

It's on the cards

这件事十有八九会发生

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Rob

Hello and welcome to Authentic Real English. I'm Rob and I've won yet another card game! Yes!

Feifei

大家好, 我是冯菲菲。我刚才又输了一把扑克。

Rob

It's not surprising. You've been very distracted all morning.

Feifei

这不是有晋升机会吗, I wonder if I'll get it.

Rob

Well, you work hard. I'm sure a promotion is on the cards.

Feifei

It's on the cards?! But I haven't been paying much attention to them! Which cards?

Rob

No, it's not actually written on any cards. It's just an expression. In British English, we say something 'is ON the cards' - or 'IN the cards' in American English - when we mean that something is likely to happen.

Feifei

So you mean that it's possible and even likely that I'll get a promotion because I work hard?

Rob

Yes. Here are some examples of how this expression is used.

Examples

Wage rises are on the cards in the UK. There are now signs that things are getting better for ordinary British workers.

My son might be ready to settle down. He's had lots of girlfriends but now he's going steady with a colleague and a wedding might be on the cards.

Feifei

On the cards “在卡片上” 这个表达用来描述有十有八九、可能会发生的事情。那么，Rob 你的意思是我晋升的事情 on the cards?

Rob

Yes. And there's something else on the cards today.

Feifei

Oh really, what is it?

Rob

I'm going to win another round of this game! Look, I've got three aces now!

Feifei

OK. You deserve it. You are a good player and have luck on your side. Another win is definitely on the cards!

Rob

Great! I'm on a roll!

Both

Bye!