Future Forms

Future Simple

We use the future simple:

 a) in predictions about the future usually with the verbs think, believe, expect, etc., the expressions be sure, be afraid, etc., and the

adverbs probably,
perhaps,
certainly, etc.

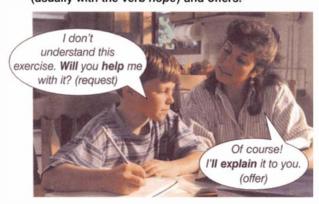
"m afraid we
won't be on time for
the meeting.

b) for on-the-spot decisions.





 for promises (usually with the verbs promise, swear, guarantee, etc.), threats, warnings, requests, hopes (usually with the verb hope) and offers.



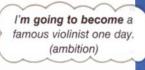
 d) for actions/events/situations which will definitely happen in the future and which we cannot control.

The temperature will reach 40 °C tomorrow.

Be going to

We use be going to:

 a) for plans, intentions or ambitions we have for the future.



Now that they've won the lottery, they are going to buy a big house. (intention/plan)

 b) for actions we have already decided to do in the near future.

They are going to get married in three months. (They have already decided to do it.)

BUT: They're getting married next month. (They have decided and arranged to do it.)

 c) in predictions when there is evidence that something will happen in the near future.

Look at the clouds! It's going to rain.



Note: 1) We normally use be going to to talk about something we intend to do and will to give details or make comments.

e.g. A: I'm going to have a party next week. I'll invite all my friends.

B: That'll be great.

 We normally use the present continuous rather than be going to with verbs which express movement, especially the verbs go and come.

e.g. Sam is going to the market in a few minutes. Sheila is coming to my house for tea this afternoon.

The future simple and be going to are used with the following time expressions: tomorrow, the day after tomorrow, tonight, soon, next week/month/year, in a week/month/year, in two/three days/weeks, etc.

Future Continuous

We use the future continuous:

 a) for an action which will be in progress at a stated future time.



 b) for an action which will definitely happen in the future as the result of a routine or arrangement.



 when we ask politely about someone's plans for the near future (what we want to know is if our wishes



Future Perfect

We use the future perfect:

for an action which will be finished before a stated future time.

She will have delivered all the newspapers by 8 o'clock.



The future perfect is used with the following time expressions: before, by, by then, by the time, until/till.

Note: Until/till are only used in negative sentences.

- a) She will have finished the report by tomorrow. (NOT: ... until/till tomorrow.)
- b) She won't have completed the report until/till 5 o'clock.

Future Perfect Continuous

We use the future perfect continuous:

to emphasise the duration of an action up to a certain time in the future.

By the end of next month, she will have been teaching for twenty years.



The future perfect continuous is used with: by ... for.

Note: After the time expressions by the time, until, before, we use the present simple because they introduce time clauses. The future perfect and the future perfect continuous may come either before or after the time clause.

Study the following examples:

- a) I won't have finished cleaning the house until you come back
- b) By the time they reach York, they will have been travelling for four hours.

Note: We can use the future simple, future continuous or future perfect to make a prediction about the present or past, that is to say what we believe may be happening or have happened.

Study the following examples:

- e.g. a) 'There's somebody on the phone for you.' 'That'll be my mother.'
 - b) Don't call her now she'll be sleeping.
 - c) It's seven o'clock. Dad will have left the office by now.

Present Simple

We use the present simple for future actions when we refer to programmes, timetables, etc.

e.g. The bus arrives in Liverpool at 7:30.

Present Continuous

We use the present continuous for actions we have decided and arranged to do in the near future.

e.g. I'm flying to Lisbon tomorrow morning.

- We use the present simple or present perfect, and not future forms, after words and expressions such as while, before, after, until/till, as, unless, when, whenever, if, suppose/supposing, once, as soon as, as long as, by the time, in case, on condition that, etc. e.g. Call me as soon as you get back.
 - (NOT: ... as soon as you will get back.)
- We use future forms:
 - a) with when when it is used as a question word. When it is used as a time word we use the present simple.
 - e.g. When will they get married?
 I'm not sure when they will visit us.
 - BUT: I will let you know when I decide.
 - b) with if (= whether) when it is used after expressions which show ignorance, uncertainty, etc. such as I don't know, I wonder, I doubt, etc.
 - e.g. I don't know if/whether he'll move house. I doubt if/whether she'll pass her exams. BUT: If you call her, give her my regards.

