

## GRAMMAR SUPPLEMENT

### THE FUTURE

[Adapted from [learnenglish.britishcouncil.org](http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org)]

#### 1.1 PRESENT SIMPLE & PRESENT CONTINUOUS

When we know about the future, we can use the **present tense**:

- We have a lesson next Monday.
- The train arrives at 6.30 in the morning.
- The winter break starts next week.
- It's my birthday tomorrow.

We can use the **present continuous** for **plans or arrangements**:

- I'm playing football tomorrow.
- Students in group 8 are visiting the museum on Friday.
- We're having a party at Christmas.
- They aren't coming to see us tomorrow.

#### 1.2 WILL

a) When we express **beliefs or hopes** about the future, we can use *will*:

- It will be a nice day tomorrow.
- I think Brazil will win the World Cup in football.
- Sarah says she will help us.

b) When we make **offers or promises**, we can use *will*:

- I'll see you tomorrow.
- We'll send you an email.

c) When speaking, we use *will* to express a **spontaneous unplanned action**:

- [*The phone rings.*] I'll answer!
- [*A book falls on the floor.*] Don't worry. I'll pick it up.

d) We use *will* with the word **probably**:

- I'll probably read that paper on the weekend.
- The class will probably be online because of the bad weather.

### 1.3 BE + GOING TO

a) We can use *be + going to* for expressing **plans and intentions**:

- Annie's going to take the metro today.
- The Romeros are going to move to Chiloé in January.
- We are going to order a pizza later.
- I'm not going to participate in the conference next year.

b) We can use *be + going to* for **predictions based on evidence**:

- The meteorological service says it's going to rain.
- That house is in bad condition. It's going to collapse in the next storm.
- George is not very social. He's not going to enjoy the party.

### 1.4 MIGHT

a) We can use *might* when we're **not sure** about the future:

- I might stay at home tonight. I'm not sure yet.
- We might see Larry at the next meeting. He goes sometimes.
- It's quite bright. It might not rain today.

### 1.5 Practice Exercise A

*Complete the space with the future form + verb in parentheses ( ).*

1. The flight from Bogotá ..... (present simple / *arrive*) tomorrow at 6 pm.
2. We ..... (present continuous / *go*) to the match on Saturday.
3. I think he ..... (will / *be*) very happy about the good news.
4. My mom ..... (be going to / *take*) a painting class at the Arts Center.
5. They say they ..... (will / *check*) the system later.
6. I ..... (will / *pick up*) your medicine at the pharmacy on the way.
7. The movie was not so great. It ..... (might / *get*) a bad review.
8. They ..... (will probably / *pass*) the new law after a big debate.
9. I ..... (be going to / *stay*) home and study tomorrow night.
10. Look at that dog! It ..... (be going to / *attack*) that cyclist.

## 1.6 Practice Exercise B

Complete the sentences with **will / won't** and the verbs below.

be	cost	get	not be	not get	not leave	rise	see
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- Dad ..... home until ten o'clock tonight.
- It's my grandmother's birthday tomorrow. She ..... 80.
- Jason ..... his exam results next Monday. He's very nervous.
- Samantha ..... at the party this evening because she isn't feeling well.
- The sun ..... at six o'clock tomorrow morning.
- Goodbye. I ..... you tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.
- Robert ..... school until he is eighteen years old.
- Tickets ..... £100 for the music festival next summer.

## 1.7 Practice Exercise C

Complete the sentences with the affirmative form of **be + going to** and one of the verbs below.

do	have	move	play	study	not work	clean	visit	not offer	watch
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- They ..... volleyball at the beach.
- I ..... TV at home tonight.
- We ..... our cousins in Spain next summer.
- They ..... alcoholic drinks on the menu starting next month.
- She ..... physics at university next year.
- My best friend ..... to Namibia.
- My brother and I ..... karate this evening.
- I have a lot of experience with this, and I can say this plan .....
- You said you ..... your bedroom.
- My friends ..... a barbecue next weekend.

### 1.8 Practice Exercise D

Complete the space with a future form of the verb in parentheses ( ).

