



# STOP SAYING! 'FUTURE FORMS'

Activity based on a video from BBC LEARNING ENGLISH



Hey, my name is Melissa and I come from Ecuadorian Guinea. When I talk about the future, I always use '\_\_\_\_\_'. Is that OK? Are there any other ways?

Yes, people do use will a lot. It's grammatically simple to use but there are situations where it can sound \_\_\_\_\_ and it's great to sound as natural as possible, like me.

So consider the use of will in these sentences:

*'I've not seen my girlfriend for ages, but I will see her tonight.'*

*'Ups, I'd better go. My plane will leave at six.'*

*'Oh, look at the sky! It will rain!'*

- 'I've not seen my girlfriend for ages, but I will see her tonight'. Hmm... How can we make this sound more natural? Here we're talking about an \_\_\_\_\_ that we've made with somebody, so we often use the \_\_\_\_\_. *'I'm meeting her tonight!'*
- Or we can use \_\_\_\_\_, especially for \_\_\_\_\_. *'I'm going to meet her tonight!'*
- 'I'd better hurry. My plane will leave at six'. This is what we call a \_\_\_\_\_ event. It's happening at a specific time, so we use the \_\_\_\_\_, like this: *'I'd better hurry. My plane leaves at six!'*
- 'Oh no, look at the sky! It will rain'. This time, we're making a \_\_\_\_\_ based on current \_\_\_\_\_, so we use to \_\_\_\_\_ here: *'It's going to rain!'*

So there they are. Three times we can use another form instead of will. And here is one where you can use will:

What do you mean you don't believe I've got a girlfriend?

Well, if that's the case, I'll show you a photo. Ha!

Thanks Tim, I \_\_\_\_\_ to use all those other ways. Oh, I used will... it's that OK?

Of course, you're talking about something that you want to do voluntarily. It's not an arrangement. It's an \_\_\_\_\_ and with that I'\_\_\_\_\_.  
goodbye. And that was will for a \_\_\_\_\_ made at the time of speaking.

Bye bye!