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DIFFERENT FORMS OF FUTURE

- There are several different ways in English that you can talk about the future. The most important are:
- Predictions/statements of fact → WILL
- Intentions → GOING TO
- Arrangements → PRESENT CONTINUOUS
- Scheduled events → PRESENT SIMPLE

WILL

- We use the future simple with 'will' to predict the future. It is the basic way we talk about the future in English, and we often use it if there is no reason to use another future tense.

- **AFFIRMATIVE:** S + will + base form of the main verb

→ *The economy **will get** better soon.*

- **NEGATIVE:** S + will not (won't) + base form of the main verb

→ *They **won't have** time tomorrow.*

- **INTERROGATIVE:** Will + S + base form of the main verb

→ *What will you buy?*

- **NEGATIVE QUESTION:** Will not (Won't) + S + base form of the main verb

→ *Won't she ask for a pay rise, right?*

WILL

- We use **WILL**:

- **1. For things that we decide to do now. (Rapid decisions)**

→ This is when you make a decision at that moment, in a spontaneous way.

- *I'll buy one for you too.*

- *I think I'll try one of those. (I just decided this right now)*

- **2. When we think or believe something about the future. (Prediction)**

- *My team will not win the league this season.*

- *I think it will rain later so take an umbrella with you.*

- **3. We use 'will' to talk about future events we believe to be certain or an action in the future that can not be influenced.**

- *Next year, I'll be 40.*

- *The sun will rise at East.*

WILL

- **4. To make an offer, a promise or a threat.**

- *I'll give you a discount if you buy it right now.*
- *I promise I will behave next time.*
- *I'll take you to the movies if you'd like.*

- **5. You use WON'T when someone refuses to do something.**

- *I told him to take out the trash but he **won't** do it.*
- *My kids **won't** listen to anything I say.*
- *My car **won't** start.*

- **6. Often we add 'perhaps', 'maybe', 'probably', 'possibly' to make the belief less certain (opinion, hope, uncertainty or assumption regarding the future).**

- *I'll probably come back later.*
- *Perhaps we'll meet again some day.*

WILL

- **7. To form the first conditional:**

- *I'll finish all the reports by this week if you give me Friday off.*
- *If Maria doesn't speed up, the boss will fire her.*

- **8. Future perfect: to talk about events completed before a future time:**

- *You will have finished your report by this time next week.*
- *Won't they have answered by 5:00?*

WILL and adverbs of certainty

- *Will* comes before the adverbs ***certainly, definitely, probably, undoubtedly, surely*** in affirmative sentences and after the adverb in negative sentences.
- *I'll definitely go. (Certain)*
- *I certainly won't go. (Certain)*
- *I'll probably stay. (Quite certain)*
- *I probably won't stay. (Quite certain)*
- **Adverbs of certainty** express how certain or sure we feel about an action or event.

SHALL

- **SHALL**
- **'Shall' is used mainly in the forms 'shall I?' and 'shall we?' in British English. These forms are used when you want to get someone's opinion, especially for offers and suggestions.**
- *Shall I open the window? (= Do you want me to open the window?)*
- *Where shall we go tonight? (= What's your opinion?)*

WILL

- Write **positive sentences** in *will* future.

- 1) We _____(help) you.
- 2) I _____(get) you a drink.
- 3) I think our team _____(win) the match.
- 4) maybe she _____ (do) a language course in Malta.

- Write **negative sentences** in *will* future.

- 1) (I / answer / the question)
- 2) (she / read / the book)
- 3) (we / send / the postcard)
- 4) (Vanessa / catch / the ball)

- Write **questions** in *will* future.

- 1) (You / ask / him)
- 2) (Jenny / lock / the door)
- 3) (it / rain)
- 4) (the teacher / test / our English)

TO BE GOING TO

The structure **BE GOING TO** is normally used to indicate the future but with some type of connection to the present.

We often use 'be going to' to talk about our future intentions and plans. We have usually made our plans before the moment of speaking.

- **AFFIRMATIVE:** S + verb to be + going to + base form of the main verb

→ *She's going to attend university and study to become a manager.*

- **NEGATIVE:** S + verb to be + not + going to + base form of the main verb

→ *He isn't going to attend the meeting.*

- **INTERROGATIVE:** Verb to be + S + going to + base form of the main verb

→ *Where are you going to stay?*

- **NEGATIVE QUESTION:** Verb to be + not + S + going to + base form of the main verb

→ *Aren't we going to close the shop for Easter?*

TO BE GOING TO

We use it:

- **1. When we have already decided or we INTEND to do something in the future. (Prior plan)**

→ The decision has been made before the moment of speaking.

