

FUTURE FORMS

A) Read the sentences (1-8) in the Grammar box. Answer the questions

- 1) In China and India people feel things **are going to get** better.
- 2) In the US, Spain and France people think that in thirty years, things **will have got** worse.
- 3) In thirty years or so, Western economies certainly **won't be doing the same things they are doing now**.
- 4) I'm not saying that things **are about to change**.
- 5) **If we are to progress**, in the post-industrial economy will have to evolve.
- 6) I think we **will use creative thinking and technology to overcome the problems**
- 7) A better standard of living in the post-industrialized nations **may or may not come out of that**.
- 8) I'm speaking at the conference on Tuesday.

➤ Which sentence describes a continuous event in the future?

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➤ Which sentence describes a completed event in the future?

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➤ Which sentence describes a future arrangement?

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➤ Which sentence expresses uncertainty about a future event ?

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➤ Which describes a change in the very near future?

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➤ Which sentence describes a pre-condition for prediction?

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➤ Which two sentences simply predict a future event?

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B) Complete the conversation between two members of Megan's audience, with the appropriate future form.

Tom: It's impossible to predict what _____
(happen) in the next thirty years. We _____ (be)
better off, we _____ (be) worse off.

Mark: At the rate I'm going, I _____
(still/live) with my parents when I'm forty!

Tom: My wife and I have decided that we _____
(move) to an area where the cost of living is lower.

Mark: The idea that we _____ (save) enough to
retire by the time we're sixty like my parents did is a joke.

Tom: We _____ (never/be) able to buy our
own house, I don't think.

Mark: You have to look on the bright side. We _____
(earn) as much many as our parents did, but I think we
_____ (be) better off in other ways.

Tom: This time next year, I _____ (pay) off
all my student debts.

Mark: I _____ (do) a course in money
management next week. My friend did it and said it was really good.

C) The present tense has different uses. Read the following sentences and decide: Which sentences refer to the future, present or general time?

1. Sorry, I have to go. My train leaves in half an hour.

FUTURE

PRESENT

GENERAL
TIME

2. Can you slow down? We're going too fast.

FUTURE

PRESENT

GENERAL
TIME

3. There's no point calling San Francisco now. No one will be at work now.

FUTURE

PRESENT

GENERAL
TIME

4. Oh no! I forgot to put a parking ticket on my car. I'll be back in a moment.

FUTURE

PRESENT

GENERAL
TIME

5. Is it five o'clock already? Sorry, I have to go. My wife will be waiting outside in the car.

FUTURE

PRESENT

GENERAL
TIME

6. We are getting married on 4th July. American Independence Day.

FUTURE

PRESENT

GENERAL
TIME

7. He will keep interrupting when others are speaking.

FUTURE

PRESENT

GENERAL
TIME

8. Exercise works best for me when I do it early in the day.

FUTURE

PRESENT

GENERAL
TIME