

# FUTURE TENSES



# WILL / GOING TO

The Simple Future has two main different forms in English: "will" and "be going to." Although the two forms can sometimes be used interchangeably, they often express two very different meanings.



I **will** probably go to Italy next  
Summer → uncertainty

I **am going to** fly to Italy next  
Saturday → plan

# Will → Form

Affirmative: I will travel to Madrid in October\_

Interrogative : Will you travel by bus?

Negative : I will not travel - won't

Will you travel by train or by bus?

I won't travel by bus. I will probably travel by train

# Uses of Will

## 1- Instant decisions:

Ok, I'll see you on Friday

## 2- Predictions based on what we think:

It will rain in the evening

## 3- Promises and offers:

Don't worry, I'll go and buy some food for you

# Expressions used for uncertain plans

- ◆ I'm not sure.
  - ◆ I'm don't know yet.
  - ◆ I haven't decided yet.
  - ◆ It depends on the weather.  
    on how far it is.
  - ◆ I haven't got a clue.
  - ◆ I haven't thought about it.
  - ◆ Adverbs such as **probably, maybe, perhaps...**
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# Going to → Form

Affirmative: I am going to travel  
by plane

Interrogative : Are you going to travel?  
by plane'

Negative : I am not going to travel  
by plane because I am  
going to fly in a hot air  
balloon



# Uses of Going to

1- Future plans and intentions:

I'm going to buy a new laptop next week

2- Predictions based on what we can see at the moment:

Look at that car! It is going to crash into the lamp post

# COMPLETE THE SENTENCES WITH **WILL OR GOING TO :**

• A: Why are you holding a piece of paper?

B: I ..... (write) a letter to my friends back home in Texas

• A: I'm about to fall asleep. I need to wake up!

B: I (get)..... you a cup of coffee.

• We are so excited about our trip next month to France. We ..... (visit) Paris, Nice and Grenoble.

• I think he ..... (be) the next British Prime Minister.

# OTHER WAYS OF EXPRESSING THE FUTURE

The **present simple** and **present continuous** are also used to express future time.

The **present simple** is often used in connection with schedules and the **present continuous** to talk about arrangements.

The train leaves at 6:00 a.m. tomorrow.

She is meeting a new client at six o'clock today.

# Present Continuous VS Be Going To

- ◆ Use the Present Continuous for arrangements (close in time).  
a: What are you doing after class?  
b: I'm meeting my friends for a drink.
- ◆ Use Be Going To for plans (further in the future).  
She's going to rent a house abroad when she finishes her degree.  
I'm going to spend all my money on trips before I retire.

# FUTURE CONTINUOUS: WILL BE +ING

This tense is used to describe an event or action that will occur over a period of time at a specific point in the future.

They **will be sailing** in the Atlantic Ocean by the time you arrive at the island.

We **will be using** only renewable energies in 20 year's time.

# FUTURE PERFECT: WILL HAVE+ PARTICIPLE

This tense is used to describe an event or action that will be completed before another event or time in the future (often used with the time expressions *by* or *in*):

We **will have finished** the exam by this time tomorrow.

In summer she **will have had** the baby.