building a wall here. (6)
4. There's virtually no chance that underwater robots can repair the wall (1)
5. It's highly unlikely that there will be an avalanche on this mountain. (3)
6. This forest fire will definitely cause severe damage to local wildlife. (10)
7. There's a slim chance that the dam will burst if we don't repair it. (2)
8. The likelihood that the volcano will erupt again this century is very high. (8)

1.4 Rewrite the sentences in 1.3 with different certainty levels, using a variety of forms from the language box above. Write the number of the certainty level 0-10 you have chosen after each new sentence.

Example: 1. There's a slim chance that another earthquake will hit our city this year. (2)

2. There's virtually no doubt that serious floods will occur in the next two weeks. (9)
3. The likelihood that we'll be able to prevent landslides is very low. (2)
4. It is highly probable that underwater robots can repair the wall (8)
5. There is a slim chance that there will be an avalanche on this mountain. (2)
6. The chances that this forest fire will cause severe damage to local wildlife is high (7)
7. It is definitely certain that the dam will burst if we don't repair it. (10)
8. There is a strong possibility that the volcano will erupt again this century (6)

2.2 Complete these sentences, using the correct form of the words in brackets.

- 1- Over the next three weeks, a flexible, 2-km-long tube ...will be made..... (will / make).
- 2- Methanol ...is going to be pumped..... (be / going / pump) into the cap to prevent the formation of crystals
- 3- Right now, 50 kilometres of booms .....is about to drop..... (be / about / drop) into the sea and the BOP ...is on the point of being activated...(be / on / point / activate) by the ROVs.
- 4- Let's assume we've tried the tube and it has failed to work. By then, the mud pump ...will have been already prepared.....(will / already / prepare), so it will be able to start operating immediately.
- 5- The rig for the relief well ...is about to be transported..... (be / about / transport) to the site.
- 6- We'll be able to start drilling the relief well in six weeks' time, because by then the rig ...will have be towed..... (will / tow) to the site and ...will have been installed..... (will / install).

## HONG KONG – MACAU SEA BRIDGE

### SUMMARY OF PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposal is to construct a bridge that will link southern Guangdong province, China's main manufacturing hub, with Hong Kong and Macau. Upon completion, projected for 2016, the bridge is expected to be the world's longest sea-crossing bridge.

The scale of the proposed project is breathtaking. The structure will be one of the most technically complicated transport projects in the history of the world. Not many bridges, for example, include a section that travels underwater. When finished, the structure will also be aesthetically stunning (see Appendix A).

Extending 29.6 km over the mouth of the Pearl River, the bridge will solve the problems associated with current modes of travel (see Appendix B) between the economic powerhouses and tourist attractions of Zhuhai, Hong Kong and Macau. Driving times from Zhuhai / Macau to Hong Kong are expected to be reduced to around 30 minutes, which includes about 15 minutes at the expected maximum speed of 100 kph on the bridge itself.

The main bridge will form a technically complex bridge-cum-tunnel structure (see Appendix C). Land will be reclaimed in the middle of the Pearl River estuary to form two large man-made islands, each of which will act as the terminal for a section of

bridge (see the illustration above). The islands will be connected to each other by the tunnel section, which will allow shipping traffic to pass between the islands.

Once constructed, the bridge will be capable of resisting powerful typhoons, earthquakes up to a magnitude of 8.0 on the Richter scale and the impact of a 300,000-tonne vessel.

Each of the bridge's piers will have an overall height of 170 metres. The engineering contractors claim that any negative effect of the structure on river flows will be minimised by limiting the size and number of columns in the water.

A number of environmentalists are concerned about potential risks to the local environment (see Appendix D), which they believe are likely to be caused by this project, although the authorities and the contractors claim to have devised risk-reduction strategies (see Appendix E).

The first stage of the project will be a land-reclamation operation to create the first of the two islands. On completion, this island will provide the location for the customs point for people crossing from Hong Kong to Macau.

### 2.3 Now, answer the following questions

- A. What will be the main benefit to the region resulting from the project, once it has been completed?

The main benefit to the region will be that the bridge to be constructed will link southern Guangdong province, China's main manufacturing hub, with Hong Kong and Macau.

- B. Two events are described in the summary as imminent. What are they?

Land-reclamation operation

Islands connection by the tunnel section

- C. What is the probability of environmental damage from this project, according to environmentalists? How have the planners responded to this risk?

The probability of environmental damage from this project is potential. The planners have responded to the risks by devising risk-reduction strategies.

- D. Why do you think artificial islands are going to be created as part of the project? Give two possible reasons.

They are necessary to act as the terminal for a section of bridge, and they will be connected to each other by the tunnel section, allowing shipping traffic to pass between the islands.

- E. How are the builders planning to reduce the risk of the bridge causing obstructions to the movement of the river water?

The builders plan to minimize the risk by limiting the size and number of columns in the water.

- F. What does *upon completion* (in the first paragraph) mean? Find two word phrases in the text with the same meaning.

It means "when the project is over". Other word phrases with the same meaning are: *Once constructed*; *On completion*.

### 3. Weighing alternatives

- 3.1 Have you ever been to a desert? Would you like to travel across a large desert like the Sahara?

Open answer

- 3.2 Read a survival expert's opinion and find out what will happen if you try to walk.

If you try to walk, you will become exhausted in the heat

- 3.3 Look at the gradable adjectives in the sentences below.

- A. Our chances of survival are *very good* if we stay in the car.
- B. We'll become very *tired* if we try to walk in the heat.
- C. It's *very hot*.
- D. The water container is *very big*. We can't carry it far.
- E. I want something to eat. I'm *very hungry*.
- F. There's so much dust. I'm *very dirty*.
- G. The chances of someone driving by are *very small*.

- H. It'll be *very cold* tonight.
- I. But walking is a *very bad* idea.
- J. I'll be *very angry* if they make me walk.

3.4 Match these ungradable adjectives to the correct phrases in **3.3**

freezing   tiny   excellent   furious   exhausted   boiling   enormous  
filthy   terrible   starving

- A. Our chances of survival are *excellent* if we stay in the car.
- B. We'll become *exhausted* if we try to walk in the heat.
- C. It's *boiling*.
- D. The water container is *huge*. We can't carry it far.
- E. I want something to eat. I'm *starving*.
- F. There's so much dust. I'm *filthy*.
- G. The chances of someone driving by are *tiny/minute*.
- H. It'll be *freezing* tonight.
- I. But walking is a *terrible* idea.
- J. I'll be *furious* if they make me walk.

CAPACITARTE  
Es ser líder de tu vida