

Present continuous, present simple and *will*

Talking about the future

In this unit you learn to use different tenses to talk about the future. You learn when you use the present continuous, the present simple and **will**.

Sophie Hi, Tom. What **are you doing** this weekend?

Tom I'm **visiting** my sister in London. The train **leaves** in a few minutes. I'll **text** you when I get there.

Sophie OK. Have a great time!

When you talk about plans for the future, you often use the present continuous.

*What **are you doing** this weekend?*

*I'm **getting** the train to London this afternoon.*

*We're **going** to that new restaurant tonight.*

When you talk about something in the future which happens at a definite time, you often use the present simple. You often use a time expression too.

*The train **leaves** in a few minutes.*

*My holiday **starts** on Monday.*

*When **do** your exams **finish**?*

When you promise or offer to do something in the future, you use **will**.

*I'll **text** you when I get there.*

*I'll **give it back** to you next week.*

You can also use **will** when you are sure about something in the future.

*She's working late tonight. **She'll be** home after 7.00.*

*We **won't be** at school tomorrow. It's a holiday.*

Remember!

There are three forms of **will**:

- **positive**

You can use either **will** or **'ll**. These forms do not change.

I'll / I will see you next week.

They'll be here at 6 p.m.

- **negative**

You can use either **will not** or **won't**. These forms do not change.

She won't / will not be here until this evening.

We won't / will not be very late.

- **question**

Will you call me when you get there?

Will we be home by tomorrow?

Exercise 1

Write the present continuous form of the verb in brackets to complete each sentence, as shown.

- Next weekend we are visiting (visit) my sister in Brisbane.
- I _____ (see) Rachel on Saturday.
- Jane and I _____ (go out) tonight.
- Martha _____ (swim) this afternoon.
- We _____ (have) a Halloween party on Saturday.
- I _____ (take) Sophie out for a birthday dinner tonight.

Exercise 2

Complete the sentences by writing one word in each gap, as shown.

are | does | will | be | is | am

- What time will you be back tonight?
- What time _____ your train leave?
- He won't _____ home before midnight.
- I _____ seeing Guy and Miranda tonight.
- What _____ you doing this summer?
- Where exactly in Germany _____ Liz staying?

Exercise 3

Match the questions to the answers, as shown.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 When do you leave tomorrow? | a Saturday, August 26th. |
| 2 Which restaurant are you going to tonight? | b We're going cycling. |
| 3 What are you doing this weekend? | c Probably not. I won't be home before midnight. |
| 4 Will I see you later tonight? | d We fly at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. |
| 5 Is Rebecca coming tonight? | e That French restaurant on Hills Road. |
| 6 What day do you come back from your holiday? | f Yes, she said so. |

Exercise 4

Choose the correct word, as shown.

- 1 What time ~~does~~ / **is** your bus leave?
- 2 I'm **see** / **seeing** Paolo tonight.
- 3 The last train **leaves** / **leaving** King's Cross at midnight.
- 4 Are you **doing** / **do** anything pleasant tonight?
- 5 I won't **being** / **be** back till after 11.00.
- 6 When **are** / **do** you leave tomorrow?

Exercise 5

Match the sentence halves, as shown.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 I'm spending | a around the US this summer. |
| 2 We're travelling | b in at 3 o'clock in the morning. |
| 3 His flight gets | c be back until November. |
| 4 We're having a meeting | d working this weekend. |
| 5 Adrian won't | e next Tuesday to discuss the matter. |
| 6 Unfortunately, I'm | f the holidays with my family. |

Exercise 6

Put the correct word in each gap, as shown.

I'll | see | won't | meeting | doing | going

Hi there!

I hope your afternoon is going OK. Have you remembered I'm ¹ going out tonight? I'm ² _____ Greg in town for a drink. I ³ _____ be late – ⁴ _____ probably be back by 10. Are you ⁵ _____ your exercise class as usual?

I'll ⁶ _____ you later.

Love

Ben

x