"what is the will of the gods?"

- continuous
- discrete (closed set)
yes or no?
how many?
magic 8 ball
Concentrate and ask again as signs are hazy. Try again. It is not certain. Without a good outlook, my reply is no. Most likely, you may close rehab as soon as possible. Letters, please, are not necessary. Avoid calling later on it. Ask yes, count on it. It is done.
- It is certain.
- It is decidedly so.
- Without a doubt.
- Yes - definitely.
- You may rely on it.

- As I see it, yes.
- Most likely.
- Outlook good.
- Yes.
- Signs point to yes.

- Reply hazy, try again.
- Ask again later.
- Better not tell you now.
- Cannot predict now.
- Concentrate and ask again.

- Don't count on it.
- My reply is no.
- My sources say no.
- Outlook not so good.
- Very doubtful.
i ching
Some I Ching hexagrams

19 臨 (lín) nearing, approach, the forest

29 坎 (kǎn) gorge, abyss, entrapment

45 萃 (cuì) clustering, gathering together

60 節 (jié) articulating, limitation, moderation
ifá divination
### B. Using the Divining Chain

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ogbe</td>
<td>Qyẹku</td>
<td>Iwori</td>
<td>Edi</td>
<td>Qbara</td>
<td>Qkanran</td>
<td>Irosun</td>
<td>Qwọnrin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>13</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ogunda</td>
<td>Qṣa</td>
<td>Irẹtẹ</td>
<td>Otura</td>
<td>Oturupọn</td>
<td>Ika</td>
<td>Qṣẹ</td>
<td>Ofun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If this Ifa sign Ogbe-Yẹku is cast for someone, Ifa says for this person that (s)he will take a prominent position wherever (s)he is. Ifa says it seems as if others are cheating him or her. Ifa says in Ogbe-Yẹku that this person will become leader over all those who have been causing him/her trouble. (S)He will become the leader of every single one of them. If, say, the person is a politician, Ifa says his/her colleagues don’t accept him/her or anything that (s)he does. But if (s)he offers a sacrifice, (s)he will become the leader all of those who currently do not respect him/her. They will reach a unanimous decision that they should give an important position to this person.

from http://ask-dl.fas.harvard.edu/
Ifa says he sees someone who owns neither a plate nor a calabash; everyone, including his own relatives, say he has a “bad head” and are making fun of him. Ifa says this person will become important in the near future and that he will have his revenge.

From the beginning of time all the animals took advantage of Lion. If he lay asleep on the ground, they climbed on top of him; they never showed him proper respect. Lion got ready and went to the diviners; he asked them what he could do to gain honor and glory among his associates. The diviners said that he should sacrifice one calabash of water, ashes, three clubs, and Ifa’s leaves (the “leaf of honor”). They said he should crush the leaves of Ifa in the water, add the ashes to it, and then drink it.[...]

cartomancy
By this Eight, tho' whig or quaker,
Thou wilt be a cuckold maker;
Maids that draw the same, are born
To hold the beaus and fops in scorn.

What the Nine, upon my Life,
Thou shalt wed a wealthy wife;
She that draws the same, shall have
One that is both fool and knave.

Now this number half a score,
Shews thou wilt be wretched poor;
Maids that draw the number, still
Shall have joy and wit at will.

Here's the King of Clubs, that shews
Thou hast friends as well as foes;
Maids that draw this court Card, shall
Have but few, or none at all.
tarot
Formal characteristics

• Social context: querent and reader (usually 1-to-1, but can be one to many, or more frequently, reflexive). The querent asks, the reader interprets.

• Semantic context: a reading provides an answer to a question

• Discrete set of possible outcomes (i.e., a coin has two sides; 78 cards in a Tarot deck)

• Outcomes are associated with conventional meanings

• Reading process is ritualized