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct future tense.

- 1 A: Your house is very small.
 - B: I know. I ... 'm going to move... (move) to a bigger house next year.
- 2 A: I have got a new job!
 - B: Wonderful! I (call) Mum and tell her the good news.
- 3 A: How old is your daughter?
 - B: She (be) fourteen next week.
- 4 A: I must phone Julia.
 - B: Well, don't phone her now. She(sleep).
- 5 A: Have you been living here long?
 - B: Yes. By next month, I(live) here for ten years.

6	A:	Are you having a party next weekend?
	B:	Yes. I hope I (finish)
		decorating the house by then.
7	A:	What are your plans for tonight?
	B:	Well, I (meet) Steve at eight o'clock.
8	A:	I must buy some bread.
	B:	You'd better hurry. The shops
		(close) in half an hour.
9	A:	Shall I call you at ten o'clock tomorrow?
	B:	No. I (leave) for work by then.
10	A:	Are you coming to the disco on Friday night?
	B:	I can't. I (study) for my
		exam then.
11	A:	Are you excited about going to California?
	B:	Yes! This time tomorrow I (fly)
		across the Atlantic.
12	A:	It's seven o'clock.
	B:	Yes. John (leave) the office
		by now.
13	A:	There's somebody at the door.
	B:	Oh. That (be) the postman
14	A:	I've left my jacket at home.
	B:	I (go) back and get it for you
15	A:	Have you booked a taxi to take you to the airport?
	B:	Yes. It (come) at eight o'clock
		in the morning.
16	A:	Are you nervous about the interview?
	B:	Yes. This time tomorrow, I
		(talk) to the managing director.

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Fill in the future simple, the present simple or the present perfect.

A	My car is being repaired and I don't know when it 1)will be (be) ready. I doubt whether I 2) (be able to) collect it before the weekend. I wonder if John 3) (give) me a lift to the party on Saturday. I'll ask him when he 4)
В	I was calling to ask if you'd like to go out after we 1)
С	I will leave the hotel early in case there 1)
D	Paula is drinking tea as she is waiting for Charles. She wonders if he 1)

..... (forget).

Future Simple versus Be going to

We use the future simple:

 when we make a prediction based on what we think, believe or imagine.

In the year 2020 people will drive electric cars.



for on-the-spot decisions.



28

Fill in the future simple or be going to.

- 7 A: What are you doing this weekend?
 - B: Oh, I (probably/visit) my grandparents.
- 8 A: Look at that dog!
 - B: Oh yes! It (swim) across the river.
- 9 A: Tony is nearly eighteen, isn't he?
 - B: Yes. He (work) for his father when he leaves school.
- 10 A: Are you going into town today?
 - B: Yes. I (give) you a lift if you like.
- 11 A: Your shirt is dirty.
 - B: Oh dear! I (change) into another one.
- 12 A: I hope we (not/arrive) late for the meeting.
 - B: Don't worry. There's plenty of time.

We use be going to:

 when we make a prediction based on what we can see (evidence) or what we know.

She **is going to** cut the sunflowers.



 for actions we have already decided to do in the future.





- 13 A: I'm really thirsty after all that hard work.
 - B: I (make) some tea.
- 14 A: Did you give Steve his present?
 - B: No. I (give) it to him tonight at dinner.
- - B: Oh! I didn't realise it was so low.

29

Underline the correct tense.

- A Next Saturday. Daisy 1) is flying/flies to Paris for a business meeting. Her secretary has already booked the flight. The plane 2) will leave/leaves at nine o'clock in the morning and one of her business clients 3) will have met/will be meeting her at the airport when the plane lands. She doesn't know how long the meeting will last, but she 4) will have returned/will have been returning home by Thursday evening.
- B Florence 1) is going to become/will be becoming a doctor when she finishes medical school. She thinks she 2) will probably work/will have probably worked in a hospital for most of her career. This time next month, she 3) will have revised/will be revising hard for her exams. By the time she gets her degree she 4) will have been studying/will have studied medicine for five years. Florence hopes she 5) will have passed/will pass all the exams with excellent grades.

