

# 1

## Will or would?

### 1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

- 1 a Everything will be much quicker when we will get the new computer system.  
b Everything will be much quicker when we get the new computer system.
- 2 a I promised Mum I'd go straight home after the concert.  
b I promised Mum I'll go straight home after the concert.

We use *will* to talk about future possibilities or predictions which we believe will happen, especially based on an existing situation or evidence:

*If you don't water the plants, they'll die.* (it's a certain fact)

*My journey to work will be much easier when the new tram line opens.* (the line is already being built, so the consequences are quite certain)

☆ We only use *will* to talk about the possibility or prediction, not in the *if / when* clause. (not ~~when the new tram line will open~~)

We use *would* to describe hypothetical possibilities which are uncertain, unlikely or impossible, often based on situations which do not yet exist or can never exist:

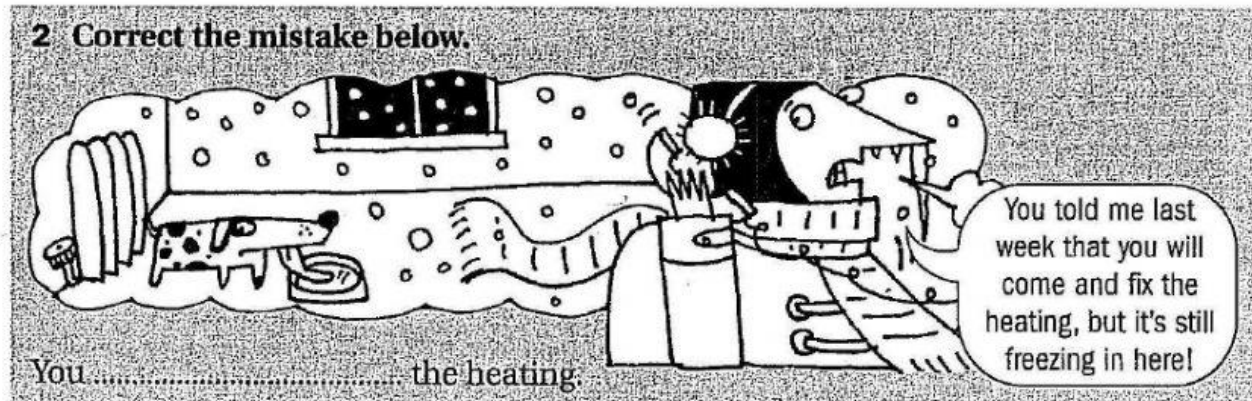
*I'd buy more organic products if they weren't so expensive.* (but they are expensive)

*In my opinion, it would be disastrous to let this project go ahead.* (no decision has been made yet, so the consequences are only a possibility)

We also use *would* to talk about a time in the future from a point in the past:

*They planned that they would meet at midnight.*

### 2 Correct the mistake below.



### 3 Underline the correct form to complete each sentence.

- 1 It *will be / would be* nice to go away for longer, but I can't get more time off work.
- 2 She told me she *will call / would call* if there was a problem.
- 3 If this rain *continues / will continue* much longer, the river will flood.
- 4 Based on current estimates, the number of mobile phone users *will double / would double* in the next five years.
- 5 Dave *will be / would be* furious if he knew what you'd done.
- 6 If everything *goes / will go* to plan, we'll have everything finished by Friday.
- 7 He promised he *will be / would be* back in time for my birthday.
- 8 More people would use public transport if the services *were / would be* more reliable.