

3-1 EXPRESSING FUTURE TIME: *BE GOING TO* AND *WILL*

FUTURE 	(a) I am going to leave at nine tomorrow morning. (b) I will leave at nine tomorrow morning. (c) Marie is going to be at the meeting today.* (d) Marie will be at the meeting today.	Be going to and will are used to express future time. (a) and (b) have the same meaning. (c) and (d) have the same meaning. Will and be going to often give the same meaning, but sometimes they express different meanings. The differences are discussed in Chart 3-5, p. 63.
(e) I shall leave at nine tomorrow morning. (f) We shall leave at nine tomorrow morning.	The use of <i>shall</i> (with <i>I</i> or <i>we</i>) to express future time is possible but infrequent.	

*Today, tonight, and this + morning, afternoon, evening, week, etc., can express present, past, or future time.

PRESENT: Sam **is** in his office **this morning**.

PAST: Ann **was** in her office **this morning** at eight, but now she's at a meeting.

FUTURE: Bob **is going to be** in his office **this morning** after his dentist appointment.

3-2 FORMS WITH *BE GOING TO*

(a) We are going to be late. (b) She's going to come tomorrow. INCORRECT: She's going to comes tomorrow.	Be going to is followed by the simple form of the verb, as in (a) and (b).
(c) Am I } going to be late? Is he, she, it } Are they, we, you }	QUESTION: be + subject + going to
(d) I am not } going to be late. He, she, it is not } They, we, you are not }	NEGATIVE: be + not + going to
(e) "Hurry up! We're gonna be late!"	Be going to is more common in speaking and in informal writing than in formal writing. In informal speaking, it is sometimes pronounced "gonna" /ɡənə/. "Gonna" is not usually a written form.

Directions: Complete the sentences with **be going to** and the words in parentheses.

1. A: What (you, do) **are you going to do** this afternoon?

B: I (work) **am going to work** on my report.

2. A: Where (Alex, be) _____ later tonight?

B: He (be) _____ at Kim's house.

3. A: (you, finish) _____ this exercise soon?

B: Yes, I (finish) _____ it in less than a minute.

4. A: When (you, call) _____ your sister?
 B: I (call, not) _____ her. I (send) _____ her an e-mail.
5. A: What (Dr. Price, talk) _____ about in her speech tonight?
 B: She (discuss) _____ the economy of Southeast Asia.

3-4 SURENESS ABOUT THE FUTURE		
100% sure	(a) I will be in class tomorrow. OR I am going to be in class tomorrow.	In (a): The speaker uses will or be going to because he feels sure about his future activity. He is stating a fact about the future.
90% sure	(b) Po will probably be in class tomorrow. OR Po is probably going to be in class tomorrow. (c) Anna probably won't be in class tomorrow. OR Anna probably isn't going to be in class tomorrow.	In (b): The speaker uses probably to say that he expects Po to be in class tomorrow, but he is not 100% sure. He's almost sure, but not completely sure. Word order with probably :* (1) in a statement, as in (b): <i>helping verb + probably</i> (2) with a negative verb, as in (c): probably + <i>helping verb</i>
50% sure	(d) Ali may come to class tomorrow, or Ali may not come to class tomorrow. I don't know what he's going to do. (e) Maybe Ali will come to class, and maybe he won't . OR Maybe Ali is going to come to class, and maybe he isn't .	May expresses a future possibility: maybe something will happen, and maybe it won't happen.** In (d): The speaker is saying that maybe Ali will come to class, or maybe he won't come to class. The speaker is guessing. Maybe + will/be going to gives the same meaning as may . (d) and (e) have the same meaning. Maybe comes at the beginning of a sentence.

Directions: Discuss how sure the speaker is in each sentence.

1. The bank will open tomorrow.

→ **The speaker is very sure.**

2. I'm going to go to the bank tomorrow.

→ _____.

3. I'll probably go to the post office too.

→ _____.

4. I may stop at the market at my way home.

_____→ _____.

5. Ms. White will probably be in the office around nine tomorrow morning.

_____→ _____.

6. Mr. Smith will be in the office at seven tomorrow morning.

_____→ _____.

7. Mr. Carter may be in the office early tomorrow morning.

_____→ _____.

8. The sun will rise tomorrow.

_____→ _____.

9. Peter is probably going to come with me.

_____→ _____.

Directions: For each situation, predict what will probably happen and what will probably won't happen. Include **probably** in your prediction. Use either **will** or **be going to**.

1. Antonio is late to class almost every day.

(be on time tomorrow? be late again?)

_____→ **Antonio probably won't be on time tomorrow. He'll probably be late again.**

2. Rosa has a terrible cold. She feels miserable.

(go to work tomorrow? stay home and rest?)

_____→ _____
_____.

3. Sam didn't sleep at all last night.

(go to bed early tonight? stay up all night again tonight?)

→ _____

4. Ms. Bok needs to travel to a nearby city. She hates to fly.

(take a plane? travel by bus or train?)

→ _____

5. Mr. Smith is out of town on business. He needs to contact his assistant right away.

(call her on the phone or e-mail her? wait until she calls him?)

→ _____

6. Gina loves to run, but right now she has sore knees and a sore ankle.

(run in the marathon race this week? skip the race?)

→ _____

3-5 BE GOING TO vs. WILL

(a) She **is going to succeed** because she works hard.

(b) She **will succeed** because she works hard.

(c) I bought some wood because I **am going to build** a bookcase for my apartment.

(d) This chair is too heavy for you to carry alone. **I'll help** you.

Be going to and **will** mean the same when they are used to make predictions about the future. (a) and (b) have the same meaning.

Be going to (but not **will**) is used to express a prior plan (i.e., a plan made before the moment of speaking). In (c): The speaker plans to build a bookcase.

Will (but not **be going to**) is used to express a decision the speaker makes at the moment of speaking. In (d): The speaker decides to help at the immediate present moment; he did not have a prior plan or intention to help.

Directions: Complete the sentences with **be going to** or **will**.

1. A: Why did you buy this flour?

B: I **'m going to** make some bread.

2. A: Could someone get me a glass of water?

B: Certainly. I **'ll** get you one. Would you like some ice in it?

3. A: Are you going to the post office soon?

B: Yes. Why?

A: I need to send this letter today.

B: I _____ mail it for you.

A: Thanks

4. A: Why are you carrying that box?

B: I _____ mail it to my sister. I'm on my way to the post office.

5. A: Could someone please open the window?

B: I _____ do it.

A: Thanks.

6. A: What are your vacation plans?

B: We _____ spend two weeks on a Greek island.

7. A: I have a note for Joe from Rachel. I don't know what to do with it.

B: Let me have it. I _____ give it to him. He's in my algebra class.

A: Thanks.

8. A: Did you know that Sara and I are moving? We found a great apartment on 45th Street.

B: That's terrific. I _____ help you on moving day if you like.

A: Hey, great! We'd already appreciate that.

9. A: Do you have a car?

B: Yes, but I _____ sell it. I don't need now that I live in the city.

10. A: Do you want to walk to the meeting together?

B: Okay. I _____ meet you by the elevator.

A: Okay. I _____ wait for you there.