Will/Won't - Shall

We use:

- will you ...? to give an order or make a request. e.g. Will you stop talking, please? (= Please stop talking)
- won't to express unwillingness or an emphatic refusal, even when the subject is not a person. e.g. I've told him not to do that, but he won't listen.

(= He refuses to listen.)
The washing machine won't work.

We use wouldn't to refer to the past.

e.g. I asked him to help me, but he **wouldn't**. (= He was unwilling to help me.)

Shall I/we ... ?

30

- a) to make an offer.
 - e.g. **Shall I** do the washing-up for you? (= Do you want me to do the washing-up for you?)
- b) to make a suggestion.
 - e.g. **Shall we** go out for dinner tonight?

 (= Why don't we go out for dinner tonight?)
- c) to ask for suggestions or instructions.
 - e.g. 'Where **shall I** put the vase?' 'On the table.' 'What **shall we** do tonight?' 'We could go out.'

Replace the words in bold with will/won't or shall I/we, as in the example.

- 1 Can you buy me some milk, please? ...Will you buy me some milk, please?...
- 2 What do you want me to do with this shopping?
- 3 I've asked Jane to tidy her room, but she **refuses to** do it.
- 4 Can you open the door for me, please?
- 5 Do you want me to walk the dog for you?
- 6 Why don't we go to the theatre tonight?
- 7 When do you want me to visit next?
- 8 Please be quiet!
- 9 Ann is unwilling to talk to me.

Other ways of expressing the future

We can also express the future with:

- be to + infinitive (formal English).
 e.g. The President is to visit Poland next Monday.
- be about to + infinitive/be on the point of + -ing form (to refer to the near future).
 - e.g. Look! The bus is about to leave.

 The company is on the point of closing down.
- be due to + infinitive (timetables).
 e.g. Their flight is due to arrive at 6:15.
- verbs such as decide, plan, intend, arrange, mean
 to -infinitive (for plans or intentions).
 e.g. We intend to buy a bigger flat.
- be sure to/be certain to/be bound to + Infinitive (to express certainty about the future).
 e.g. This plan is sure to/is bound to succeed.

The future in the past

We use the following patterns to talk about things we intended to do or plans we had for the future.

- a) was going to/was to/was about to/ was due to + infinitive
 - e.g. Mr Simon was going to resign, but the manager offered him a better salary. (So he didn't resign.)
- b) was on the point of + -ing form
 - e.g. They were on the point of leaving the house when the phone rang. (So they didn't leave.)

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Complete each sentence with two to five words, including the word in bold.

1	The Queen will open the new sports centre next week.				
	is The Queenis to open the new sports	S			
	centre next week.				
2	We are planning to go to Spain next summer.				
	intend We Spain next summer.				
3	The guests should have arrived at nine, but they were	е			

late.

due The guests at nine. but

they were late.

4 Jane was thinking of looking for a new job, but she

- 5 The manager will be angry when he hears the news.

 bound The manager angry

 when he hears the news.
- 6 Hurry up! The bus is going to leave!
 about Hurry up! The busleave!
- 7 Helen will love this present.

 sure Helenthis present.



Identify the tenses, then match them to the correct descriptions.

- 1 I like these shoes. I'll buy them.
- 2 They will have eaten lunch by two o'clock this afternoon.
- 3 I'm going to open my own business in the future.
- 4 This time tomorrow, I'll be taking my driving test.
- 5 By the time Jack finishes the race, he will have been running for two hours.
- 6 Everyone believes he will win the competition.
- 7 I'll tell Paul about the party. I'll be seeing him at work anyway.
- 8 Will you be speaking to Rob later? I've got a message for him.
- 9 Look at them! They are going to catch the thieves.
- 10 Since you're tired, I'll cook dinner tonight.

- a for offers, promises, threats, etc
- b action which will definitely happen in the future as a result of a routine or arrangement
- c for plans, intentions or ambitions we have for the future
- d predictions about the future
- e asking politely about someone's plans for the near future
- f action which will be finished before a stated future time
- g to emphasise the duration of an action up to a certain time in the future
- h action which will be in progress at a stated future timei on-the-spot decision
- j predictions when there is evidence that something will happen in the near future



A Fill in the gaps with an appropriate tense form.

