

present and future forms

- 1 We're **leaving** for the airport around 3.00.
I'm **meeting** Sam at the bus stop.
- 2 I'm **going to** have my hair cut tomorrow.
She's **going to** get the last train home.
- 3 I'll **be going** to the supermarket later – do you want anything?
Will we **be having** dinner at the usual time?
This time tomorrow I'll **be flying** to Mexico.
- 4 The train **leaves** in five minutes. Our classes **start** next Tuesday.

other ways of expressing future arrangements

- 1 My sister **is due to** arrive at 7.30. Can you meet her at the station?
- 2 My daughter **is about to** have a baby, so I'm getting ready to go and stay with her.
- 3 It has been announced that the Prime Minister **is to visit** Malaysia next month.

a **Circle** the correct form. Tick (✓) if both are possible.

I see / **I'm seeing** some friends after class tonight.

- 1 Don't call me between 5.00 and 6.00 as I'll be **having** / have a massage.
- 2 A What are you going to do this evening?
B I'm not sure. I'm probably **going to watch** / **watching** the match.
- 3 When I next see my brother I'm **going to ask** / **asking** him to pay me back the money I lent him.
- 4 My dad **is retiring** / **will be retiring** at the end of this year.
- 5 My flight **is due to arrive** / **arrives** at 6.00.
- 6 You'll easily recognize me when I arrive on Saturday. I'll **be wearing** / **I'm wearing** a white suit.
- 7 The new exhibition is **to open** / **going to open** next month.
- 8 I'll **be writing up** / **I'm writing up** my notes tomorrow, so I can check what we agreed then.
- 9 The train is **going to leave** very soon / **about to leave**.
- 10 The shop **closes** / **is about to close** at 8.00.

b Look at the sentences you ticked in a. Is there any difference in meaning or register between the two forms?

c Complete the sentences using the **bold** word.

I'm meeting Myriam tonight. **going**

I'm **going to meet** Myriam tonight.

- 1 We're going to leave soon. Could you ring me back later? **about**

Could you ring me back later?

- 2 Her new album is going to be released next month. **due**

next month.

- 3 Are you going to the canteen at lunchtime? If so, could you get me a sandwich? **will**

If so, could you get me a sandwich?

- 4 The ministers are about to sign a new agreement. **point**

a new agreement.

- 5 The manager intends to respond to your complaint in the near future. **responding**

in the near future.

- 6 Will you be meeting us at the hotel? **going**

at the hotel?