

2F GRAMMAR

Future forms for plans and hopes

4 Match the examples of future forms from the recording with the explanations a–e.

- 1 I'm going to turn them into pairs of shorts.
- 2 Send me the details ... and I'll take a look.
- 3 She'll be explaining how to understand the labels on clothes.
- 4 I'm meeting her next week to finalise the plans.
- 5 It starts at 7 p.m. in the auditorium.

a to talk about an action that is expected to happen in the normal course of events
 b to talk about a timetabled or scheduled future event
 c to talk about something which has already been decided
 d to talk about a future arrangement with another person
 e to talk about a future action decided at the moment of speaking

5 In pairs, discuss the pairs of sentences. Explain the difference in meaning, if any.

- 1 a I'm having lunch with Josie tomorrow.
 b I'm going to have lunch outside today because the weather's lovely.
- 2 a Which platform does the train leave from?
 b The train will be leaving soon. Hurry up!
- 3 a Sorry about breaking your favourite mug. I'll buy you a new one, I promise.
 b I'm going to buy a new coat this afternoon.

6 1.20 Look at these sentences from the recording. Then read the rules a–d below and complete the sentences with an appropriate form. Listen and check.

- 1 So, I _____ set up a small business recycling and customising denim.
- 2 I _____ selling them online once I have enough items to sell.
- 3 I _____ start working on a project to design a shop window display.
- 4 It _____ go on display to the public at the beginning of next week.
- 5 So, I _____ get an expert to come in and talk to the whole school about the topic.
- 6 It _____ at 7 p.m. at the auditorium.

We use these phrases to talk about the future:

- a for plans, we can use *be planning/hoping to* + infinitive or *be thinking of* + gerund
- b for things happening very soon, we can use *be about to* + infinitive
- c for timetabled events, we can use *be due to* + infinitive
- d for formal or official arrangements, instructions or commands, we can use *be to* + infinitive

7 Look at the rules in Exercise 6 again. Choose the correct verb forms to complete the mini-conversations.

Jon I've decided. I¹ am going to give up / will give up buying new clothes for a year.

Amy Really? Why's that?

Jon I think we all buy too many clothes and I² am thinking / am hoping to save some money as well.

Mary Why are you still awake?

Emma The online sale³ starts / is about to start at 2 a.m.

Mary Are you really⁴ planning / due to stay up that long?

Emma You're right. I think I⁵ have / will have a nap now and set my alarm for 1.55 a.m.

Mary You're crazy!

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1 ★ Read the sentences. Then complete the rules with the structures and names of tenses in bold.

- 1 The shopping centre opens at 10 a.m. (**Present Simple**)
- 2 I'm **going to** give these old blankets to the charity shop.
- 3 I **will** take a packet of the paper straws, thanks.
- 4 As usual on the show, we'll be showing you how to reuse everyday items. (**Future Continuous**)
- 5 We're meeting early to go to the car boot sale. (**Present Continuous**)

Rules

- a We use *Future Continuous* to talk about an action that is expected to happen in the normal course of events.
- b We use _____ to talk about a timetabled or scheduled future event.
- c We use _____ to talk about something which has already been decided.
- d We use _____ to talk about a future arrangement with another person.
- e We use _____ plus bare infinitive to talk about a future action decided at the moment of speaking.

2 ★ Choose the correct forms to complete the sentences about a monthly car boot sale.

- 1 The monthly sale starts / is starting at 10 a.m.
- 2 I'm **going to** try / try and sell all my old sports equipment.
- 3 As usual, they're / 'll be selling tickets at the gate.
- 4 I'm meeting / 'll meet my cousin there at 9 a.m. to set up our stall.
- 5 It sounds fun – maybe we're going to / 'll come along too.