B Which of the tense forms in the text above are used to express:

- 1 timetables/programmes
- 2 actions which will have finished before a stated future time
- 3 plans or intentions

r

- 4 fixed arrangements in the near future
- 5 actions which will be in progress at a stated future
- 6 predictions based on what we know



Put the verbs in brackets into the correct future form.



Dear Lionel.

As soon as I 3) (h	ave) the money, I
4) (buy) a new car, a	and I 5)
(also/redecor	ate) my house.
Hopefully, I 6)	(finish) the whole
house by the end of June. Then, on	the fifth of July, I
7) (fly) to Tahiti for	an exotic holiday
in the sun. I 8)(r	eturn) by the end
of July and then I 9) ((throw) a big party
for all my friends. I hope you 10)	(come).
Well, it's almost lunchtime, so I 11) .	
(say) goodbye for now. I promise I 12)	
(send) you a postcard from Tahiti	

Best wishes, Emily

35 Fill in the correct present or future forms.



If you 1)like (like) watersports, you 2)
하는 아이는 아이는 아이를 하면 하는 것이 가는 것이 되는 것이 되었다. 그는 아이들이 아이를 하는 것이 없는 것이 없는 것이 없는 것이 없는 것이 없는 것이 없는 것이다. 그는 사람이 그렇게 되었다.
(love) Aquaworld. As soon as you 3)
(arrive) at this unique theme park, you
4) (be greeted) by visitor hosts
who 5) (show) you to a luxury chalet.
Once you 6) (be) in your swimsuit, you
7) (be able to) enjoy a wide
variety of watersports, from swimming to water-skiing.
You 8) (find) plenty to do and
you 9) (have) the chance to try many
exciting activities. Aquaworld 10)
(open) at 9 am every day and 11)
(close) at 8 pm. There 12) (be)
special facilities for children and lifeguards 13)
(supervise) all activities. Visit Aquaworld
for an experience you 14)
(never/forget)!

36

Choose the correct answer.

1	'IA about buying a new car recently.' 'Really? What sort of car?' A have been thinking B have thought C thought			
2	'I haven't seen Mark for weeks.' 'Well, I him this afternoon. Why don't you come along?' A have met B am meeting C meet			
3	'We'd better take a taxi to the station.' 'Yes. The train in fifteen minutes.' A has left B will have left C leaves			
4	'Where is the newspaper?' 'I threw it away. I thought you reading it.' A have finished B finished C had finished			
5	'I feel very tired.' 'How can you be tired? You a thing all day.' A haven't been doing B aren't doing C haven't done			
6	'Cathy doesn't study enough.' 'I know. I'm afraid sheher exam.' A won't pass B won't be passing			

C won't have passed

7	'It's bad news about Janet crashing her new car, isn't it? 'Yes. She for months to buy it.' A saved B is saving C had been saving			
8	'There's someone here to see you.' 'Oh, thatmy sister. Send her in.' A will have been B was C will be			
9	'Whose is this earring?' 'I don't know. I found it when I the house.' A was cleaning B had cleaned C am cleaning			
10	'I to reach Jane on the phone all day.' 'Don't you know? She's gone on holiday.' A tried B have been trying C have tried			
11	'I want to visit Katie.' 'Well, don't visit her before five o'clock. She' A is working B will be working C will have worked			
12	'Thatlike Dad's car.' 'It is. He must have finished work early.' A sounds B had sounded C has sounded			
13	'Is that a new jumper?' 'No. I it from Laura yesterday.' A have borrowed B had borrowed C borrowed			
14	'to the library today?' 'Yes. Would you like me to return your books?' A Will you have gone B Will you have been going C Will you be going			
15	'How is your grandfather?' 'His condition day by day.' A improves B has improved C is improving			
16	'When did you speak to Sue?' 'I met her as I to work.' A had walked B was walking C am walking			
17	'Shall we go shopping?' 'I can't go until the babysitter A arrives B will arrive C arrived			
18	'I've invited Sam to my party.' 'I doubt if he He's studying for an exam.' A comes B will come C is coming			
19	'I'm sorry I'm late.' 'Ihere for over an hour.' A have been waiting B have waited C was waiting			
20	'I'm having trouble with the car.' 'I'm sure John you fix it if you ask him.' A is going to help B helps C will help			
21	'How long James?' 'Since we were children.' A have you known B do you know C did you know			
22	'You a good teacher one day.' 'Do you really think so?'			

