



Grammar | Expressing the future

Look at the sentences a-d and identify the tenses in bold.

- I'm meeting the visitors at three o'clock
- His train arrives at four
- I'm going to take a gap year
- I'll begin with the artichokes and goat's cheese salad.

Read the sentences in activity 1 again and answer the questions

- Which sentence describes an arrangements?
- Which sentence describes a personal plan or intention?.....
- In which sentence is a decision taken at the time of speaking?
- Which sentence involves a timetable or a regular event?

Complete these two conversation using the future simple or going to future

Conversation 1

Martin: What (we / do) this weekend, Phoebe?

Phoebe: I don't know. Why don't we invite Rebecca and Steven for dinner?

Martin: That's a great idea. I (phone) them straightaway.

Conversation 2

Carmen: What (we/get) Harriet for her birthday?

Miles: I know, I (buy) her some flowers.

Carmen: Good idea! And I(get) her a box of her favourite chocolates.

Paolo: Hi, everyone, have you thought about Harriet's birthday?

Carmen: Yes, Miles (buy) her some chocolates and I

..... (get) her a box of her favourite chocolates.

Read the sentences and tick the sentence in each pair that makes a prediction.

- Be careful! Someone is going to get hurt.
 - I'm going to meet him next Wednesday with Alexandra.
- You should give couch surfing a try.
 - I should get there at around seven.
- I'll email you the website details.
 - He'll be tired after the journey.

Read the sentences above again and answer the questions

- Which sentence gives advice?
- Which sentence is a spontaneous offer?
- Which sentence expresses an intention?

Look at the sentences a-c and answer the questions 1-3

- a. Kate will be waiting at the station.
- b. I didn't know it was going to be like this.
- c. He'll have had time to freshen up

- 1. Which sentence uses the future perfect?
- 2. Which sentence uses the future in the past?
- 3. Which sentence uses the future continuous?

Complete sentence 1 -8 with the future continuous (will be doing), future perfect (will have done), or future in the past (was going to do)

- 1. If we do nothing about it very soon, in another two or three hundred years Venice(sink) beneath the waves.
- 2. My guess is that scientists(already find) an environmentally friendly alternative to oil long before it runs out.
- 3. It's not your fault you're late. You didn't know that the car(break down)
- 4. This time tomorrow we (eat) seafood and(watch) the sun set over Cascais beach.
- 5. By August he (have) the same car for ten years.
- 6. Don't worry, I (wait) for you at the end of the platform.
- 7. That's not fair. How was I to know that the restaurant (be) full?
- 8. Hurry up, otherwise they(eat) all the food by the time we get there.

Extra Information

Some adjectives have a future meaning. Look at the adjectives (in bold) in sentences a-c and answer the questions 1-3

- a. She's **likely to** be feeling a bit sad.
- b. He's **bound to** want some time to himself.
- c. A taxi is **due to** pick us up.

- 1. Which sentence means something is scheduled?
- 2. Which sentence means something is certain?
- 3. Which sentence means something is highly possible?