

Talking about future events

WILL + INFIN. WITHOUT TO

Used to talk about events and actions in the future, even expressing a degree of uncertainty:

I **will travel** to US tomorrow.
She **won't go** to school.
Will you **arrive** on time?
Perhaps I'll **buy** a new car.

BE + GOING TO + VERB

Used to talk about a person's plans for the future, and they may happen or not in the future:

I'm **going to get** some new clothes.
Susan **is not going to travel** next month.
Are you **going to ride** your motorcycle to Virginia?

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

Used to talk about actions or events performed in a close future, normally using time adverbs to make it clear that we're talking about future:

We're **traveling** tomorrow.
Daddy **isn't arriving** at 6.
Is Mary **sending** the package today?

SIMPLE PRESENT

To talk about habitual actions or future events that will happen as part of a program or that routinely take place:

The train **leaves** at 6.
The class **doesn't start** before 9 today.
What time **does** the plane **take off**?

A People are talking about things that will happen in the future or actions they will perform. Complete the sentences with the verbs in the brackets:

- 1- Carl _____ a doctor when he grows up. (to be)
- 2- I heard on the radio that it _____ tonight. (to rain)
- 3- When _____ you _____ the money to buy Mary's birthday present? (to bring)
- 4- My parents _____ next December. (not / to travel)
- 5- The kids _____ a test today, so they can't play outside now. (to have)
- 6- Marian _____ for judo classes this semester. (to enroll)

C The pictures represent what people will do in the future. Using the information given, write sentences about their future actions:

- 1- Billy / play baseball / this afternoon.
- 2- Noel / not / study Science / at 4 o'clock today.
- 3- Cindy and Albert / have a romantic dinner / tonight.
- 4- Marion / trim the bushes / after lunch.
- 5- My boss / travel on business / after this meeting.
- 6- My sister / do the laundry / after school today.

D Complete the sentences to talk about actions that routinely take place:

- 1- What time _____ the train _____ on Monday? (to departure)
- 2- When _____ the supermarket _____ today? (to close)
- 3- The train _____ at 9 tomorrow. (to arrive)
- 4- What time _____ the teacher _____ for this class? (to arrive)
- 5- _____ the plane _____ at 2 or 3 this afternoon? (to take off)

E Mark (P) when it refers to present and (F) when it refers to future:

- 1- We are traveling next Saturday. ()
- 2- My boss is talking to a client now. ()
- 3- The meeting is ending in a few minutes. ()
- 4- The plane is taking off on time, so get a move on it! ()
- 5- The kids are studying with their new classmate from Ohio. ()
- 6- We're getting a new backpack for Cecilia this afternoon. ()
- 7- The Millers are jogging in the park now. ()
- 8- I'm painting the gate this weekend. ()

B Ron's talking about his plans for the future, complete with the verbs in the brackets:

"When I graduate, I _____ (to travel) to Florida. I _____ (to ride) my motorcycle there. I _____ (to leave) on June 30th, and I _____ (to be) on the road all of July and August. I _____ (to arrive) there in September. I _____ (not / to stay) at a hotel, I _____ (to stay) at a motel for a month. In October I _____ (to fly) back to Colorado. I _____ (to have) the thrill of my life!"



F Choose the answer that best completes the sentences:

- 1- I _____ the English test today. It was postponed.
 - a) am not having
 - b) am going to have
 - c) will have
 - d) am having
- 2- Susan _____ tomorrow. We are preparing a party for her arrival.
 - a) is not going to arrive
 - b) arriving
 - c) is arriving
 - d) isn't arriving
- 3- Glenda _____ a teacher when she grows up. She loves biology.
 - a) is being
 - b) is
 - c) will be
 - d) is not going to be
- 4- My family and I _____ to the beach next Sunday.
 - a) will travel
 - b) travel
 - c) am going to travel
 - d) traveling
- 5- The meeting _____ at 7 this Tuesday.
 - a) starts
 - b) going to start
 - c) will start
 - d) started