



Going to or will

When we want to talk about future facts or things we believe to be true about the future, we use 'will'.

- The President will serve for four years.
- The boss won't be very happy.
- I'm sure you'll like her.
- I'm certain he'll do a good job.

If we are not so certain about the future, we use 'will' with expressions such as 'probably', 'possibly', 'I think', 'I hope'.

- I hope you'll visit me in my home one day.
- She'll probably be a great success.
- I'll possibly come but I may not get back in time.
- I think we'll get on well.

If you are making a future prediction based on evidence in the present situation, use 'going to'.

- Not a cloud in the sky. It's going to be another warm day.
- Look at the queue. We're not going to get in for hours.

- The traffic is terrible. We're going to miss our flight.

- Be careful! You're going to spill your coffee.

At the moment of making a decision, use 'will'. Once you have made the decision, talk about it using 'going to'.

- I'll call Jenny to let her know. Sarah, I need Jenny's number. I'm going to call her about the meeting.

- I'll come and have a drink with you but I must let Harry know. Harry, I'm going to have a drink with Simon.



I. Select the suitable alternative.

1. What will you do next year?

- I finished school.
- I will finish school.

2. Are you going to work tomorrow?

- Yes, I am.
- Yes, he will.

3. What are you going to do for Christmas?

- I'm going to stay at home.
- I stayed at home.

4. Where will you go on you holidays?

- I will go to Berlin.
- He will go to Berlin.

5. Are you going to call the police?

- Yes, I was.
- Yes, I am.

6. Will Steven buy a new house next year?

- No, he won't.
- No, he didn't.

7. Are you going to play cards tonight?

- Yes, we are.
- Yes, we did.

8. Will you go the party?

- Yes, we will.
- Yes, she will.

II. Fill the gaps with the verb in brackets using either the going to or will form of the future tense.

- 1 Sally: There's no milk left!
Betty: Oh. I _____ some from the shop. (get)
- 2 The population of Valencia _____ 2 million by the year 2010. (reach)
- 3 Mum: I told you to tidy up your room.
Son: Sorry, Mum, I forgot. I _____ it after lunch.(do)
- 4 Sally: Why don't we meet for coffee on Friday morning?
Willy: Sorry. I can't. I _____ the doctor then. (see)
- 5 "Tomorrow _____ a bright and sunny day everywhere in Spain, except in La Coruña," said the weatherwoman. (be)
- 6 Look at that big black cloud. I think it _____. (rain)
- 7 Sally: What are your plans for the week-end?
Betty: Brad Pitt phoned. We _____ on a picnic. (go)
- 8 Betty: Have you booked the flights yet?
Sally: Don't worry. It's all organized. I _____ to the travel agent's tomorrow morning. (go)
- 9 In the future people _____ bigger heads. (have)
- 10 If we miss the bus, we _____ a taxi. (take)
- 11 Next month I _____ a DVD player. (buy)
- 12 When _____ you _____ another party? (have)
- 13 I've got to go to the dentist this morning. _____ you _____ with me? (come)
- 14 Oh no! I think I _____. (sneeze)
- 15 Fanny: I can't open this jar.
Leslie: Give it to me. I _____ it. (do)

GOOD LUCK!!!