

Grammar Form: “Going to” and “Will” Future

Both tenses are future tenses.

We use the *will-future* for predictions, assumptions, promises and when we do something spontaneously.

We use the *going to-future* with planned actions.

Use of the *will-future*

We use *will + infinitive* to describe:

1. Future actions happen without the speaker's intention:

The sun *will shine* tomorrow.

2. predictions, assumptions, (based on information, experience or intuition):

I think Sue *will arrive* in Paris at 6 pm.

It *will rain* tomorrow.

3. spontaneous actions:

Hang on! I'll *have* a word with you. (Phrasal verb = “to have a word with (someone)”, to speak briefly to someone)

Don't worry! I *will help* you!

I *will close* the window, it's starting to rain.

4. Promises:

If you are good, I'll *buy* you an ice cream later.

I promise I *will do* the dishes once the match is over.

Will uses:

I *will (pick you up)* from the airport tomorrow. (Phrasal verb: to pick you up = meet you at the airport and take you home.)

Making questions:

(*auxiliary*) + subject + **verb** + rest of sentence.

Will you see him tonight?

RESPONSE: Yes, I will./ No, I won't.

With a question word:

Question word + (*auxiliary*) + subject + **verb** + rest of sentence.

When *will you send* me the email?

RESPONSE: I will send you the tonight.

Negative form:

Subject + (*auxiliary*) + NOT + **verb** + rest of sentence.

Milan *will* not **win** the match.

A. Work with a partner and fill in the gaps with Will – Future tense.

1. They _____ back by 9.00 PM. (to be)
2. _____ you _____ me? (to help)
3. When _____ I _____ you again? (to see)
4. His parents _____ him for being late. (not/to punish)
5. _____ they _____ the contract tonight? (to sign)
6. It _____ us three hours to get there. (to take)
7. _____ this concert _____ money for our school club? (to raise)
8. The meeting _____ before tomorrow morning. (not/to close)
9. When _____ she _____ me a copy of the article? (to send)

Making plans: "Going to."

We use the present form of 'to be' (am/are/is) + going to + Verb (inf.) when:

1. We want to talk about a planned action for the future BEFORE the moment that you are speaking.

Ex.: *I am going to have* lunch with you on Wednesday.

She is going to visit Palermo on Friday.

We are going to make a cake tonight.

Juve is going to play at home on Sunday morning, *are you going to go see* the game?

Phrasal verb: to go see. (a film, a play, a game...when you are physically present at an event)

2. We are making a prediction.

Ex. *It's really cold. I'm sure it is going to snow* tomorrow.

I'm really tired. I'm going to sleep well tonight!

Look at the clouds! It is going to rain!

We study a lot, I am sure we are going to pass the test.

What will the weather do today? How about tomorrow?

Time references: What preposition do I use?

When it a general time reference, you don't need a preposition:

Ex. *tomorrow, tonight*

When it a specific time reference use:

on (day of week) Ex. I'm going to London on Friday.

(in the/this/tomorrow) afternoon, evening, morning

in (month, season, year date) Ex. in January, in Winter, in 2017

at (a specific hour) Ex. I'm going to visit you at 5 tomorrow.

What are you going to do tomorrow?

In the morning, I am going to In the afternoon I am going to then later I'm going to ...

Making questions:

(present form of 'to be') + subject + **going to + verb** + rest of sentence.

Are you going to watch TV tonight?
RESPONSE: Yes, I am./ No, I'm not.

With a question word:

Question word + (*present form of 'to be'*) + subject + **going to + verb** + rest of sentence.

What **are you going to make** for dinner tonight? (Can I come, too!) ;)

Negative form:

Subject + (*present form of 'to be'*) + NOT + **going to + verb** + rest of sentence.

Charlie **is not going to play** in the football tournament.

ATTENTION! TO SPEAK LIKE A NATIVE SPEAKER:

Remember that you should never use will to say what somebody has arranged or decided to do in the future:

Mike **is moving** to New Jersey next month. (not "Mike will move.")

I **am going to visit** my friend tonight. (not "I will visit my friend tonight.")

Paul isn't free on Thursday. He's **working** in his aunt's shop.

B. Work with a partner and fill in the gaps with Going to – Future tense.

She _____ to the stadium. (*not/to walk*)

_____ you _____ to London? (*to fly*)

John _____ anything. (*not/to eat*)

_____ she _____ at a campsite? (*to stay*)

What _____ you tomorrow? (*to do*)

I _____ Dennis tonight. (*to see*)

_____ Alexander _____ the next bus? (*to take*)

They _____ football in the gym. (*not/to play*)

When _____ you _____ me the book back? (*to give*)

Angela _____ a week in Poland. (*to spend*)

C. You have just won the lottery! What do you plan to do with the money? *Ex. I will set up my own business. I'm going to buy a house in the country. I will help people in need.*

Homework:

A. What are your future plans? Write five sentences using 'going to' and 'will + infinitive'.

For example: We are going to get married after graduation. We will go to the Bahamas on our honeymoon. We are not going to live here. We are going to move to New York after graduation. Etc.

B. Study p. 142 and do exercises 3, 4, 5 and 6 on p. 143

C. Do: Sentences and questions in will-future – Exercise 2: http://www.englisch-hilfen.de/en/exercises/tenses/will_future_mix2.htm, in the going to-future – Exercise 2: http://www.englisch-hilfen.de/en/exercises/tenses/going_to_future_mix2.htm, and in the going to-future – Exercise 3: http://www.englisch-hilfen.de/en/exercises/tenses/going_to_future_mix3.htm, Verb Tense Exercise 25: <http://www.englishpage.com/verbpage/verbs25.htm>, Verb Tense Exercise 26: <http://www.englishpage.com/verbpage/verbs26.htm>