

Future

15 Write the numbers of appropriate examples in the spaces.

Future: *will* and *shall*

There is no single form used as the future tense. We can use *will* plus the base form of a verb to give or ask for information about the future 2 and to talk about possible future actions when we make promises, requests or threats . We usually use contracted forms after pronouns ('ll) or in negatives (won't) unless we are being formal or emphatic.

- 1 We'll **help** you clean up. • I **won't** tell anyone. • **Will** you please go? • Stop or I'll **call** the police.
- 2 Christmas **will be** on a Friday. • The meeting **won't** start until 9.30. • When **will** you leave?

We can use *shall* with *I* or *we* to express determination, or in questions to make offers or suggestions.

- 3 We will forgive, but we **shall** never forget. • **Shall** I make some tea? • Let's talk later, **shall** we?

In American English, *will/won't* (not *shall/shan't*) are used with *I* and *we*.

Future continuous, future perfect and future perfect continuous

We can use *will + be + present participle* (the future continuous) to talk about future actions in progress at a particular time and as a way of expressing plans or intentions .

- 4 I'll **be sending** in my application tomorrow. • **Will** you **be using** the car later or can I have it?
- 5 Next week at this time, you **will be lying** on the beach and we'll all still **be slaving** away here.

We can use *will + have + past participle* (the future perfect) to say that something will be completed by a particular time . We use *will + have been + present participle* (the future perfect continuous) when we look ahead to a future time and imagine an action lasting from a point before that time up to that future time .

- 6 On the 10th of this month, I'll **have been living** here for exactly two years.
- 7 By next summer I'll **have finished** my degree. • It's 5.30. **Will** Jay **have left** work already?

Will or be going to?

We use *will* for a prediction based on past experience or knowledge , especially in predictive conditionals , and *be going to* for a prediction based on what we feel or think now . We can use *would* or *was/were going to* when we describe a past prediction about the future .

- 8 Oh, no, I think I'm **going to be** sick. • We've just heard that Kim's **going to have** a baby.
- 9 If you eat too much ice cream, you'll **be** sick. • We'll **do** okay if the test isn't too difficult.
- 10 As soon as the victorious British team lands at Heathrow, thousands of fans **will start** celebrating.
- 11 When I was a teenager, I thought I **was going to be** a rock star and I **would** never **have** to work.

We use *be going to* for a decision already made and *will* for a decision made at that moment .

- 12 Her parents have said they're **going to pay** for her tuition. • I've decided I'm **going to get** a new phone.
- 13 I need someone to take this to the post office. ~ I'll go! • That's the phone ringing. ~ I'll get it!

Present simple and present continuous for the future

We can use the present simple for future events in a schedule or timetable . We also use the present simple for future actions in clauses after subordinating conjunctions . We can use the present continuous to talk about a future action we have planned or arranged .

- 14 I'm **seeing** the doctor on Friday. • We're **playing** tomorrow. (NOT ~~It's snowing tomorrow.~~)
- 15 It won't matter what he **says** later. • I'll see you when I **get** back. (NOT ~~I'll see you when I will get back.~~)
- 16 The new course **starts** in January. • I think Kate's flight **arrives** tomorrow morning.

16 Choose an ending (a–d) for each beginning (1–4) and add *will*, *will be* or *will have been*.

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| 1 Next April 21st my parent's silver anniversary. (...) | a By then, he working here for 40 years. |
| 2 I'm sure everyone want to get an early start. (...) | b That means they married for 25 years. |
| 3 Mr Russell teaching his last English classes during May. (...) | c Do you realize that I in school for most of my life so far? |
| 4 My life as a student over at the end of this term. (...) | d you ready to leave at about 6 am? |

17 Complete this text with the most appropriate forms of the verbs, using *will*, *be going to* or the present simple.

be give have make not start not stop

I was standing at the bus stop reading my horoscope in the newspaper. It said, 'You (1) good moments and bad moments today.' I looked up and saw the bus coming. Then I realized it (2) because it was already full. 'Oh, no,' I thought. 'If I (3) walking fast, I (4) late for my first class!' I had just started walking when a car pulled up beside me and one of my classmates leaned out. 'Hey Jean, get in, we (5) you a lift.' It's amazing how the bad moments (6) the good moments feel so much better.

18 Correct the mistakes in these sentences.

Example: An imminent event is one that ^{will happen} happens soon.

- 1 Please stop making so much noise or I report you to the supervisor.
- 2 As I was about to leave his office, Bob said, 'Let's get together for lunch sometime, will we?'
- 3 They came and asked for people to help immediately, so Jenny jumped up and said, 'I do it!'
- 4 When he is released next week, Pat McGuire will spend almost five years in prison for a crime he didn't commit.
- 5 I'm going to work on the report at home last night, but I had left all my notes in the office.
- 6 It's probably too late to phone Margaret. Do you think she'll go to bed already?
- 7 I'm not certain, but I guess it's raining later this afternoon.
- 8 Forthcoming books are those that we think to be available soon.
- 9 I can't believe that you'll sit on a plane to Malta while I'm driving to work tomorrow morning.
- 10 If I'll finish before you, I wait for you outside.
- 11 Will Stefan to get these boxes later or is to take them now?
- 12 I must get to the post office before it'll close or the parcel doesn't arrive in time for Joy's birthday.

