



Listen and repeat. Then act out.

There's *going to be* a terrible snowstorm.  
You'll *have to* stay the night.



In that case I'll  
*phone* my parents.

Good idea. They *will probably be*  
worried if you don't phone them.



Oh no! It's not that! I'm *going to ask*  
them to bring me my nightclothes.

We use **will** and **be going to** to talk about the future.

**Will** is used:

- to talk about things we are not sure about or we haven't decided yet.  
I'll probably **buy** a new bike. (I'm not sure yet.)
- to express hopes, fears, threats, on-the-spot decisions, offers, promises, warnings, predictions, comments, etc. especially with: expect, hope, believe, I'm afraid, I'm sure, I know, I think, probably, etc.  
I'm hungry. I'll **make** a sandwich. (on-the-spot decision)
- to make a prediction based on what we think or imagine.  
I think you **will pass** the test.  
She **will probably phone** later.
- to talk about actions which will definitely happen in the future and which we cannot control.  
He **will be** twelve next year.

**Be going to** is used:

- to talk about things we are sure about or we have already decided to do in the near future.  
I'm **going to buy** a new bike. (I've decided it.)
- to express intentions and plans.  
Now that I've got the money, I'm **going to buy** a new dress. (intention)  
I'm **going to get** some more training so I can get a better job. (plan)
- when we can see (evidence) that something is going to happen.  
Watch out! We're **going to have** an accident.  
(We can see a car coming.)  
It's **going to rain**. (We can see dark clouds in the sky.)

**Time expressions used with will – be going to**

tomorrow, tonight, next week / month / year, in two days, the day after tomorrow, soon, in a week / month, etc.

## 'Will' – 'Be going to' – Future Continuous

4

- 1 Read the sentences below and mark them as *a, b, c, d* or *e* according to what they express.

- 1 I'm hungry. I'll make myself a sandwich. ....c....
- 2 Don't worry. I won't tell anybody. ....
- 3 Stop talking or I'll send you out. ....
- 4 Annie will be three years old next month. ....
- 5 I think it will rain today. ....
- 6 This dress is beautiful. I'll buy it. ....
- 7 We'll probably be home before dinner. ....
- 8 I promise I'll be on time. ....

- a prediction based on what we think or imagine
- b promise
- c on-the-spot decision
- d threat
- e action which will happen in the future and we cannot control

- 2 Complete the sentences.

won't let      'll take      ~~'ll close~~      'll be      won't pass      'll catch

- 1 It's cold. I *'ll close* the window.
- 2 His teacher thinks he ..... a great pianist one day.
- 3 Do your homework or I ..... you go out.
- 4 I'm afraid she ..... her exams.
- 5 Put on your coat or you ..... a cold.
- 6 This shirt is nice. I ..... it.

- 3 Answer the questions about yourself using *I hope, I think, I believe, I expect, perhaps or probably* as in the example:

- 1 Where will you go at the weekend?  
*I'll probably go skiing in the mountains.*
- 2 What will you buy your best friend for his/her birthday?  
.....
- 3 Where will you be at 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon?  
.....
- 4 Who will you ask if you need help studying for exams?  
.....
- 5 Where will you spend your holidays?  
.....

## 'Will' – 'Be going to' – Future Continuous

### Will

**Will** is used to express predictions, warnings, offers, promises, threats, requests, suggestions, on-the-spot decisions, opinions, hopes and fears (especially with words such as: think, expect, suppose, hope, believe, know and probably).

I expect she **will** come early. (prediction)

### Shall

**Shall** is used with **I** or **We** in questions, suggestions and offers.

Shall we go by train? (suggestion)

Shall I help you with your bags? (offer)

### 4 Fill in: will, won't or shall.

Larry: 1) .... Shall .... we go for a picnic tomorrow?

Sue: Yes. That's a good idea. I 2) ..... make some sandwiches.

Larry: OK. And I 3) ..... bring some lemonade.

Sue: 4) ..... I buy some cheese?

Larry: I don't really like cheese.

Sue: I 5) ..... buy any then. I 6) ..... bring some fruit instead.

Larry: I think it 7) ..... be sunny tomorrow so I 8) ..... probably wear my shorts. I 9) ..... take a pullover.

Sue: Well, I think I 10) ..... take mine. It is still cold in the mornings.

### 5 What is going to happen? Use the phrases to complete the sentences.

- play tennis
- ~~watch a film~~

- make a cake
- wash the dishes

- win the race
- take the bus



1 They are going to ..  
watch a film. ..



2 She .....



3 They .....



4 Bob .....



5 They .....



6 Emma .....

**6** Mrs Potter is the new music teacher at Braxton Academy. Look at the ideas and say what she is going to do as in the example:

- offer new courses like *Electronic Music* and *Songwriting*  
*She's going to offer new courses like Electronic Music and Songwriting.*
- invite musicians to play for her students  
.....
- take the students to see the *London Symphony Orchestra*  
.....
- organise a concert at the end of the school year  
.....

**7** Use the words to make questions and then answer them.

- are / going / to / what / you / next / do / Sunday?  
*What are you going to do next Sunday?*  
*I'm going to visit my grandparents.*
- going / buy / you / to / for / what / your / birthday / best friend's / are?  
.....  
.....
- learn / are / a / going / language / new / you / to / year / next?  
.....  
.....
- are / abroad / you / this / travel / summer / to / going?  
.....  
.....

## Note:

- We use the **Present Continuous** rather than 'be going to' for things which are **definitely arranged to happen in the future**.  
They're **having** a party next week. (It's all arranged. The invitations have already been sent.)  
They're **going to have** a party in two weeks. (They've decided but it hasn't been arranged yet.)
- We use the **Present Simple** for **timetables, programmes, etc.**  
Our plane **leaves** at 10:30 am.
- We do not use the **Future tense** after the words **while, before, until, as soon as, if** (conditional) and **when** (time conjunction). However, we can use **when + will**, if **when** is a question word. Call me **when** you arrive. **BUT** **When** will you be ready?
- With the verbs **go** and **come** we often use the **Present Continuous** rather than 'be going to'. I'm **going** out tonight. **RATHER THAN** I'm **going to go** out tonight.