

# Appendix 3

## The future

### 3.1 List of future forms:

<input type="checkbox"/> I'm <b>leaving</b> tomorrow.	<i>present continuous</i>	(→ Unit 19 A)
<input type="checkbox"/> My train <b>leaves</b> at 9.30.	<i>present simple</i>	(→ Unit 19B)
<input type="checkbox"/> I'm <b>going to leave</b> tomorrow.	(be) <b>going to</b>	(→ Units 20, 23)
<input type="checkbox"/> I'll <b>leave</b> tomorrow.	<b>will</b>	(→ Units 21–23)
<input type="checkbox"/> I'll <b>be leaving</b> tomorrow.	<i>future continuous</i>	(→ Unit 24)
<input type="checkbox"/> I'll <b>have left</b> by this time tomorrow.	<i>future perfect</i>	(→ Unit 24)
<input type="checkbox"/> I hope to see you before I <b>leave</b> tomorrow.	<i>present simple</i>	(→ Unit 25)

### 3.2 Future actions

We use the present continuous (**I'm doing**) for arrangements:

- ☐ I'm **leaving** tomorrow. I've got my plane ticket. (already planned and arranged)
- ☐ 'When **are** they **getting** married?' 'On 24 July.'

We use the present simple (I **leave** / it **leaves** etc.) for timetables, programmes etc. :

- ☐ My train **leaves** at 11.30. (according to the timetable)
- ☐ What time **does** the film **begin**?

We use **(be) going to** ... to say what somebody has already decided to do:

- ☐ I've decided not to stay here any longer. I'm **going to leave** tomorrow. (or I'm **leaving** tomorrow.)
- ☐ 'Your shoes are dirty.' 'Yes, I know. I'm **going to clean** them.'

We use **will ('ll)** when we decide or agree to do something at the time of speaking:

- ☐ A: I don't want you to stay here any longer.  
B: OK. I'll **leave** tomorrow. (B decides this at the time of speaking)
- ☐ That bag looks heavy. I'll **help** you with it.
- ☐ I **won't tell** anybody what happened. I promise. (**won't = will not**)

### 3.3 Future happenings and situations

Most often we use **will** to talk about future happenings ('something **will happen**') or situations ('something **will be**):

- ☐ I don't think John is happy at work. I think he'll **leave** soon.
- ☐ This time next year I'll **be** in Japan. Where **will** you **be**?

We use **(be) going to** when the situation *now* shows what **is going to happen in the future**:

- ☐ Look at those black clouds. It's **going to rain**. (you can see the clouds *now*)

### 3.4 Future continuous and future perfect

**Will be (do)ing** = will be in the middle of (doing something):

- ☐ This time next week I'll be on holiday. I'll **be lying** on a beach or **swimming** in the sea.

We also use **will be -ing** for future actions (see Unit 24C):

- ☐ What time **will** you **be leaving** tomorrow?

We use **will have (done)** to say that something will already be complete before a time in the future:

- ☐ I won't be here this time tomorrow. I'll **have** already **left**.

### 3.5 We use the *present* (not *will*) after **when/if/while/before** etc. (see Unit 25):

- ☐ I hope to see you **before** I **leave** tomorrow. (not before I will leave)
- ☐ **When** you **are** in London again, come and see us. (not When you will be)
- ☐ **If** we **don't hurry**, we'll be late.