- *They're **going to** retire to the beach - in fact they have already bought a little beach house.*
- *I'm **going to** accept the job offer.*

- **2. When there are definite signs that something is going to happen. (Evidence)**

→ Something is likely to happen based on the evidence or experience you have.

- *I think it **is going to** rain – I just felt a drop.*
- **3. When something is about to happen and it's inevitable:**
- *Get back! The bomb **is going to** explode.*

TO BE GOING TO

⊕	I He/She/It We/You/They	am is are	going to	see Maria on Saturday.
⊖	I He/She/It We/You/They	am is are	not going to	
?	Am Is Are	I he/she/it we/you/they	going to	see her?
Yes, I am./No, I'm not.				

FUTURE WITH GOING TO

1) Planned actions in the future

- We are going to sing at the party.*
- I am going to have a holiday next week.*

2) You are certain that something is going to happen in the future.

- Look at that car! It is going to crash into the yellow one.*
- Look at those clouds! It's going to rain.*

TO BE GOING TO

- 1) He _____ his friend. (**To phone**)
- 2) We _____ a new computer game. (**To play**)
- 3) My sister _____ TV. (**To watch**)
- 4) You _____ a picnic next tuesday. (**To have**)
- 5) Jane _____ to the office. (**To go**)
- 6) They _____ to the bus stop this afternoon. (**To walk**)
- 7) His brother _____ a letter to his uncle today. (**To write**)
- 8) She _____ her aunt. (**To visit**)
- 9) I _____ my homework after school. (**To do**)
- 10) Sophie and nick _____ their friends. (**To meet**)

FIND AND CORRECT THE MISTAKES IN THE SENTENCES

- 1 Pete and Kate is going to stay in a hotel this weekend.
- 2 They not going to finish the work before next week.
- 3 I'm not going to is at the party next week.
- 4 He are going to visit the Opera House in Sydney in the summer.
- 5 I'm not going study French next year.
- 6 There going to do a computer course next week.
- 7 Are you going play football this weekend?
- 8 You going to eat at that new restaurant this weekend?

1. ... are going to ...

2. they are ...

3. ... to be ...

4. He is going to ...

5. ... going to study ...

6. They are going ...

7. Are you going to play ...

8. Are you going to ...?

WILL VS. GOING TO

ENGLISH
GRAMMAR

WILL vs. GOING TO

WILL

Rapid Decision

- I'm thirsty. I think I **will** buy a drink.

Offer

- That looks heavy. I **will** help you with it.

Promise

- Don't worry, I **won't** tell anyone.

Threat

- If you don't stop, I **will** tell your mother.

Refusal

won't = will not

- She **won't** listen to anything I say.

GOING TO

Prior Plan

= The decision was made before the moment of speaking.

- I'm **going to** the beach next weekend with my friends.

Evidence / Signs

= When there are signs that something is likely to happen.

- My stomach hurts a lot and I think I **am going to** throw up.

- It's 70-0. They're **going to** win.

You can use both **Will** and **Going to** for making predictions.

- I think it **will** rain tomorrow. = - I think it **is going to** rain tomorrow.

COMPARE: Are you busy this evening?

- I haven't made any plans.

I think I **will** probably watch TV.

OR
I'm probably **going to** watch TV.

- Yes, I'm **going to** the movies.

Only **Going to** is possible because this is a prior plan.

Will and **going to** are both possible here. We are "predicting" what will happen because nothing is planned.

In spoken English **Going to** is often pronounced as "gonna"

WILL VS. GOING TO

- If someone asks: *“Are you busy this evening?”*
- If I respond: *“Yes, I’m going to the movies.”* I use **”to be going to”** because it is a plan I made earlier (before I was asked the question).
 - In this case we can not use **will**.
- If I haven't made plans, then you can say either: *“I **will** probably watch tv.”*
OR *“I’m probably **going to** watch TV.”*
- Both **will** and **going to** are possible in this situation because we are predicting what will happen (since we haven't made any plans).

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

⊕	I	am	meeting	Alan at 7:00 p.m.
	He/She/It	is		
	We/You/They	are		
⊖	I	am	not meeting	
	He/She/It	is		
	We/You/They	are		
?	Am	I	meeting	him?
	Is	he/she/it		
	Are	we/you/they		
Yes, I am./No, I'm not.				

