

GOING TO

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

How do we use going to?

Going to for intention

We use going to when we have the intention to do something before we speak. We have already made a decision before speaking.

- Jo has won the lottery. He says he's **going to buy** a BMW
- We're **not going to paint** our bedroom tomorrow
- When **are you going to go** on holiday?

We had **an intention or plan before speaking**. The decision was made before speaking.

Going to for 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.

- 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** happy

NOTE:

We can use **going to** with **be** in other tenses>

- I was going to tell him but I forgot.
- I had been going to fix the car for ages.

STRUCTURE

AFFIRMATIVE

SUBJECT + TO BE + GOING + TO INF VERB

I am going to buy a new car

He is going to eat out to night

They are going to have holidays next week

NEGATIVE

SUBJECT + TO BE + NOT + GOING + TO INF VERB

I am not going to take the exam

It is not going to rain to night

They are not going to arrive late today

INTERROGATIVE

TO BE + SUBJECT + GOING + TO INF VERB?

Am I going to play football?

Is she going to pass the exam?

Are they going to paint the house?

PRACTICE

1. *Going to* is usually used to talk about

- The past
- The present
- The future

2. What's the base form of the verb that always comes somewhere before *going to*

- Is
- Be
- Are

3. "The train is going to arrive in an hour". Which is the inf verb?

- Is going
- Going to
- To arrive

4. Complete the special *going to* structure: "Subject+be+__+to inf

- Go
- Going
- Going to

4. *Going to* is used to express either intentions or _____

- Predictions
- Predicates
- Precedents

6. "I'm going to change my password". This expresses

- ☐ An intention
- ☐ A prediction
- ☐ Neither

7. "Don't worry! They're going to win." This expresses

- ☐ An intention
- ☐ A prediction
- ☐ Both

8. "Watch out! I'm going to sneeze!" This predicts what will happen

- ☐ Far in the future
- ☐ Fairly soon
- ☐ Next

9. Complete with the correct form of the verb: "I'm going to _____ you while you're away."

- ☐ Miss
- ☐ Missing
- ☐ To miss

10. "I'm _____ Fix it today. I'm too busy." Which is correct?

- ☐ Going not to
- ☐ Going to not
- ☐ Not going to