

# FUTURE FORMS

B1

With will, going to, and the present continuous

# Future

- Present simple
- Present continuous
- Will
- Going to

# Present simple

- For **timetables/ schedules**
  - The train **leaves** at 6:30 this evening.
- After **when, until, before, after, as soon as** in clause referring to future time use present simple, and **not will**.
  - I'll call you **as soon as** I land.
  - **NOT** I'll call you **as soon as** I ~~will~~ land.

# Present continuous

+ future time reference

## 1) Definite near future plans



"I'm having fish tonight!"

## 2) Arrangements (diary)



"Hi Sam, are you free on Tuesday afternoon?"

"No - I'm playing tennis with Bob."

NB. If there is no future time reference, then the action is in progress now.

# Will vs going to

## Will + inf (w/o 'to')

Will = modal aux (same for all persons)

- 1. future facts
- 2. spontaneous decisions (made at the moment of speaking)
- 3. predictions (based on what I think will happen)

## Be going to + inf (w/o 'to')

- 1. plans/ intentions (made before the moment of speaking)
- 2. predictions (based on evidence)

# will for future fact

- future fact

If you need to see me, I'll be in my office from 2 to 4 this afternoon.



# will vs going to for decisions

## WILL + INF (without 'to')

- 1) spontaneous decisions
- (made at moment of speaking)



"I'll get it!"

- promises "I won't tell anyone."
- offers "I'll carry your bag for you."

## BE GOING TO + inf

- 1) intentions and plans
- (made before moment of speaking)



"I'm going to study medicine when I'm older."

# will vs going to for predictions

## WILL + INF (without 'to')

- 2) based on what I think will happen (probable but not sure)



It'll be bright and sunny tomorrow.

Indicators: probably, I expect/ think/ suppose/guess, I'm (not) sure/ certain

## BE GOING TO + inf

- 2) based on evidence



It's going to rain any moment now – just look at that cloud!

The man carrying the boxes is going to fall down the hole!



"Don't worry, I know what I'm doing!"

# Position of *probably*

- + I'll probably see you tomorrow.
- - I probably won't finish the project on time.
- NOT: ~~Probably~~ I'll see you tomorrow.

# Shall for offers and suggestions

FORM Shall + I / we + inf (w/o 'to')?

NB. *Shall* can only be used with the 1<sup>st</sup> person singular or plural in questions. (I/ we)

USE Shall I open the window? (*offer*)



Shall we go for a walk in the park?  
(*suggestion*)

