Can I use the future after *when* or *if*?

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

1 a When she starts her new job she'll get a company car.
  b When she'll start her new job she'll get a company car.
2 a If you miss the train you'll have to take a taxi.
  b If you will miss the train you'll have to take a taxi.



If and *when* can link two parts of a sentence.
We often use the present simple directly after these words, even though we are talking about the future:
***When I retire**, I'll travel round the world.*

The same thing happens when we use *before, after, until, by the time* and *as soon as*:
*I'll phone you **as soon as I arrive**.*
***By the time we get** home, it will be dark.*
We can use *will* after *when* if we use *when* as a question word:
***When will** I see you again?*

2 Correct the mistake below.



I ..... surprised ..... her exams!

3 Complete the sentences below using the correct form of the verbs.

1 If you ..... *(treat)* her so unfairly she'll walk out of the job.
2 Could you phone me when ..... *(you / have)* the results of the test?
3 By the time they ..... *(arrive)* the match will be over.
4 If Kathy ..... *(get)* in touch next week, I'll let you know.
5 Let's go out for a drink after we ..... *(finish)* these accounts.
6 I don't like unexpected visitors, so I hope she rings before she ..... *(arrive)*!
7 You can't drive a car in England until you ..... *(be)* seventeen.
8 You ..... *(have to / retake)* the exam if you ..... *(fail)* it.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 How do I use present tenses to talk about the future?

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

1 a Sara won't be able to come: she's going skiing next weekend.
  b Sara won't be able to come: she'll go skiing next weekend.
2 a Can you tell me what time the next train leaves?
  b Can you tell me what time the next train will leave?

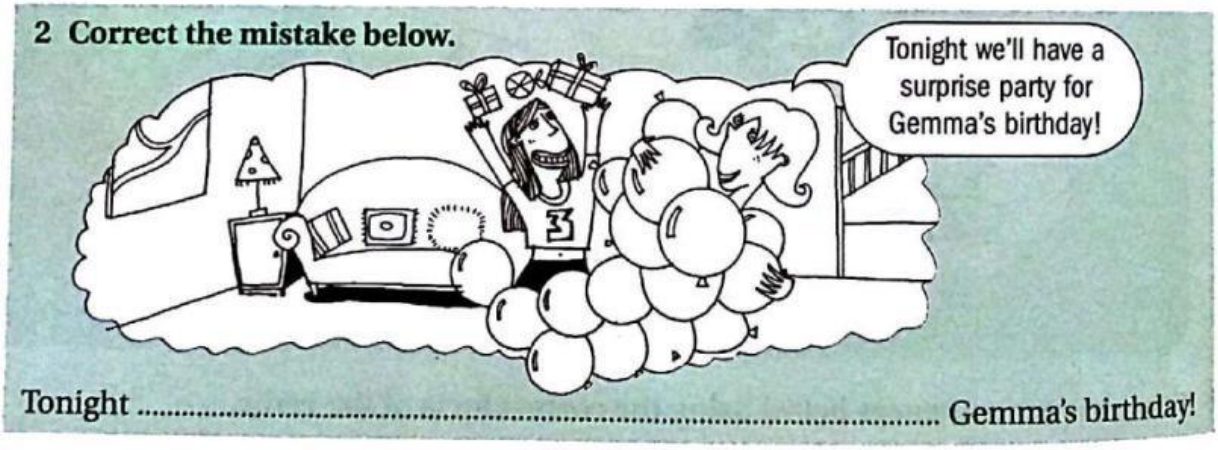
Several different future forms are possible, but in general we most commonly use the present continuous to talk about an arrangement:
*I'm **taking** my exam tomorrow!*

We use *will* for instant reactions, predictions and promises:
*That's the doorbell! **I'll get** it!*

Compare:
*I'll **probably stay in** tomorrow night.* (I've got no arranged plans)
*I'm **playing** squash tomorrow night.* (I've already arranged it)

We use the present simple for future timetabled events.
Compare:
*The plane **leaves** at 8 am.* (timetabled event)
*I'm **leaving** the house at 5.30 am.* (personal arrangement)

2 Correct the mistake below.



Tonight ..... Gemma's birthday!

