

Talking about the future (Review)

When we **know about the future**, we normally use the **Present Tense**.

1. We use the **Present Simple Tense** for something **scheduled**:

*We **have** a lesson next Monday.*

*The train **arrives** at 6.30 in the morning.*

*The holidays **start** next week.*

It's my birthday tomorrow.

2. We can use the **Present Continuous Tense** for **plans or arrangements**:

*I'm **playing** football tomorrow.*

*They **are coming** to see us tomorrow.*

*We're **having** a party at Christmas.*

3. We use **Future Simple Tense** (**will** + V₁):

- when we express **beliefs** about the future:

*It **will be** a nice day tomorrow.*

*I think Brazil **will win** the World Cup.*

*I'm sure you **will enjoy** the film.*

- to mean **want to** or **be willing to**:

*I hope you **will come** to my party.*

*George says he **will help** us.*

- to **make offers and promises** :

*I'**ll** see you tomorrow.*

*We'**ll** send you an email.*

- to **talk about offers and promises**:

*Tim **will be** at the meeting.*

*Mary **will help** with the cooking.*

4. We use **be going to**:

- to talk about **plans or intentions**:

*I'm **going to drive** to work today.*

*They **are going to move** to Manchester.*

- to make **predictions** based on **evidence** we can see:

Be careful! You are going to fall. (= I can see that you might fall.)

Look at those black clouds. I think it's going to rain. (= I can see that it will rain.)

We use **Future Continuous** (**will be with an -ing form**) for something happening before and after a **specific time in the future**:

I'll be working at eight o'clock. Can you come later?

They'll be waiting for you when you arrive.

6. We can use **will be with an -ing form** instead of the present continuous or **be going to** when we are talking about **plans, arrangements and intentions**:

They'll be coming to see us next week.

I'll be driving to work tomorrow.

7. We often use **verbs like would like, plan, want, mean, hope, expect** to talk about the future:

What are you going to do next year? I'd like to go to university.

We plan to go to France for our holidays.

George wants to buy a new car.

8. We use **modals may, might** when we are **not sure** about the future:

I may stay at home tonight or I might go to the cinema, but I am not sure.

Practice

A. Complete the sentences with the correct form of will or going to and the verbs in brackets.

1. "What are your plans for this evening?" I _____ (meet) my friends and then go to a birthday party.
2. The weather forecast is good for the next few days. It _____ (be) very sunny.
3. I can't come on the march tomorrow. I _____ (look after) my cousins.
4. In the future, I think humans _____ (wipe out) many different species.
5. He is buying some butter and eggs because he _____ (make) a cake later.
6. This homework is very easy. I know we _____ (do) it very quickly.
7. In five years time, I _____ (be) at university.
8. Their suitcases are packed. They _____ (go) on holiday.
9. Look at that boy at the top of that tree! He _____ (fall).
10. I'm sure they _____ (lose) the match.

B. Choose the correct option in each sentence. In some cases, more than one answer is correct!

- We **are going to have / will have / are have** a party for mom's 80th birthday. I am sure everyone **is going to enjoy it / will enjoy it / are enjoying** it.
- No one **will believe / is believing / are believe** that we won the competition.
- I **am going to cook / will cook / am cooking** paella for dinner. Would you like to come?
- My horoscope says that I **am going to get married / will get married / marry** very soon!
- The phone is ringing. I **am going to answer / will answer / answer** it!
- Our friends **are flying / are going to fly / are fly** to London.
- I predict that you **are going to be / will be / may be** very happy and healthy.
- What **are you doing / will you do / do you do** if he calls in the middle of the night?
- Nothing **is going to be / will be / is being** the same after the terrorist attack.

C. Complete the sentences with the Future Continuous form

- Dad (wait) for you at the station when you arrive next week.
- What (you, do) tomorrow at 3 p.m.?
- George (take) his dog for a walk when his mother comes back from work.
- At 8 o'clock on Sunday my parents (go) to the theatre with their friends.
- The baby (sleep) when you call Mrs. Stevenson.

D. Complete the dialogue with the Present Simple or Continuous:

Will: Hi Sharon, Where _____ (you/go) with your suitcase?

Sharon: I _____ (travel) to New York on a business trip.

Will: What time _____ (your plane/leave)?

Sharon: My plane _____ (leave) at 17'45 and _____ (arrive) in New York at 19'00.

Will: And, What _____ (you/do) in New York?

Sharon: I have a busy week there. I _____ (interview) some job applicants, I _____ (take part) in the selection process, and I _____ (visit) the company branch in the city.

Will: When _____ (you/come back)?

Sharon: Next Friday morning. Are you free on Friday evening? We could meet.

Will: Why not? There's a film I'd like to see at the cinema.

Sharon: What time _____ (the film/start)?

Will: It _____ (start) at 19'30. I'll pick you up.

Sharon: O.K, sounds great. See you on Friday!

E. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the future with will, going to or may/ might.

1. Tom has just bought a painting. He _____ (hang) it on his bedroom wall.

2. "What do you want to drink?"

"I...er... I _____ (have) a cup of tea."

Teacher, Liliana Gheorghe

3. Terry is doing his examinations tomorrow. He hasn't done any work for them and he is not very intelligent. He _____ (fail).
4. Peter has already decided. He _____ (visit) the Forbidden City in Beijing. The problem is that he _____ (not/ have) time to visit the museums.
5. "Can you clean the windows?"
"Sure, I _____ (clean) them this afternoon.
6. Horoscope: Aries – You _____ (not/ feel) very happy this week.
7. Peter intends to go to the gym next week. He _____ (practise) swimming. He hasn't decided yet.
8. Thank you for lending me the money. I _____ (pay) you back on Friday.