Present Continuous is used for plans and arrangements (An arrangement is usually a plan for the future that you have already thought about *and discussed with someone else.*).

- *What are you doing tonight? I'm seeing a very important client in my office at 7 o'clock.*
- *The manager is meeting the buyer tomorrow morning.*

Complete the sentences with the Present Continuous and the words in brackets. Use contracted forms where possible.

- 1 A: What _____ (you/do) this evening?
B: I _____ (stay) at home and _____ (watch) television.
- 2 A: _____ (you/cook) supper later?
B: No. We _____ (have) a takeaway pizza.
- 3 A: _____ (you/do) anything this afternoon?
B: I don't know. I _____ (not play) tennis with Liam because _____ (rain).
- 4 A: How _____ (you/get) home from the meeting?
B: I _____ (not drive). I _____ (take) the six o'clock train.
- 5 A: _____ (you/come) to the football match on Saturday?
B: Yes. We _____ (bring) a friend too.
- 6 A: We _____ (not go) on holiday next week.
B: Matt _____ (go) to hospital.
- 7 A: Help! I'm not ready.
B: Don't worry. The guests _____ (not arrive) until 8:30.
- 8 A: _____ (you/come) to the office on Monday?
B: No. I _____ (not work) next week.

- 1.A. are you doing ...?
- 1.B. I am staying ... watching ...
- 2.A. are you cooking ...?
- 2.B. we are having ...
- 3.A. Are you doing ...?
- 3.B. I am not playing ... it is raining
- 4.A. How are you getting ...
- 4.B. I am not driving. I am taking ...
- 5.A. are you coming ...?
- 5.B. we are bringing
- 6.A. we are not going ...
- 6.B. ... is going...
- 7.B. ... are not arriving ...
- 8.A. are you coming ...?
- 8.B. I am not working ...

TO BE GOING TO vs PRESENT CONTINUOUS

- ☐ To be **going to** and the **Present Continuous** can be used to express similar ideas. The choice depends on what you mean.
 - **To be going to** is used to talk about future plans and intentions.
 - The **Present Continuous** is used to talk about future arrangements (a time and place are decided)
 - a) *I'm going to see Mary again.* (a decision has been made but no arrangement)
 - b) *I'm seeing Mary tonight at the restaurant at 10.* (an arrangement has been made with Mary).
- ☐ With the verbs **to go** and **to come**, the **Present Continuous** is generally used:
→ *I'm going to Australia.*

TO BE GOING TO vs PRESENT CONTINUOUS

going to and Present Continuous (for future plans/arrangements)

5 Write the questions for these answers.

- 1 A: _____
B: No, I'm not meeting her this afternoon.
- 2 A: _____
B: I'm seeing Tariq this weekend.
- 3 A: _____
B: Yes, she's playing badminton on Saturday.
- 4 A: _____
B: We are eating at the local café.
- 5 A: _____
B: We're going on holiday to Paris.
- 6 A: _____
B: I'm flying to Hong Kong.
- 7 A: _____
B: He is going to buy a new computer.
- 8 A: _____
B: No, we aren't going to take the train.

- 1. Are you meeting her this afternoon?
- 2. When are you seeing Tariq?
- 3. Is she going to play badminton this weekend?
- 4. What are you and Claire doing?
- 5. What are you going to do this summer?
- 6. Where are you flying, sir?
- 7. What is he going to buy?
- 8. Are you going to take the train?

TO BE GOING TO vs PRESENT CONTINUOUS

- All of these sentences are written in the present continuous. But the present continuous is only used for arrangements (you have decided where, when, who with ...). we use 'going to' for general plans. Say if the sentences are correct or wrong.
- 1) *I'm visiting my friends in the USA next week.*
- 2) *I'm being a doctor when I finish university.*
- 3) *tom's starting university next month.*
- 4) *we're being rich and famous one day.*
- 5) *I'm speaking perfect English in 6 months.*
- 6) *are you staying in a hotel or a campsite this weekend?*
- 7) *I've just bought the tickets! I'm travelling around Asia next year!*
- 8) *one day I'm winning the lottery.*

