

Present continuous, present simple and **will**

Talking about the future

In this unit you learn to use different tenses to talk about the future. You learn when you use the present continuous, the present simple and **will**.

Sophie Hi, Tom. What **are you doing** this weekend?

Tom I'm **visiting** my sister in London. The train **leaves** in a few minutes. I'll **text** you when I get there.

Sophie OK. Have a great time!

When you talk about plans for the future, you often use the present continuous.

*What **are you doing** this weekend?*

*I'm **getting** the train to London this afternoon.*

*We're **going** to that new restaurant tonight.*

When you talk about something in the future which happens at a definite time, you often use the present simple. You often use a time expression too.

*The train **leaves** in a few minutes.*

*My holiday **starts** on Monday.*

*When **do** your exams **finish**?*

When you promise or offer to do something in the future, you use **will**.

*I'll **text** you when I get there.*

*I'll **give** it **back** to you next week.*

You can also use **will** when you are sure about something in the future.

*She's **working** late tonight. **She'll be** home after 7.00.*

*We **won't be** at school tomorrow. It's a **holiday**.*

Remember!

There are three forms of **will**:

- **positive**

You can use either **will** or **'ll**. These forms do not change.

I'll / I will see you next week.

They'll be here at 6 p.m.

- **negative**

You can use either **will not** or **won't**. These forms do not change.

She won't / will not be here until this evening.

We won't / will not be very late.

- **question**

Will you call me when you get there?

Will we be home by tomorrow?

Exercise 1

Write the present continuous form of the verb in brackets to complete each sentence, as shown.

1 Next weekend we are visiting (visit) my sister in Brisbane.

2 I see (see) Rachel on Saturday.

3 Jane and I go out (go out) tonight.

4 Martha swim (swim) this afternoon.

5 We have (have) a Halloween party on Saturday.

6 I take (take) Sophie out for a birthday dinner tonight.

Exercise 2

Complete the sentences by writing one word in each gap, as shown.

are | does | will | be | is | am

1 What time will you be back tonight?

2 What time your train leave?

3 He won't home before midnight.

4 I seeing Guy and Miranda tonight.

5 What you doing this summer?

6 Where exactly in Germany Liz staying?

Exercise 3

Match the questions to the answers, as shown.

1 When do you leave tomorrow?

2 Which restaurant are you going to tonight?

3 What are you doing this weekend?

4 Will I see you later tonight?

5 Is Rebecca coming tonight?

6 What day do you come back from your holiday?

a Saturday, August 26th.

b We're going cycling.

c Probably not. I won't be home before midnight.

d We fly at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

e That French restaurant on Hills Road.

f Yes, she said so.

Exercise 4

Choose the correct word, as shown.

- 1 What time **does** / **is** your bus leave?
- 2 I'm **see** / **seeing** Paolo tonight.
- 3 The last train **leaves** / **leaving** King's Cross at midnight.
- 4 Are you **doing** / **do** anything pleasant tonight?
- 5 I won't **being** / **be** back till after 11.00.
- 6 When **are** / **do** you leave tomorrow?

Exercise 5

Match the sentence halves, as shown.

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 I'm spending | ————— | a around the US this summer. |
| 2 We're travelling | | b in at 3 o'clock in the morning. |
| 3 His flight gets | | c be back until November. |
| 4 We're having a meeting | | d working this weekend. |
| 5 Adrian won't | | e next Tuesday to discuss the matter. |
| 6 Unfortunately, I'm | | f the holidays with my family. |

Exercise 6

Put the correct word in each gap, as shown.

I'll | see | won't | meeting | doing | going

Hi there!

I hope your afternoon is going OK. Have you remembered I'm ¹ going out tonight? I'm ² Greg in town for a drink. I ³ be late – ⁴ probably be back by 10. Are you ⁵ your exercise class as usual?

I'll ⁶ you later.

Love

Ben

x