



Natively Speaking Comics

Long shot:



A “long shot” is when you try to do something or guess something that has a very low chance of success because it is difficult or unlikely. If you succeed at a long shot, usually there is a great reward.

Fall for (something) = to easily believe a lie/ to be tricked easily.

1. I don't have the qualifications for the job, but it *wouldn't hurt* to go along to the interview and just try. Who knows - maybe I'll get lucky. It's a **long shot**... but I have *nothing to lose* anyway.
2. When you go to a casino to gamble, walking away with more money than you brought in is always a **long shot**, unless you are a professional poker player or something, because the odds (probabilities) are always in the casino's favor. The odds are always against the gambler.
3. Many people play the lottery with the hopes of becoming an instant millionaire. Of course we all know that it's a **long shot**, but we continue to dream anyway. After all, someone has to win eventually, right?
4. For all golf players, a hole-in-one is always a **long shot**. It happens, but not that often.
5. If you don't know the answer to a difficult question, you can take a “wild guess” and try to give the correct answer. If it's a multiple choice question, it's not such a **long shot**, because you'll have a 1 in 4 chance.
6. It was an incredibly **long shot** for South Africa to try and win the last soccer world cup, but I'll still keep hoping. Maybe in 2014. Anything is possible.
7. When you know that the answer will probably be “no”, you can say, “It's a **long shot**, but I'll just ask anyway”. Maybe the person will say “yes” and surprise you.