PRESENT SIMPLE

- **Scheduled events**
- **The *present simple* tense is usually used to refer to future events that are scheduled (and outside of our control).**
- *Hurry up! The train **departs** in 10 minutes.*
- *I **leave** Frankfurt at 5 o'clock in the morning and **arrive** in New York*
- *At midnight the next day. She **has** an appointment with the headmaster after school today.*
- *There's no need to hurry. The train **doesn't leave** for another 30 minutes.*
- *When **does** the meeting **begin**?*

Exercises

- *Choose the correct verbs, using each tense once.*
- *Future with will or going to, simple present or present progressive*
- *The train _____ (leave) at 11:20.*
- *Wait! I _____ (help) you.*
- *As we want to get better marks in English, we _____ (study) harder in the future.*
- *Josh _____ (go) to the cinema with his friends tonight.*

Exercises

- *Choose the correct verbs, using each tense once.*
- *Future with will or going to, simple present or present progressive*
- *The train arrives at 11:20.*
- *Wait! I will help you.*
- *As we want to get better marks in English, we are going to study harder in the future.*
- *Josh is going to the cinema with his friends tonight.*

Exercises

- Complete the sentences for situations in the future. Decide which tense you need to use.

1) Aaron is carrying two tyres – he (change) _____ the tyres on a car.

2) Next week (be) _____ the beginning of winter and the weather forecast says that there (be) _____ snow tomorrow.

3) That's why many of the garage's customers have made an appointment and (call in) _____ today to get their winter tyres.

4) He (be/probably) _____ tired after that.

5) It's a lot of work for one day, but his customers promise that next year they (have) _____ their tyres changed earlier.

6) Some customers have agreed that they (pick up) _____ their cars tomorrow.

7) They have decided to go home by bus, which (stop) _____ in front of the garage every hour.

Exercises

- Complete the sentences for situations in the future. Decide which tense you need to use.

- 1) Aaron is carrying two tyres – he is going to change the tyres on a car.
- 2) Next week is the beginning of winter and the weather forecast says that there will be snow tomorrow.
- 3) That's why many of the garage's customers have made an appointment and are calling in today to get their winter tyres.
- 4) He will probably be tired after that.
- 5) It's a lot of work for one day, but his customers promise that next year they will have their tyres changed earlier.
- 6) Some customers have agreed that they are picking up their cars tomorrow.
- 7) They have decided to go home by bus, which stops in front of the garage every hour

Exercises

• WILL-FUTURE OR GOING TO-FUTURE

- 1) *What are your plans for the weekend? I _____ a geocache. (To hide)*
- 2) *Doris is always late. I'm sure she _____ late tomorrow, too. (To be)*
- 3) *Would you like tea or coffee? I _____ coffee. (To have)*
- 4) *Watch out! You _____ yourself. (To hurt)*
- 5) *The friends _____ tonight. They are grounded. (To stay in)*
- 6) *It's starting to rain. I _____ the umbrella. (To put up)*
- 7) *Look! They _____ the car. (To wash)*
- 8) *I don't think they _____ their holidays by the sea again. (To spend)*
- 9) *If you don't stop bullying her, I _____ the teacher. (To tell)*
- 10) *It's 5 o'clock already. We _____ the bus. (To miss)*

Exercises

• WILL-FUTURE OR GOING TO-FUTURE

- 1) What are your plans for the weekend? I **am going to hide** a geocache.
- 2) Doris is always late. I'm sure she **is going to be** late tomorrow, too.
- 3) Would you like tea or coffee? I **will have** coffee.
- 4) Watch out! You **are going to hurt** yourself.
- 5) The friends **are going to stay in** tonight. They are grounded.
- 6) It's starting to rain. I **will put up** the umbrella.
- 7) Look! They **are going to wash** the car.
- 8) I don't think they **will spend** their holidays by the sea again.
- 9) If you don't stop bullying her, I **will tell** the teacher.
- 10) It's 5 o'clock already. We **are going to miss** the bus.

Exercises

- [HTTPS://WWW.ENGLISH-4U.DE/EN/TENSES-EXERCISES/FUTURE.HTM](https://www.english-4u.de/en/tenses-exercises/future.htm)
- [HTTPS://WWW.ESL-LOUNGE.COM/STUDENT/GRAMMAR/2G33-WILL-GOING-TO-EXERCISE.PHP](https://www.esl-lounge.com/student/grammar/2g33-will-going-to-exercise.php)
- [HTTPS://WWW.TEST-ENGLISH.COM/GRAMMAR-POINTS/B1/FUTURE-FORMS/](https://www.test-english.com/grammar-points/b1/future-forms/)