B will be

C are being

A were

IN OTHER WORDS

Study	these	examples.	The	second	sentence
has a	similar	meaning to	o the	first ser	ntence.

- 1 I've never heard such a sad story.
 - ever It's the saddest story I have ever heard.
- 2 He started painting fifteen years ago.
 - been He has been painting for fifteen years.
- 3 She hasn't finished decorating the flat yet.
 - still She is still decorating the flat.
- 4 I've never eaten Chinese food before.
 - first It's the first time I have ever eaten Chinese food.
- 5 When did they graduate from college?
 - since How long is it since they graduated from
 - college?
 - ago How long ago did they graduate from
 - college?
- 6 He didn't begin talking until everyone had sat down.
 before He waited until everyone had sat down
 - before he began talking.
- 7 We haven't been to the theatre for a year. time The last time we went to the theatre was a
 - year ago.

 last We last went to the theatre a year ago.
- 8 It's two years since I went on holiday.
 - have I have not been on holiday for two years.
- 9 It was the first time they had travelled by boat.
- never They had never travelled by boat before.
- 10 Jack was about to have dinner when his boss called.
- point Jack was on the point of having dinner when his boss called.

37

Complete each sentence with two to five words, including the word in bold.

- 1 She began to play tennis when she was 10.
 - since She ...has been playing tennis since... she was 10.
- 2 I bought this coat three years ago.
 - for I three years.
- 3 I haven't finished writing the report yet.
- 4 We've never seen such a funny film.
 - ever It's theseen.
- 5 He's never played football before.
- 6 John hasn't played golf for years.

- When did Mary move to Liverpool?
- since How long is it to Liverpool?
- 8 It was the first time I had met a film star.
- 9 We didn't start tidying up until after the guests had left. before We waited until the guests
- tidying up.
- 10 Kate was about to leave the house when the postman came.
 - point Kate wasthe house when the postman came.
- 11 It's four weeks since I spoke to Paul.
- have I ______ for four weeks.
- 12 When did they announce their engagement?
 - ago How longtheir engagement?
- 13 We haven't played squash for six months.
 - last Wesix months ago.
- 14 Kim was on the point of closing the shop when a
 - customer walked in.
 about Kim
 - the shop when a customer walked in.
- 16 They are still discussing the problem.
- 17 Mike started studying medicine four years ago.
- 18 The waiter didn't take our order until everyone had
 - decided what they wanted.

 before The waiter waited until everyone had decided what they wanted

38

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct

..... our order.

Common mistakes

- I'll call you when I will finish. X
 I'll call you when I finish.
- I have read this book a month ago. X
 I read this book a month ago. ✓
- I have met him two days before. X
 I have met him before. X
- Take a map in case you will get lost. X
 Take a map in case you get lost. X
- When was the last time you have been to the cinema? X

When was the last time you went to the cinema? \(\strice{1} \)

- I haven't seen him since I have finished school. X
 I haven't seen him since I finished school. ✓
- I'm learning English since 1996. ✗
 I've been learning English since 1996. ✓
- He stopped smoking a year before. X
 He stopped smoking a year ago. X
- Sharon found a job last month. She had left school six months ago. X
 Sharon found a job last month. She had left school six months before.
- They still have called us. X
 They still haven't called us. ✓
- He hasn't still bought a computer. X
 He still hasn't bought a computer. ✓
 She still is abroad. X
 She is still abroad. ✓
- They haven't reached yet a decision. X
 They haven't reached a decision yet.
- They will have returned until noon. X
 They will have returned by noon. X
- I used to go to the cinema twice last month. X
 I went to the cinema twice last month. ✓

39 Correct the mistakes.

- 1 I'm playing chess since I was eight years old.
- 2 I used to eat at that restaurant three times last week.
- 3 They haven't still delivered my television.
- 4 We haven't read yet his letter.
- 5 I have met that man a week ago.
- 6 We moved to Glasgow a year before.
- 7 Mike and Kelly got married last week. They had met each other four years ago.
- 8 I'll make the dinner when I will get home.
- 9 Take some food in case you will get hungry.
- 10 The house will have been built until the end of May.
- 11 Peter still is at school.
- 12 When was the last time you have seen Tony?

