

VERBS USED IN THE FUTURE

PRESENT CONTINUOUS – (for PEOPLE)

Future arrangements – Planned actions

- I'm not working in London next week.
- John is leaving on the midnight train.
- We are flying to New York tomorrow morning.
- When are you coming to visit us?
- What are you doing at the weekend?
- I'm meeting Mary at 6 o'clock.
- They aren't playing tennis this afternoon.

Am/is/are + verb(ing) + adverb of future time when necessary to avoid confusion with the present tense.

TO BE GOING TO

People's intentions

- I'm going to watch TV.
- I'm going to visit Italy sooner or later.
- Is she going to marry him? Yes, she is.

Predictions based on the present

- Look at those clouds! It's going to rain.
- The alarm clock didn't go off. I'm going to be late.
- The sun is shining. It's going to be a lovely afternoon.

am/is/are + going to + base form verb
Adverbs of future time can be used but are not essential

SIMPLE PRESENT - (for THINGS)

Timetables and fixed future events

- What time does the train leave?
- It leaves at 10.15 a.m.
- When does school start?
- It doesn't start until September.
- Are the shops open tomorrow?
- Yes. They open at 9.00 and close at 8.00 p.m.

Verb in the simple present form + adverb of future time when necessary to avoid confusion with the present tense.

WILL

Asking people to do something

- Will you help me to wash the car?

Promises

- I promise I won't go without you.

Resolutions

- I will marry John. (even though my parents don't want me to)

Snap decisions

- I like the dress in the shop window. I'll buy it.

Predictions

- It will rain in London, tomorrow morning.

Inevitable

- Harry is 26. He will be 27 next year in August.

Volunteering to do something

- Mary hasn't arrived yet so I'll cook dinner.

In sentences with verbs of opinion

- I think it will rain.
- I don't believe he will come.
- I doubt she will tell the truth.

First conditional

- If you don't leave immediately I will call the police.

Will + base form of verb

Negative: won't + base form of verb