- ***Future time / present tenses in time clauses / prepositions of time and place***

## Expressing the future: will/won't and be going to

There is sometimes little difference in meaning between ***will*** and ***be going to***. It is often just a matter of formality. ***Will*** is generally more formal than ***be going to***.

| Use | Example |
|---|---|
| Facts about the future | *The website **will** come online next week.* (more formal)<br>*The website**'s going to** come online next week.* (more informal) |
| Predictions not based on present evidence | *In the future, everyone **will** have their own flying car.* (more formal)<br>*In the future, everyone **is going to** have their own flying car.* (more informal) |
| Decisions made at the moment of speaking | *I've decided! I **won't** get a new DVD player just yet.* (emphasising the decision)<br>*I've decided! I**'m not going to** get a new DVD player just yet.* (emphasising the intention) |

Sometimes it is more appropriate to use ***will*** rather than ***be going to***.

| Use | Example |
|---|---|
| Offers and suggestions | *I**'ll** help you with your physics homework, if you like.* |
| Requests | ***Will** you help me with my physics homework?* |
| Most first conditional sentences | *If we get a computer, we**'ll** be able to surf the Internet.* |

**Watch out!**

- With offers and suggestions in the question form, we do not use ***will*** with *I* and *we*. We use ***shall***.
  - ✓ ***Shall** I help you with your physics homework?*
  - ✗ ~~***Will** I help you with your physics homework?*~~

Sometimes it is more appropriate to use ***be going to*** rather than ***will***.

| Use | Example |
|---|---|
| Plans and intentions (which you already have when you speak) | *I**'m going to** be a famous doctor one day!* |
| Predictions based on present evidence | *It sounds like the plane**'s going to** take off in a few minutes.* |

## Expressing the future: present continuous

| Use | Example |
|---|---|
| Arrangements made before the moment of speaking | ***Are** they **installing** the new computers next week?* |

## Expressing the future: present simple

| Use | Example |
|---|---|
| Timetables, arrangements and fixed events (which the speaker cannot change) | *The bus to the science museum **leaves** at 8 o'clock tomorrow morning.* |
| After *if* in first conditional and zero conditional sentences | *If technology **continues** to advance so quickly, what will life be like in a hundred years?* |
| After certain time expressions (see below) | *We'll find out as soon as we **get** to the lab.* |



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## Expressing the future: future perfect simple

**Form** *will/won't + have +* past participle

| Use | Example |
|---|---|
| Actions which are completed some time between now and a point in the future | *I'll **have finished** my chemistry homework by the time you come home.* |

## Expressing the future: future continuous

**Form** *will/won't + be + -ing* form

| Use | Example |
|---|---|
| Actions in progress at a point in the future | *This time next week, I'll **be taking** my biology exam.* |
| Habits or repeated actions at a point in the future | *In the future, we'll all **be flying** around using jet-packs.* |

## Expressing the future: future perfect continuous

**Form** *will/won't + have + been + -ing* form

| Use | Example |
|---|---|
| Actions in progress up to a point in the future | *At seven o'clock, I'll **have been doing** my chemistry homework for three hours!* |

## Present tenses in time clauses

In time clauses, we do not use *will* or *be going to* immediately after some time words and phrases. We use a present tense (present simple, present continuous or present perfect) to talk about the future.

| Time words and phrases | Example |
|---|---|
| **when** | *It'll be wonderful **when** scientists **find / have found** a cure for cancer.* |
| **as soon as** | *Let me know **as soon as** your new computer **arrives / has arrived**.* |
| **before** | *It'll be several years **before** we **send / we've sent** a manned mission to Mars.* |
| **after** | *Let's go for a pizza **after** we **go / have been** to the natural history museum.* |
| **until / till** | *The rocket won't be launched **until** they **do / have done** a final check.* |
| **while** | *Think of me **while** you **travel / are travelling** to the Moon!* |
| **once** | *We'll stop for petrol **once** we **pass / we've passed** Cambridge.* |

## Prepositions of time and place

| | |
|---|---|
| **Key prepositions of time** | *(**from**) Monday **to** Friday, **on** Monday, **on** my birthday/Easter Sunday/etc, **in** July, **on** September 20th, **in** 2008, **in** (the) summer, **at** three o'clock, **in/for** an hour, **at** the moment, **in** the morning/afternoon/evening, **at** night, **in/on** time, just **in** time for, **in** the beginning/end, **at** the beginning/end of, **at** the age of, **at** the weekend, **next/last** week* |
| **Key prepositions of place** | *turn right **at** a place, sit **on** sth, go **in(to)** a building, wait **in(side)** a building, arrive **in** London/Greece, arrive **at** the stadium, **in/on/at** the corner (of), come/go/walk/etc **to** a place, **next to/beside/by** the building, **at/on** the front/back of, **in front of/behind** the station, go **out of** a building, go **towards** the station, **between** the two buildings, **opposite** the station* |