- 13 I have seen this film three months before.
- 14 She hasn't been to a party since she has returned from her holiday.

40

Choose the correct answer.

The play had started ... C... we got to the theatre. A while **B** until C by the time 2 Tom has had some good news. A still B yet C just 3 Do you know she had been working there before she retired? A when B how long C how long ago 4 They will have had dinner eight. A before B until C by I hadn't cleaned the house when the guests arrived. A still B yet C just 6 We have been training six months. A since B for C while did you move to Essex? C While A How long ago B How long She eats beans because they make her ill. B never C always 9 I'm tired. I have been working very hard A so far B just C lately 10 Paul leaves, he will have typed ten letters. A By the time B By then C Before 11 James was washing the car Sue was cutting the grass. A as soon as B before C while 12 Colin has invited ten people to his party A yet B ever C so far.



Underline the correct preposition.

- 1 The advantage of/in/over computers is that they can process information quickly.
- 2 She accused him for/of/about stealing her bag.
- 3 The train arrived at/to/in Manchester at 5.30 pm.
- 4 Her parents did not approve for/of/about her outfit.
- 5 He was aware about/for/of being followed.
- 6 Mary agreed to/with/on help me arrange the party.
- 7 We were amazed of/at/with how many people attended the meeting.
- 8 Paul was angry with me about/for/at using his car.
- 9 Sarah is very bad to/for/at Mathematics.
- 10 I don't believe in/on/at ghosts.
- 11 According with/to/by the weather forecast, it will be sunny tomorrow.
- 12 She blamed me on/for/from the damage to the car.

Phrasal Verbs

be after: (tr) 1) want, try to gain, 2) chase

be against: (tr) oppose (opp: be for)
be in for: (tr) expect sth (usu bad)

be off: (tr) 1) not want/like any more, 2) be

absent (from school, work, etc)

be on: (tr) be shown (on TV, at the cinema, etc)

be out of: (tr) not have sth; lack be over: (int) come to an end

be up: (int) 1) be awake and out of bed, 2) stay

awake at night, 3) be wrong or unusual

break down: (int) 1) stop working, 2) lose control of

feelings, 3) fail

break in (int)/

break into (tr): 1) enter by force, 2) interrupt

break out: (int) 1) begin suddenly (of war, fire, etc)

BUT: a storm breaks, 2) escape

break up: (int) 1) stop for holidays (of schools, etc),

2) separate; split up



Fill in the correct particle.

1	War brokeout suddenly in the country.
2	My flat was broken while I was away.
3	The police are the bank robbers.
4	The washing machine has broken I'll call a repairman.
5	Many people are the new law.
6	The school will break for the holidays soon.
7	What's? Is something wrong?
8	The supermarket was bread, so I didn't get any.
9	Jack was school last week because he had the flu.
10	'Are you yet?' called Mum early this morning.
11	When she heard the bad news she broke and cried.
12	After three weeks, the exams are finally
13	Several prisoners broke of prison early this morning.
14	I was all night because of my bad cough.
15	Government negotiations broke last week.
16	James is a new bicycle for his birthday.
17	Look at the clouds. I think we're bad weather today.

18 I used to love pizza, but I'm it now.

got back together.

us coffee.

19 The couple broke for a while, but then

20 There is a new play at the Empire theatre.

21 The secretary broke on the meeting to bring



Life has changed a lot in the past century. Look at the information in the chart and make sentences, as in the example. You can add your own ideas.

e.g. S1: 100 years ago, people ate/used to eat simple, home-made food.

S2: Today, we eat tinned food and pre-packaged meals.





Write an article about life in the future for a magazine called 'Millenium'. Write your predictions about food, transport, entertainment, settlements and shopping. Include words and expressions such as be bound to, be on the point of, expect, etc.

food pills - shuttle bus/electric cars - computers/virtual reality - space colonies/underwater cities - shopping via the Internet

LIFE · IN · THE · FUTURE

I believe that life will be very different in the future. Firstly, scientists are bound to invent food pills which will replace actual meals. Secondly,

On the whole, I think that life in the future will be very different from life today, as there will be many more changes which we cannot yet imagine.