Going to

Going to is not a tense. It is a special structure that we use to talk about the future.

The structure of *going to* is:

subject	+	*be*	+	*going*	+	to-infinitive

Examples:

- *I'**m going to buy** a new car.*
- *He **isn't going to read** it.*
- ***Are** you **going to study** at university?*

How do we use *going to*?

1. intention	We use *going to* when we have the intention to do something before we speak. We have already made a decision before speaking. We had **an intention or plan before speaking**. The decision was made before speaking. ***Examples:*** • *Jo has won the lottery. He says he'**s going to buy** a Porsche.* • *We'**re** not **going to paint** our bedroom tomorrow.* • *When **are** you **going to go** on holiday?*
2. prediction	We often use *going to* to make a prediction about the future. Our prediction is **based on present evidence**. We are saying what we think will happen. In the examples given below, the **present situation** (black sky, the time, damaged car) gives us a good idea of what is going to happen. ***Examples:*** • *The sky is very black. It'**s going to snow**.* • *It's 8.30! You'**re going to miss** your train!* • *I crashed the company car. My boss **isn't going to be** very happy!*

Exercise 1

Make the sentences. What are the people going to do? (Do not use contracted forms)

Example: *Mary / study for her exam* *Mary is going to study for her exam.*

1. I / buy a new house _____
2. my wife / not travel round the world _____

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3. Mary / paint her kitchen _____
4. I / not do the washing up today _____
5. she / borrow some money from him _____
6. Paul / have a look at it _____
7. I / not think about it _____
8. they / not lend him a car _____
9. my father / get up early _____
10. we / study English every day _____

Example 2

Complete the sentences using *„going to"* and the verb in brackets. (Do not use contracted forms.)

1. Hurry up! We _____ the bus. (miss)
2. I'm very tired. I _____ at home this evening. (stay)
3. It's very cold. They _____ in the garden this afternoon. (not work)
4. My brother loves animals. He _____ a vet. (be)
5. It's my birthday next Saturday. My friend _____ dinner for me. (cook)
6. We haven't got much money. We _____ a new car. (not buy)
7. Alan's going to university next year. He _____ law. (study)
8. We don't study. We _____ the exam. (not pass)
9. They don't like living in the city. They _____ to the country. (move)
10. He isn't interested in medicine. He _____ a doctor. (not be)

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