**US vs UK Grammar**

- Speakers of American English do not always use **on** before days of the week.
  **US**: *We've got a biology test Monday/on Monday.*
  **UK**: *We've got a biology test **on** Monday.*
- Speakers of American English often say 'Monday through Friday'.
  **US**: *I'm going to be on a field trip Monday **through** Friday.*
  **UK**: *I'm going to be on a field trip **from** Monday **to** Friday.*



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## A If a word or phrase in bold is correct, put a tick (✓). If it is incorrect, rewrite it correctly on the line, including all possibilities.

1 The universe **is going to** continue to expand for billions of years. .....
2 Look out! **You will** hit the car in front! .....
3 **I'm going to** do the washing-up tonight, if you like. .....
4 Do you think that, in the future, people **will** live to be hundreds of years old?
.....
5 **Will** I carry some of those bags for you, or can you manage? .....
6 I know! **I'm going to** have a barbecue on my birthday! .....
7 **Are you going to** just hold this door open for me for a minute? Thanks a lot!
.....
8 We've decided **we will try** that new restaurant after the play tomorrow night.
.....
9 **We're going to** fly to Jamaica in the summer. .....
10 **Shall** we invite Tony and Tim round tonight? .....
11 **Are we going to** invite Tony and Tim round tonight? .....
12 **Will you go to** Jason's party next Saturday? .....

## B Circle the correct word or phrase. If both options are correct, circle both.

1 **We aren't / We're not** going to miss the train, are we?
2 I think **I'm going to do / I'm doing** really badly in the English test tomorrow.
3 Josh **is going to sing / is singing** a song in the school talent contest next week.
4 I'm **going to buy / buying** a big yacht if I can when I'm older.
5 Sports Day is **going to be / being** held on the last day of term.
6 **Does / Will** the concert on Thursday last more than two hours?
7 **Are they going to broadcast / Will they broadcast** the music awards live tomorrow night?
8 **Do they broadcast / Are they broadcasting** the music awards live tomorrow night?
9 According to the timetable, the train for Oxford **leaves / is leaving** at 10.15.
10 **Does the restaurant open / Is the restaurant opening** next Sunday?

## C Write a word or short phrase in each gap.

At the end of this month, I'll (**1**) ..... working on my physics project for about six weeks, but I've still got a lot to do before I hand it in. I'll (**2**) ..... spending the whole day in the physics lab next Saturday doing experiments, and in fact, I (**3**) ..... playing football the weekend after either because I've got to go back to the lab then, too. I guess I'll (**4**) ..... doing lots of similar projects when I'm at university, so it's good practice. Thinking about it, when I leave university in about four years, I will (**5**)..... studying physics for over thirteen years, so I should be quite good at it by then!



LIVEWORKSHEETS

## D Complete using the future perfect simple or future perfect continuous of the verbs in brackets.

1 I ..... (**cook**) dinner by the time you get home.
2 In a few minutes, I ..... (**wait**) here for Craig for over two hours. Where can he be?
3 We'll be halfway through the sponsored swim in one hour so we ..... (**swim**) for forty-eight hours non-stop by then.
4 They ..... (**not / finish**) painting the house by the time we get back from holiday.
5 If she's still on the phone at eight o'clock, ..... (**Jan / talk**) to Melissa for over two hours.
6 At six o'clock this evening, we ..... (**not / climb**) for five hours but for seven hours!
7 This time next month, you ..... (**probably / pass**) your driving test!
8 ..... (**you / do**) all your homework by bedtime?
9 Tomorrow ..... (**Elaine / work**) on the project for ten days.
10 We ..... (**probably / not / leave**) by the time you get home.

## E Complete each second sentence using the word given, so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Write between two and five words in each gap.

