TALKING ABOUT THE FUTURE

Task 1

Match these sentences with the function – what idea of future is expressed?

1. Simon glanced at her uneasily. "Are you all right? You look like **you're going to pass** out."
2. Look, go if you want to go. I don't care. **I'll stay** here without you. I can work; I can get a job
3. I'm sure my life **will be** fantastic when I get back.
4. The train **leaves** in 5 minutes
5. "**I'm not going to hurt** you," he said. "I'd never hurt you.
6. Now you have realized. You **will grow** old, and **will** someday **die**. And Magnus will not.
7. Just promise me **you won't come** home.
8. "Eric**'s doing** a poetry reading over at Java Jones tonight," Simon said
9. "Come on, **I'll buy** you some food."
10. "Simon has made his decision, and it's his decision to make. He**'s going to summon** Raziel."

A. Timetabled events, e.g. TV programmes or train departures
B. Personal arrangements
C. Predictions (when you can see the evidence)
D. Predictions (based on no evidence), personal opinions on the future
E. "Scientific" predictions, or made by some calculation
F. General future intentions (not arranged)
G. Decisions made at the time of speaking
H. Promises
I. Decisions already made
J. Offers, refusals

Task 2

Following task 1, complete the table below – what idea of the future is expressed by each tense?

• Will + infinitive	• Going to + infinitive
• Present Continuous	• Present Simple

A. Timetabled events, e.g. TV programmes or train departures
B. Personal arrangements
C. Predictions (when you can see the evidence)
D. Predictions (based on no evidence), personal opinions on the future
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LIVEWORKSHEETS