

FORMS OF FUTURE

Michela Giordano
mgiordano@unica.it

FUTURE WITH WILL (1)

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

- Next year, I'll be 40.
- There won't be any snow. It's too warm.
- The concert will be on 24th May.

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.

2

FUTURE WITH WILL (2)

We often use 'will' with the verbs ***hope, think, be sure, believe, suppose:***

- I think I'll go next year.
- I think I'll go to bed now.
- I think she'll do well in the job.
- I hope you'll enjoy your stay.
- I hope you won't make too much noise.

3

FUTURE WITH WILL (3)

We use 'will' at the moment **we make a new decision** or plan (a spontaneous decision).

- It's very cold. I'll close the window.
- Bye. I'll phone you when I get there.
- I'll answer that.
- I'll go.
- I won't tell him. I promise.

4

FUTURE WITH 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.

5

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.
- 5) I _____ (buy) the tickets.
- 6) Perhaps she _____ (do) this for you.
- 7) Maybe we _____ (stay) at home.
- 8) She hopes that he _____ (cook) dinner tonight.
- 9) I'm sure they _____ (understand) your problem.
- 10) They _____ (go / probably) to the party.

6

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)
- 5) (James / open / the door)
- 6) (we / listen / to the radio)
- 7) (they / eat / fish)
- 8) (she / give / him / the apple)
- 9) (the computer / crash)

7

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

- 1) (you / ask / him)
- 2) (Jenny / lock / the door)
- 3) (it / rain)
- 4) (the teacher / test / our English)
- 5) (what / they / eat)
- 6) (when / she / be / back)
- 7) (who / drive / us / into town)
- 8) (where / we / meet)
- 9) (when / I / be / famous)

8

 Complete the sentences

I think I _____ now. I'm tired.
 We think we _____ agree to it. We have no choice.
 I hope I _____ enough money to pay for it. I didn't bring my credit card.
 We don't think we _____ it. It is much too expensive.
 I think I _____ the red dress. It's perfect for a summer's evening.
 They think they _____ move in next week. The others are moving out on Friday.
 I think I _____ him a call and ask him what he thinks.
 She thinks she _____ time to finish it before the weekend.
 I don't think he _____ that very much. He prefers things that are simple.
 We don't think they _____ here until eight. It's a long drive.

- I'll buy I'll stop I'll give I'll wear
 I'll like I'll be I'll have to I'll have I'll be able to I'll have

 Mix and match

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="text" value="I'll give you a call when"/> | <input type="text" value="I have some news."/> |
| <input type="text" value="Let's have a break."/> | <input type="text" value="I'll give you a lift."/> |
| <input type="text" value="This dress is perfect."/> | <input type="text" value="see you tomorrow."/> |
| <input type="text" value="I'll think about it and"/> | <input type="text" value="I'll make some coffee."/> |
| <input type="text" value="Bye. Have a nice evening and I'll"/> | <input type="text" value="back in half an hour."/> |
| <input type="text" value="OK, see you this evening."/> | <input type="text" value="let you know next week."/> |
| <input type="text" value="Let me help you with your bags. I'll"/> | <input type="text" value="I'll be there at about eight."/> |
| <input type="text" value="I'm going into town."/> | <input type="text" value="I'll see you on Friday."/> |
| <input type="text" value="I'm going out. I'll be"/> | <input type="text" value="I'll take it. How much is it?"/> |
| <input type="text" value="Thanks for the invitation."/> | <input type="text" value="take the big one."/> |

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.

11

- 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)**

Put in the verbs in brackets into the gaps and form negative sentences in **going to-future**.

- 1) They _____ the lunch basket. (*not/to pack*)
- 2) I _____ somebody the way. (*not/to ask*)
- 3) Rita _____ Jim's book. (*not/to borrow*)
- 4) We _____ a T-shirt. (*not/to design*)
- 5) I _____ on the red button. (*not/to click*)
- 6) The girls _____ at the boys. (*not/to laugh*)
- 7) Tim _____ Sandra's hair. (*not/to pull*)
- 8) Andy and Fred _____ to a song. (*not/to mime*)
- 9) You _____ dinner. (*not/to prepare*)
- 10) He _____ the hamster in the garden. (*not/to keep*)

PRESENT CONTINUOUS WITH FUTURE MEANING (NEAR FUTURE)

- Present Continuous and Present Simple can be used to talk about the future.

We use the Present Continuous for plans and arrangements.

What are you doing tonight?

I'm seeing a very important client in my office at 7 o'clock.

Where are you staying in London?

14

PRESENT CONTINUOUS VS GOING TO

- **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 **go and come**, the present continuous is generally used:
I'm going to Australia.

15

Present continuous for future use

1. I _____ (go) to the supermarket tomorrow.
2. My sister _____ (give) me her car when she gets her new one.
3. We _____ (have) a BBQ on Sunday.
4. All my friends _____ (come) to my party next week.
5. We _____ (take) my niece to Aquapark later today.
6. The train _____ (leave) in ten minutes.
7. We _____ (go) to the zoo tomorrow.
8. On Friday I _____ (go) to Rob's party.
9. My teacher _____ (go) to school tomorrow.
10. Rhonda _____ (stay in) on Friday.
11. Bill _____ (go) to the cinema at the weekend.
12. _____ Susan _____ (work) this week?

16

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 round Asia next year!
- 8) One day I'm winning the lottery.

17

Sources

- <http://www.englishgrammarsecrets.com/willfuture/menu.php>
- <http://www.znanje.org/knjige/english/grammar/verbs/simplfuture.htm>
- <http://esl.about.com/od/beginningenglish/ig/Basic-English/Future-Forms.htm>
- <http://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/future-1-will/exercises?02>
- <http://www.language-worksheets.com/present-continuous-future-elementary.html>
- <http://www.eclecticenglish.com/grammar/PresentContinuous11.html>
- http://www.english-hilfen.de/en/exercises/tenses/going_to_future_negation.htm
- <http://www.englishgrammarsecrets.com/willfuture/exercise3.swf>
- <http://www.tinytelfteacher.co.uk/learning-english/grammar/exercises/future-plans.html>

18