

unlikely

1. [ʌn'laɪkli] a

1. неправдоподобный, невероятный, маловероятный

unlikely tale - неправдоподобная история

a victory is unlikely but not impossible - победа маловероятна, но её возможность не исключена

he is unlikely to come - он, вероятно, не придёт

we found the ring in a most unlikely place - мы нашли кольцо в самом неожиданном месте

2. арх.

1) не подающий надежды, малообещающий

2) непривлекательный, неприятный

unlikely companions - малоприятные спутники

2. [ʌn'laɪkli] adv

вряд ли, едва ли

not unlikely - весьма возможно

unlikely

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

un-likely [unlikely unlikelier unlikeliest] BrE [ʌn'laɪkli] ^u NAmE [ʌn'laɪkli] ^u

adjective (un-likely-ly, un-likely-est) **more unlikely** and **most unlikely** are the usual forms

1. not likely to happen; not probable

• ~ (to do sth) The project seemed unlikely to succeed.

• ~ (that...) It's most (= very) unlikely that she'll arrive before seven.

• **In the unlikely event of** a problem arising, please contact the hotel manager.

2. **only before noun** not the person, thing or place that you would normally think of or expect

• He seems a most unlikely candidate for the job.

• They have built hotels in the most unlikely places.

3. **only before noun** difficult to believe

Syn: ↑implausible

• She gave me an unlikely explanation for her behaviour

Opp: ↑likely

Derived Words ↑unlikelihood ▪ ↑unlikeliness

Example Bank:

• An economic collapse is inherently unlikely.

• He thought it unlikely that she would refuse.

• The takeover bid now looks unlikely to succeed.

• In the unlikely event of a problem arising, please contact the hotel manager.

• It's most unlikely that she'll arrive before seven.

• She gave me a rather unlikely explanation for her behaviour.

• an unlikely candidate/applicant/contender

• an unlikely hero/winner/rock star/celebrity

unlikely

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

un-likely S3 W2 /ʌn'laɪkli/ BrE ^u AmE ^u **adjective**

[**Word Family:** noun: ↑likelihood; **adverb:** ↑likely; **adjective:** ↑likely ≠ ↑unlikely]

1. not likely to happen:

• Donna might be able to come tomorrow, but it's very unlikely.

unlikely to do something

• The weather is unlikely to improve over the next few days.

it is unlikely (that)

• It's unlikely that the thieves will be caught.

in the unlikely event of something (=if something which is unlikely happens)

• In the unlikely event of a fire, passengers should move to the top deck.

2. an unlikely place, person, or thing is strange and not what you would expect:

• The birds had nested in some unlikely places.

• The quiet village of Brockhampton was an unlikely setting for such a crime.

3. not likely to be true:

• an unlikely story

• • •

COLLOCATIONS

adverbs

• **highly/most/very unlikely** It's highly unlikely that he'll survive.

• **extremely unlikely** The government is extremely unlikely to change its policy.

• **rather/pretty/quite/fairly unlikely** I may have thrown it away by mistake, but that's pretty unlikely.

• **increasingly unlikely** (=more and more unlikely as time passes) It looks increasingly unlikely that the Bank of England will cut interest rates.

nouns

• **an unlikely possibility/prospect** The most unlikely possibility was that she might resign.

• **an unlikely scenario/occurrence** They should build a new road, but that's an unlikely scenario.

• **an unlikely alliance/coalition** Once he resigned as president, the unlikely coalition of former enemies fell apart.

■ phrases

▪ **in the unlikely event of something** (=if something which is unlikely happens) In the unlikely event of an accident, the system will automatically shut down.

unlikely

Freakuency Pack

12500 **1672**^{MCW}

15000 **504**^{COCA}

RANGE: **1k** **LIKELY** 96524

likely 77915

likelier 122

likeliest 122

likelihood 6025

unlikely 12340

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

10187 **3372**¹²³³¹ *jj*

9 **274883**⁹ *nnu*
