



FUTURE FORMS

“be going to” + infinitive

Use:

1 Future plans and intentions:

- Mike and Annie **are going to** adopt a child.
- **Are you going to** work as a teacher?
- I'm **not going (to go)** to Prague next week.

2 “Inevitable actions/situations”:

- It seems/I think it's going to rain. (Thy sky is very dark.)
- They **are going to** win. (They are playing very well.)
- Look! That car **is going to** have a crash!

Present Continuous: be + verb + -ing

Use:

Future arrangements and fixed plans:

- I'm meeting the headmaster in the afternoon.
- She **is leaving** on Friday.
- We **are having** a conference on Friday.

NOTE:

I'm meeting the headmaster in the afternoon.

(We have already arranged a meeting and the probability that we really meet is nearly 100%.)

X

I'm going to meet the headmaster.

(This is my intention; I have decided about it but he may not know yet.)

“will”/“shall” + infinitive

Use:

1 Immediate/instant decisions:

- I'll **have** a cola and a cheese sandwich, please.
- ...So, there are no tickets for tonight, ...I'll **take** two for tomorrow then.

2 Promises:

- I'm busy at the moment, but I promise I'll **talk** to him later.
- I **won't tell** anybody you failed the test.

3 Offers:

- The bag looks really heavy. I'll **carry** it for you.
- **Shall I help** you with that suitcase?

4 Predictions:

- The film is amazing. **You'll love** it.
- I'm sure **you'll enjoy** the show.

5 Suggestions:

- **Shall I** reply to their letter?
- **Shall we** invite Pete as well?

Present Simple

Use:

Scheduled events (timetables, programmes...):

- My plane **leaves** at 6.30 a.m.
- The conference **starts** on Monday at 9.00.

PRACTICE

1 Read the following email and underline the most suitable form of the verbs.

To: Mark
Cc: Jo
Subject: Trip
Why don't you come with us to Yorkshire? It's all arranged. Jo <i>comes/is coming</i> (1) to my house at six so we can go to the station together. The train doesn't <i>leave/isn't leaving</i> (2) until 6.45 but we don't want to be late. It <i>stops/is stopping</i> (3) a lot on the way so it <i>doesn't arrive/isn't arriving</i> (4) until three in the afternoon. We <i>stay/are staying</i> (5) in a youth hostel and we <i>spend/are spending</i> five days there. We can catch a bus some of the way from the station but it <i>doesn't go/isn't going</i> (7) all the way so we have to walk the last two miles from the village. We <i>have/are having</i> (8) breakfast and our evening meal at the youth hostel. It's in a beautiful spot with lots to see. On the way back we need to set off early as there is only one bus and it <i>leaves/is leaving</i> (9) at 8.30. The train back is faster so it <i>arrives/is arriving</i> (10) just after lunch.

2 Choose the correct alternative. In some cases both options might be ok.

1) "Can I borrow your car?" -- " _____ by 10 o'clock, I promise."

I'll be back

I'm going to be back

2) "Can I help you, sir?" -- "Yes, _____ a coffee and a tuna sandwich."

I'll have

I'm going to have

3) "Do you know about Claire?" -- " _____ a baby!"

She'll have

She's going to have

4) " _____ eat out tonight?" -- "Good idea."

Will we

Shall we

5) "I'm really tired." -- " _____ you home if you want."

I'll take

I'm going to take

6) He's got a new job in Boston, so _____ there.

he'll move

he's going to move

7) "What are you doing tomorrow?" -- "I don't know. I think _____ my parents."

I'll visit

I'm going to visit

8) _____ an old friend of mine this evening.

I'm meeting

I meet

9) Ugh, that food was terrible! I think _____ sick!

I'll be

I'm going to be

10) _____ new strings for my guitar when you are in town? Thanks.

Will you buy

Are you going to buy

11) Don't go out now. _____ a thunderstorm. I've just heard it on the radio.

There'll be

There's going to be

12) I don't think that _____ on Mars.

people will ever live

people are ever going to live

13) Do you think _____ tomorrow?

it will rain

it's going to rain

14) _____ to get married in June.

They're getting

They're going

3 Complete the sentences using the verbs in brackets.

1 When I (be) forty, I'm going to move to Australia.

2 We'll have dinner as soon as she..... (arrive).

3 I'll contact him after he (get) our offer.

4 You can move out when you..... (find) a job.