

UNIT 1: ACADEMIC TRAJECTORIES

LESSON 3: FUTURE HOPES AND PLANS

Lesson aims:

- Use various grammar structures to talk about future hopes, plans and fears
- Understand the structure of a paragraph
- Write a logically structured paragraph

Lead-In: Motivation

1. Look at the following careers. Why do people want to pursue these careers? Give reasons and examples where possible.

POLITICIAN	PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR
TEACHER / PROFESSOR	ARTIST	DOCTOR

2. Which of the following items are the most important motivating factors for each career?

HAVING POWER	ACHIEVING SUCCESS IN YOUR FIELD	HELPING PEOPLE
BECOMING FAMOUS	MAKING MONEY	MAKING CHANGES

Grammar: Talking about future hopes and plans



GRAMMAR SUPPLEMENTS: THE FUTURE & FIRST CONDITIONAL

1. Match the sentences (1-5) with the future forms (a-e).

SENTENCES		FUTURE FORMS
	1. I'm meeting my professor tomorrow to talk about my assignment.	a) Future plan (going to)
	2. She's going to apply for a semester abroad program next year.	b) Arrangement (present continuous)
	3. I hope/plan to finish the project next week.	c) Belief or prediction (will)
	4. If we don't submit the application on time, we won't be able to participate in the seminar.	d) Future condition (1st conditional)
	5. I think he'll love the international conference.	e) Present simple (hope/plan/intend)

2. *Work in pairs. Take turns asking and answering the questions below using the future form indicated. Example:*

What are you doing this weekend? → I'm having lunch with my family on Sunday.

QUESTION	USE THIS FORM TO ANSWER THE QUESTION
a) What are you doing this weekend?	Arrangement (present continuous) am / is / are + verb -ing
b) What are your plans for next summer?	Plan (going to) am / is / are + going to
c) What will university life be like in 10 years?	Prediction (will / won't) will / won't + infinitive without 'to'
d) What will happen if you miss the deadline for the assignment?	Future condition (1st conditional) if / when + present simple, will / won't + infinitive without 'to'
e) What do you want to do when you graduate?	Present Simple (want / hope / plan / intend) want / hope / plan / intend + infinitive with 'to'

Listening: Plans, hopes, and fears about the future

Who said what? You are going to listen to three students talking about their plans, hopes, and fears about their futures.

- Before you listen, underline the key words in each sentence.*
- Listen and match the students (A, B, or C) to the statements (1-7). In one statement there are two students.*
- Listen again and check your answers.*

	1. This person is actively taking steps to get career support.
	2. This person hopes to make a difference in a place where students face challenges.
	3. These students want to move to another place.
	4. This person thinks that working without pay might be a good option if necessary.
	5. This person would like to study more in the future.
	6. This person is already building a professional network in case job applications don't succeed.
	7. This person looks forward to applying their academic knowledge in their future job.

Writing: Paragraph structure

1. Read the following paragraph. What is the main topic?

After graduation, I have several goals and plans for my future. I hope to find a job related to my major, and I plan to work for a few years before continuing my studies. Next month, I am meeting with my academic advisor to talk about my internship. I'm really looking forward to the internship, because it will give me a chance to apply a lot of the theory that I have learned throughout my studies. Once I have some experience, I'm going to apply for a Master's program in Europe and a scholarship for financial support. I want to study abroad because I would like to meet people from different cultures and learn new skills. However, if I don't get the scholarship, I won't be able to study abroad. I think the process will be challenging, but I won't give up easily. Overall, I'm excited about the next chapter and feel confident about reaching my future goals.

2. Look at the paragraph and **highlight** the topic sentence and the concluding sentence.

3. Underline the future forms.

4. What is the meaning of the following phrases?

- LOOK FORWARD TO
- WOULD LIKE TO

5. Use the prompts below to write sentences about your hopes and plans after graduation.

- a) I'm looking forward to
- b) I want / hope / plan / intend to
- c) I would like to
- d) I will
- e) I won't
- f) When I graduate, I will

LANGUAGE NOTE Paragraph structure

A good paragraph is well-organized.

- The **topic sentence** tells the reader what the paragraph is about.
- Middle sentences are focused on the same topic and are organized logically.
- The final sentence concludes the topic.

Final Lesson Task

1. *Write a paragraph about your plans, hopes, and fears about your future. Use the sentences from the previous activity to write your paragraph. Include:*

- *A topic sentence and a concluding sentence.*
- *Linking words and phrases to connect ideas.*
- *A variety of future forms.*

2. *Exchange paragraphs with a classmate. Read your partner's paragraph and use the checklist to give your partner feedback.*

1. Content	a) Underline any part of the paragraph that you don't understand.	
	b) Ask your partner to explain parts that you don't understand.	
	c) Ask your partner to expand parts that need more information or detail.	
2. Format and language	d) Is there a topic sentence and concluding sentence?	
	e) Is there a subject for every sentence?	
	f) Is there a variety of future forms?	

3. *Submit your final draft to be checked by your teacher.*

Exit Ticket

Can you do these things?

	I can use various grammar structures to talk about future hopes and plans.
	I understand the structure of a paragraph.
	I can write a logically structured paragraph.

My Top 5 Words from this lesson:

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

Homework: Self-study

[90 minutes per week]

- Grammar Supplements:** The Future and The First Conditional