

Going to

Going to is not a tense. It is a special structure that we use to talk about the future.

The structure of *going to* is:

subject + *be* + *going* + to-infinitive

Examples:

- *I'm going to buy a new car.*
- *He isn't going to read it.*
- *Are you going to study at university?*

How do we use *going to*?

1. intention	<p>We use <i>going to</i> when we have the intention to do something before we speak. We have already made a decision before speaking.</p> <p>We had an intention or plan before speaking. The decision was made before speaking.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Jo has won the lottery. He says he's going to buy a Porsche.</i>• <i>We're not going to paint our bedroom tomorrow.</i>• <i>When are you going to go on holiday?</i>
2. prediction	<p>We often use <i>going to</i> to make a prediction about the future. Our prediction is based on present evidence. We are saying what we think will happen.</p> <p>In the examples given below, the present situation (black sky, the time, damaged car) gives us a good idea of what is going to happen.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>The sky is very black. It's going to snow.</i>• <i>It's 8.30! You're going to miss your train!</i>• <i>I crashed the company car. My boss isn't going to be very happy!</i>

Exercise 1

Make the sentences. What are the people going to do? (Do not use contracted forms)

Example: Mary / study for her exam

Mary is going to study for her exam.

1. I / buy a new house

2. my wife / not travel round the world

3. Mary / paint her kitchen
4. I / not do the washing up today
5. she / borrow some money from him
6. Paul / have a look at it
7. I / not think about it
8. they / not lend him a car
9. my father / get up early
10. we / study English every day

Example 2

Complete the sentences using „going to“ and the verb in brackets. (Do not use contracted forms.)

1. Hurry up! We _____ the bus. (miss)
2. I'm very tired. I _____ at home this evening. (stay)
3. It's very cold. They _____ in the garden this afternoon. (not work)
4. My brother loves animals. He _____ a vet. (be)
5. It's my birthday next Saturday. My friend _____ dinner for me. (cook)
6. We haven't got much money. We _____ a new car. (not buy)
7. Alan's going to university next year. He _____ law. (study)
8. We don't study. We _____ the exam. (not pass)
9. They don't like living in the city. They _____ to the country. (move)
10. He isn't interested in medicine. He _____ a doctor. (not be)