3 Complete the sentences below using the correct form of the verbs.

1 The conference .....starts..... *(start)* at 9 am, so we'll have to set off early.
2 It's very gloomy weather; I think I ..... *(stay)* indoors today.
3 The only direct flight ..... *(leave)* at 5 am, which means an early start.
4 Sorry I'm late. I promise it ..... *(happen)* again!
5 'Have you heard from Luca recently?' 'He ..... *(get married)* next month.'
6 Gwen and Tom ..... *(go)* to Mauritius for their honeymoon.
7 There's no hurry, the film ..... *(not / start)* until 9 pm.
8 I normally leave work early on Friday, but this Friday I ..... *(work)* late.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

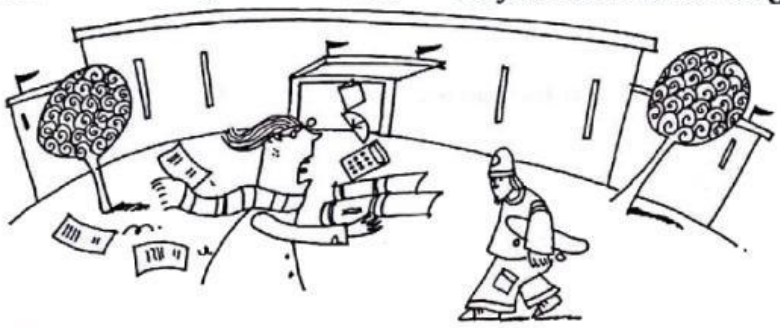
3 How do I form indirect questions?

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

1 a Can you tell me where is the bank?
  b Can you tell me where the bank is?
2 a He asked me what does 'kitsch' mean?
  b He asked me what 'kitsch' means.

When we use a phrase like *do you know, can you tell* me, etc. in front of a question, the word order is inverted:

***What does** 'enigmatic' **mean**? → Do you know **what 'enigmatic' means**?*



***Where's** the exam hall? → Can you tell me **where the exam hall is**?*

When we report a question to someone else the same change in word order happens:

***'What's** the time?' → He asked me **what the time was**.*

☆ Don't forget that in reported speech the verb goes back a tense.

2 Correct the mistake below.



He ..... band.

3 Complete the sentences using the words in brackets.

1 Could you tell me what time the next train is *(what time / next / train)*?
2 I don't know ..... *(where / cinema)*.
3 Could you tell me ..... *(you come home / late / tonight)*?
4 They wondered ..... *(whether / film / start)*.
5 Have you any idea ..... *(how / I get to / Oxford Street)*?
6 She asked me ..... *(I know / Ellen)*.
7 I asked her ..... *(what / want / birthday)*.
8 He wanted to know ..... *(when / her birthday)*.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST

TEST 1

1 Underline the most suitable tense.

1 When I *go / will go* on holiday, I'll send you a postcard.
2 She asked me where *could she learn / she could learn* Arabic.
3 If you *will get / get* this new job, will you get a pay rise?
4 When *does the course finish / is the course finishing*?
5 I *go / am going* to Oxford next week.
6 The plane *will arrive / arrives* at 7 pm so we should make the connection.
7 Ring me as soon as *you get / you'll get* here.
8 Annie *comes / is coming* over this weekend.

