

The future

There are several ways of talking about future:

1. SIMPLE FUTURE will + verb (will go)	A. something that has been planned or arranged
2. PRESENT SIMPLE verb (go, goes)	B. an action which leads up to a given point in the future but is not necessarily finished at that point
3. PRESENT CONTINUOUS be + verb+ing (is going)	C. talking about future after if, before, after, as soon as, when and future timetabled events
4. FUTURE CONTINUOUS will + be + verb+ing (will be going)	D. an action that will have finished at a given point in the future
5. FUTURE PERFECT will + have + verb in PP (will have gone)	E. the future in general and in main clause of a first conditional sentence
6. FUTURE PERFECT CONTINUOUS will + have + been + verb+ing (will have been going)	F. action that will be happening at a given point in the future

Can you make an example for each of these possibilities?

1. WILL=SIMPLE FUTURE - the future in general and in main clause of a first conditional sentence

The presentation will finish at about 4 o'clock.

If it finishes earlier, there will be more time for questions.

2. PRESENT SIMPLE - talking about future after **if, before, after, as soon as, when**

- future timetabled events

When he gets here, could you let me know?

Dr Carlin's train leaves London at 1:30 and gets into Oxford at 2:10.

3. PRESENT CONTINUOUS - something that has been planned or arranged

We are sending out invitations over the next couple of weeks.

4. FUTURE CONTINUOUS - an action that will be happening at a given point in the future

This time next week, you will be flying back to the USA.

5. FUTURE PERFECT - an action that will have finished at a given point in the future

By the end of the year you will have learned enough English to be able to work in a hospital.

6. FUTURE PERFECT CONTINUOUS - an action which leads up to a given point in the future but is not necessarily finished at that point

This is a long presentation. By five o'clock, Dr Schwartz will have been talking for an hour and half.