1. Los Angeles is a great city. I'm sure you ..... (have) a good time there.
2. I'm not sure but we ..... (see) Catrina at the funeral tomorrow.
3. I've already decided. I ..... (phone) my bank manager tomorrow.
4. The next course ..... (start) on 1 July. That's what the website says.
5. The meeting ..... (be) over by six. They don't usually take more than an hour.
6. I ..... (help) you do the washing up if you like.
7. Bella and I ..... (get) married in the summer. We've already agreed on the date.
8. The news is announcing that the protest march ..... (be) very big tomorrow.
9. We ..... (run out) of coffee soon. The tin's almost empty.
10. Someone is at our door. I ..... (see) who it is.
11. Tom ..... (take) the bus because his car is at the mechanic's.
12. We ..... (probably spend) our next vacation at the beach.

### 1.9 Practice Exercise E

Complete the dialogues. Use the correct form of will and the words in parentheses ( ).

- Felipe: Are you going to Sam's barbecue?  
Carla: I'm not sure. When is it?  
Felipe: On Friday. [1] ..... (it / be) great!  
Carla: [2] ..... (Tamara / go), do you think?  
Felipe: Yes, I think she [3] .....  
Carla: Then [4] ..... (I / go) too. I like Tamara.
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- Tom: I'm going to watch Chelsea play on Saturday. Do you want to come?  
Sarah: No, I [5] ..... (not be) here.  
Tom: Where [6] ..... (you / be)?  
Sarah: In Oxford. [7] ..... (I / watch) the match on TV. Maybe [8] ..... (I / see) you in the crowd!

## 1.10 Answer Key

### Practice exercise A.

1. The flight from Bogotá arrives tomorrow at 6 pm.
2. We are going to the match on Saturday.
3. I think he will be very happy about the good news.
4. My mom is going to take a painting class at the Arts Center.
5. They say they will check the system later.
6. I will pick up your medicine at the pharmacy on the way.
7. The movie was not so great. It might get a bad review.
8. They will probably pass the new law after a big debate.
9. I am going to stay home and study tomorrow night.
10. Look at that dog! It is going to attack that cyclist.

### Practice exercise B.

1. Dad won't get home until ten o'clock tonight.
2. It's my grandmother's birthday tomorrow. She will be 80.
3. Jason will get his exam results next Monday. He's very nervous.
4. Samantha will be at the party this evening because she isn't feeling well.
5. The sun will rise at six o'clock tomorrow morning.
6. Goodbye. I will see you tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.
7. Robert won't leave school until he is eighteen years old.
8. Tickets will cost £100 for the music festival next summer.

### Practice exercise C.

1. They are going to play volleyball at the beach.
2. I am going to watch TV at home tonight.
3. We are going to visit our cousins in Spain next summer.
4. They are not going to offer alcoholic drinks on the menu starting next month.
5. She is going to study physics at university next year.
6. My best friend is going to move to Namibia.
7. My brother and I am going to do karate this evening.
8. I have a lot of experience with this, and I can say this plan is not going to work.
9. You said you are going to clean your bedroom.
10. My friends are going to have a barbecue next weekend.

### Practice exercise D.

1. Los Angeles is a great city. I'm sure you will have a good time there.
2. I'm not sure but we might see Catrina at the funeral tomorrow.
3. I've already decided. I'm calling / I'm going to call my bank manager tomorrow.
4. The next course starts / is starting on 1 July. That's what the website says.
5. The meeting will be / is going to be over by six. They don't usually take more than an hour.
6. I will help you do the washing up if you like.
7. Bella and I are getting / are going to get married in the summer. We've already agreed on the date.
8. The news is announcing that the protest march is going to be very big tomorrow.
9. We are going to run out of coffee soon. The tin's almost empty.
10. Someone is at our door. I will see who it is.
11. Tom is going to take the bus because his car is at the mechanic's.
12. We will probably spend our next vacation at the beach.

### Practice exercise E.

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| 1. On Friday. [1] It <u>will be</u> great!       | 5. No, I [5] <u>won't be</u> here.                     |
| 2. [2] <u>Will Tamara go</u> , do you think?     | 6. Where [6] <u>will you be</u> ?                      |
| 3. Yes, I think she [3] <u>will</u> .            | 7. In Oxford. [7] I <u>will watch</u> the match on TV. |
| 4. Then [4] I <u>will go</u> too. I like Tamara. | 8. Maybe [8] I <u>will see</u> you in the crowd.       |