2 Look at Emma's diary and complete the conversations using the correct form of the verbs in the box.

be	be
do	do
go	go
go	go
finish	leave
leave	meet
play	take

May

Thursday 7	1 pm – tennis 7 pm – concert
Friday 8	2.30 pm – job interview!
Saturday 9	7 am – flight

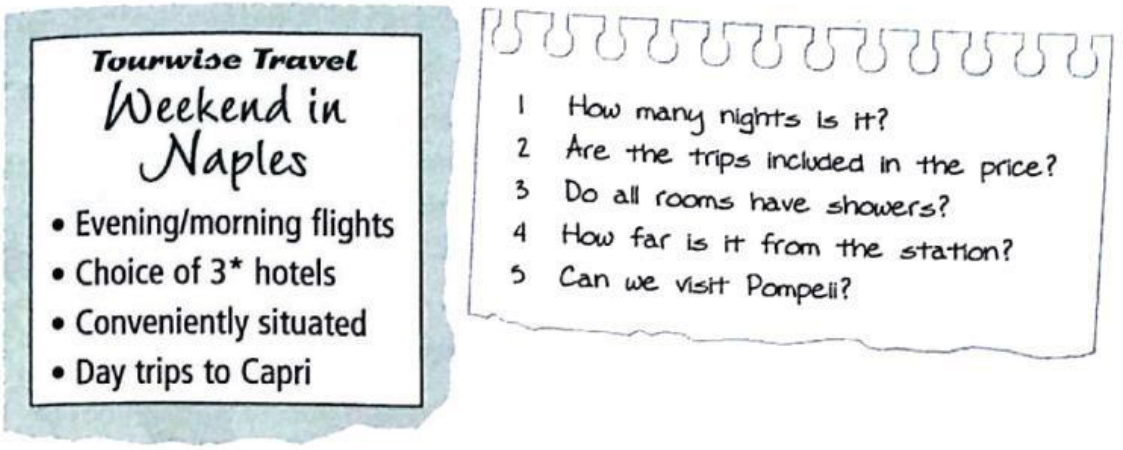
Monica: Would you like to come for lunch on Thursday?
Emma: Sorry, I can't. I (1) ..... tennis.
Monica: What about dinner on Thursday evening?
Emma: I (2) ..... to a concert.
Monica: When (3) ..... your job interview?
Emma: It (4) ..... on Friday afternoon.
Monica: Ring me as soon as it (5) ..... . What (6) ..... *(you)* afterwards?
Emma: I don't know yet. I think I (7) ..... straight home.
Monica: I (8) ..... Julian at seven o'clock – why don't you come along and join us?

* * * *

Jamie: What (9) ..... *(you)* next weekend?
Emma: I (10) ..... to Naples.
Jamie: What time (11) ..... *(you)*?
Emma: Very early. The plane (12) ..... at 7 am.
Jamie: (13) ..... *(you)* to the airport by train?
Emma: I haven't thought about that yet. I think I (14) ..... a taxi.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3 Emma rings the travel agent to ask some questions. Look at the advert and her notes, then complete her questions.



1 Could you tell me ..... ?
2 Do you know ..... ?
3 Have you any idea ..... ?
4 Do you have any idea ..... ?
5 Can you tell me ..... ?

4 Emma is back from holiday. Complete her friends' questions using the words in brackets. Use between two and five words.

1 'Is your Italian better now?' asked Peter. (*her*)
Peter asked Emma if ..... .
2 'What is Capri like?' asked Mariam. (*was*)
Mariam asked Emma ..... like.
3 'Do you have a suntan?' asked Anne. (*had*)
Anne asked Emma ..... a suntan.
4 'What do you think of Italian food?' asked Glenn. (*thought*)
Glenn asked Anne ..... Italian food.
5 'Do you want to visit Italy again?' asked Julia. (*wanted*)
Julia wondered if Emma ..... again.

5 Are these sentences right or wrong? Correct those which are wrong.

1 When will you get back from Italy? .....
2 I'm not sure where is the exhibition. .....
3 They asked me if my sister still lived in New York. .....
4 I'll have a shower as soon as I'll get home. .....
5 He wondered what did I do in my spare time. .....
6 Excuse me! Could you tell me where is the town hall? .....
7 She asked me why I was so late. .....
8 As soon as you'll come we'll have lunch. .....

LIVEWORKSHEETS