1 We'll get home and then we'll have something to eat. **got**
We'll have something to eat ..... home.
2 I'll finish marking the exams and then I'll tell you your results. **soon**
I'll tell you your results ..... marking the exams.
3 You'll be travelling across the Sahara next week so remember to wear lots of sunscreen! **while**
Remember to wear lots of sunscreen ..... across the Sahara next week!
4 They'll show *Titan* at the cinema and then they'll release the DVD. **before**
They won't release the DVD ..... at the cinema.
5 My science exam starts at ten tomorrow morning. **taking**
At ten past ten tomorrow ..... my science exam.
6 Let's watch the space documentary before we have supper. **watched**
Let's have supper ..... the space documentary.
7 I'll send out all the invitations before lunchtime. **have**
By lunchtime, ..... all the invitations.
8 Do some revision and then I'll give you a test. **until**
I won't give you a test ..... some revision.
9 When you visit us, we'll have moved into our new house. **by**
We'll have moved into our new house ..... you visit us.
10 We'll get some more information and then we'll make a decision. **once**
Let's make a decision ..... got some more information.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

**F** Read the information and write a question for each answer given.

**Watkins Tours**

**Isles of Scilly Day Trip - 22nd July**

| | |
|---|---|
| 5.30 am | coach departs from Plymouth Bretonside Bus Station |
| 8.15 am | arrive Penzance |
| 9.15 am | ferry (Scillonian III) departs |
| 12.00 noon | arrive St Mary's |
| 12-1.30 pm | walk round the town |
| 1.30-2.30 pm | picnic lunch (on Garrison overlooking harbour) |
| 2.30-4 pm | swimming or boat trip round island |
| 4.30 pm | ferry (Scillonian III) departs |
| 7.15 pm | arrive Penzance |
| 7.30 pm | coach departs |
| 10.15 pm | arrive Plymouth Bretonside Bus Station |

*Example:*
*What time does the coach leave Plymouth?*
It leaves at 5.30 am.

1 .....
He'll be driving the coach to Penzance.

2 .....
It'll arrive at 8.15 am.

3 .....
It's going to set sail at 9.15 am.

4 .....
It will have been sailing for two hours.

5 .....
They will just have arrived in St Mary's.

6 .....
They'll be walking round the town.

7 .....
They'll be having a picnic lunch.

8 .....
They'll be leaving the beach at 4 pm.

9 .....
They'll have just finished a boat trip round the island.

10 .....
It's leaving at 4.30 pm.

11 .....
They get back at 10.15 pm.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

## G Write *on*, *in* or *at* in each gap.

1 I'll be 100 years old ..... the year 2095!
2 Sasha's not going to have a party ..... her birthday this year.
3 See you ..... August!
4 See you ..... Tuesday!
5 See you ..... eight o'clock!
6 See you ..... the morning!
7 See you ..... a couple of hours!
8 It's difficult to sleep ..... night ..... the summer because of the heat.
9 My grandfather left home ..... the age of fourteen!
10 We got there just ..... time for the movie.
11 He's never late, and he's never early; he always arrives right ..... time.
12 My birthday's ..... April 1st.

## H Each of the words in bold is incorrect. Rewrite them correctly.

1 My Australian cousins are coming **in** Greece next month! .....
2 Turn left **on** the post office, then go straight on. .....
3 There weren't any chairs, so we had to sit **at** the floor. .....
4 The TV's **on** the corner of the room. .....
5 There's a photo of the author **at** the back cover of the book. .....
6 We should arrive **at** Paris at six in the morning. .....
7 Could you go out **from** the room for a moment, please? .....
8 Walk **in** the station, but turn left a couple of blocks before you get there. .....
9 I'll meet you **in** the corner of your street. .....
10 There should be a broom **on** the back of the cupboard, somewhere. .....
11 They should arrive **in** the airport in about an hour. .....
12 The CD should be next **from** the CD player. .....

## I Write one word in each gap.

### Defining the Age

Ages, eras and wars will always be defined (**1**) ..... they are over, or at least well after they (**2**) ..... started. (**3**) ..... the year 1914, for example, no one said: 'Tomorrow I'm going (**4**) ..... go and fight in the First World War.' Why not? Because it wasn't generally called the First World War until the Second World War had started. Similarly, no one ever said: 'Next year (**5**) ..... be the start of the Industrial Revolution.' The era now known as the Industrial Revolution only started being called that once it was well under way.

(**6**) ..... the time we are old, we will all (**7**) ..... experienced enormous technological advances. We might even (**8**) ..... walking round with computer chips implanted in our bodies, or perhaps computer chip technology will have (**9**) ..... replaced by even more advanced technology. There's talk (**10**) ..... the moment that human skin itself might make an excellent electronic circuit board. We can all make predictions, but nobody knows for sure. And nobody knows what the era we will live in (**11**) ..... the near future will be called by future historians. If we already live in the Computer Age or the Information Age as some people suggest, the present-day era (**12**) ..... be referred to by future historians, then who knows what era we're just (**13**) ..... the beginning of right now?

LIVEWORKSHEETS