



You are going to visit **London**, but how will you use the future tense?

If you are going to visit London, you have already made a plan, so 'going to visit' is the correct tense, rather than 'I will visit'. When you arrive, you may make a sudden decision to take a taxi: 'I think I will take (or I'll take) a taxi' is therefore correct. Although this distinction is quite clear, I often hear good non-native English speakers using the 'will' form incorrectly, so it sounds unnatural.

by Garry Britton

Decide whether the sentences below are right or wrong:

Exercise 1

- | | r | w |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. I'm going to do some shopping in town later. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. If you haven't got any cash for coffee I will <u>lend</u> you some. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. I will make a presentation at the meeting tomorrow. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4. It's cold in here, I'm going to close the window now. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 5. We will go on holiday to Turkey in August. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 6. I'm getting tired, I think I will take a lunch break. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 7. You want to speak to Kate? Wait a minute, I'm going to get her. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 8. We are all going to go to the office party, of course! | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

What you will be doing this time next week

This tense looks like a hybrid of the above, and in a way it is. The future continuous talks about a time in the future with a continuous action taking place: at 3 a.m. tomorrow morning I will be sleeping, at 7 a.m. I will be having breakfast, and at 11 a.m. I will be sitting in a meeting.

Exercise 2

Make sentences from the building blocks given. You will need to add some extra small words.

Example: Tomorrow/ I/have dinner/ with/ important client. Full sentence: Tomorrow I will be having dinner with an important client

- Tomorrow/ we/ lunch/ our new suppliers.
- Next week/ you/ work on/ next budget forecast.
- The CEO/ make a statement/ via Teams at 4 p.m.
- We/ all/ go to the football match on Saturday.
- In August/ I/ sit on a beach/ drink piña coladas.

Exercise 1: 1. Right, 2. Right, 3. Wrong, 4. Wrong, 5. Wrong, 6. Right, 7. Wrong, 8. Right



What you will be doing this time next week

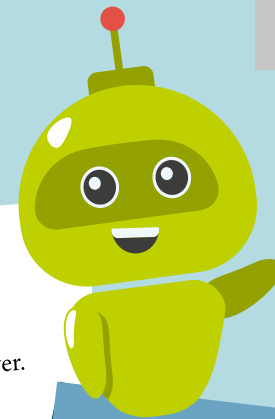
With time indicators like when, after and until, we often use present tense forms for the future:

- I'll go out for a drink when I finish work.
(NOT when I will finish work)
- We will stay at home if it rains.
(NOT if it will rain)

This is also the case for conditionals starting with if, unless, even if:

- I won't be able to go out if I am busy
- We will visit next week unless there is a train strike.

Note that we can use 'will' if it means 'want to' or 'be willing to':
I will be very pleased if you
will help me at the event.
I will come to the sports day
if David will come too.



Exercise 3

Select the correct option in each sentence. Some sentences are NOT time or conditional clauses and therefore WILL or GOING TO is the correct tense and answer.

- We are looking forward to seeing Manuel when he
(a) will arrive (b) arrives (c) is going to arrive in the office.
- Please wait here until the delivery driver
(a) comes back (b) is going to come back (c) will be coming back.
- We hope that our suppliers
(a) will make (b) make a presentation in tomorrow's meeting.
- The team will look at the new designs after they
(a) will return (b) are going to return (c) return from lunch.
- The new job isn't going well, so I think I
(a) talk (b) will talk (c) will be talking to my boss about it today.
- The company will award a holiday day if everyone
(a) is meeting (b) is going to meet (c) meets the end-of-year deadline.
- We will stay in the Radisson hotel unless it
(a) is (b) is going to be (c) is being fully booked.
- Although we have not been asked, I
(a) give (b) am going to give (c) will give some feedback about the training.

Vokabeltraining

To lend something
etwas leihen

distinction
Unterscheidung

A sudden decision
eine plötzliche
Entscheidung

Train strike
Zugstreik

Achtung! Das ist
ein englisches
Teekesselchen und
nicht zu verwechseln
mit dem „Air Strike“
- Luftangriff.

