

Future tenses: making assumptions and predictions

GRAMMAR

LEVEL
Advanced

NUMBER
C1_4011G_EN

LANGUAGE
English



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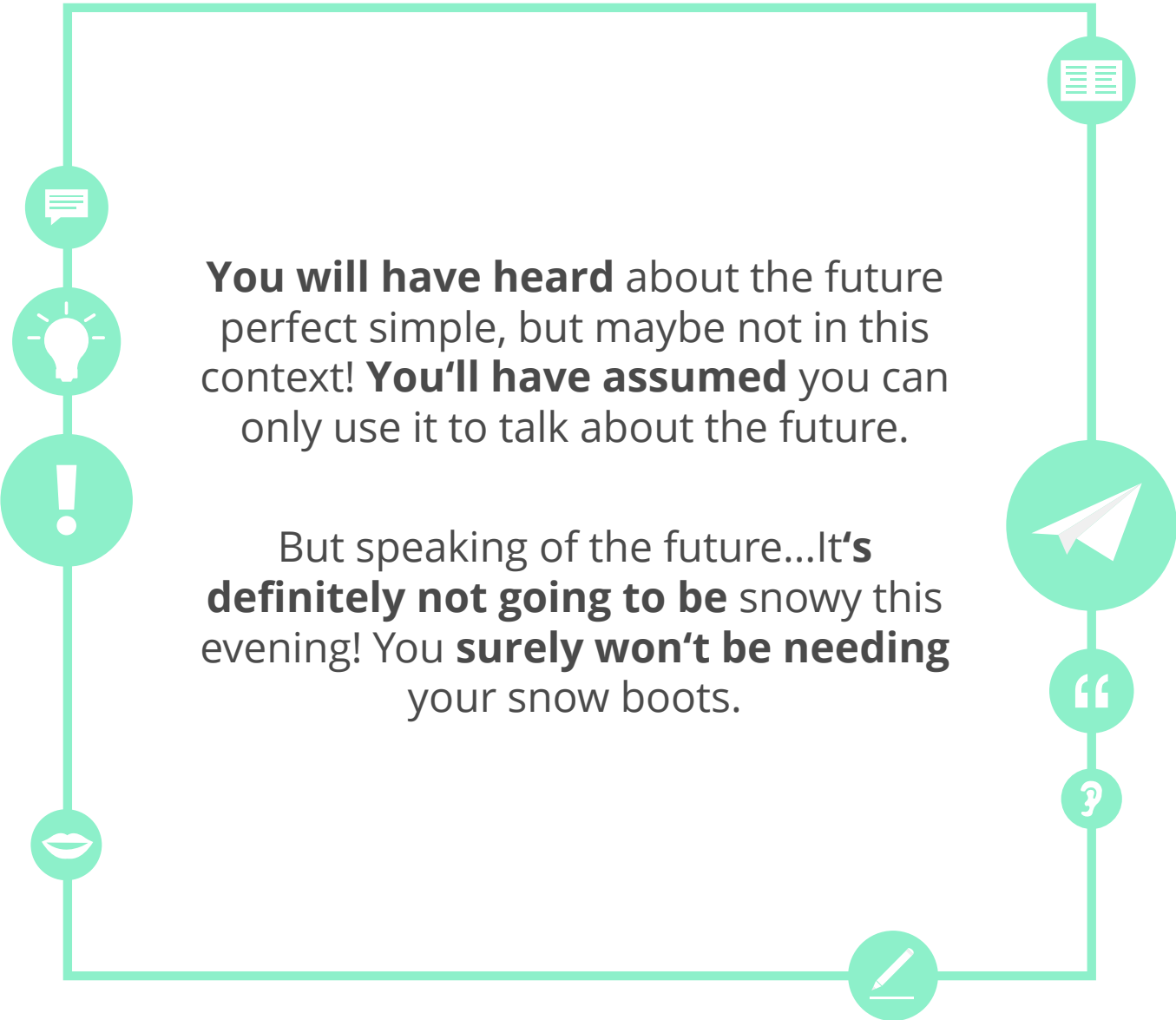




Goals

- Can recall how to form the future perfect simple and use it to express assumptions and certainty.
- Can accurately use 'be + going to', the future continuous tense as well as adverbs of certainty to make predictions about the future.





You will have heard about the future perfect simple, but maybe not in this context! **You'll have assumed** you can only use it to talk about the future.

But speaking of the future...It's **definitely not going to be** snowy this evening! You **surely won't be needing** your snow boots.



Making assumptions

**People make assumptions all the time.
What are some things you make assumptions about?**



the weather

the weekend

relationships

what will
happen next in
a story



Review: future perfect simple

- We use the future perfect simple to make **predictions** about the **future** in English.



I will have landed in an hour.

I shall have taken to the skies by lunchtime.

We will have stopped crime together by the end of the day.



Review: future perfect simple

- To form the **future perfect simple**, we use:
 - **will** or **shall** + **have** + **past participle** (–ed form of the verb).
- **Shall** is considered to be far more **formal** than **will**. It is rarely used in **everyday speech**, but you will see it a lot in older novels.
- We usually include a **time** when we make **predictions** with the **future perfect simple**.

pronoun	will/shall	have + past participle	time
I	shall	have arrived at your house	by noon.
You	will	have left for your holidays	before I see you.
We	will	have eaten dinner	by 8pm.
He	won't	have finished cleaning	before the guests arrive.
I	shan't	have written enough	by the deadline.



Put the following sentences into future perfect simple tense

1. I make a lasagne. (by dinnertime)

→ I will have made a lasagne by dinnertime.

2. David finishes his assignment (before the weekend)



3. I go to the dentist (by next Wednesday)



4. Laura arrives. (before I leave)



5. I'll definitely climb Mt Everest. (by my 40th birthday)





Complete the sentences for yourself using future perfect simple

1. By the time I reach the age of fifty...



I will have moved to Australia.

2. By the time I finish my current project..



3. By the time I go to bed...



4. By the time of my next birthday...



5. By the time I finish this lesson...





Make a prediction about what you expect will happen in the pictures below



Making assumptions about the past and present using the future perfect simple

We can also use the **future perfect simple** to make **assumptions** about the **present** and the **past**: what has happened or is happening but not known for sure.

When we are making **predictions** about the **future**, we usually include a **time** that the prediction will happen by. We do not need to include a **time** when we're making **assumptions** as we're referring to what has **probably** already happened or what is **currently the case**. This assumption is normally going to be **relevant** to what is happening now.

We usually make assumptions in direct conversation with the pronoun **you** or when **referring** to something. In the example below, the speaker is **assuming** her team **already knows** about their new colleague.

As you will all **have heard**, Claire will be joining the marketing department from Monday onwards.



Making assumptions

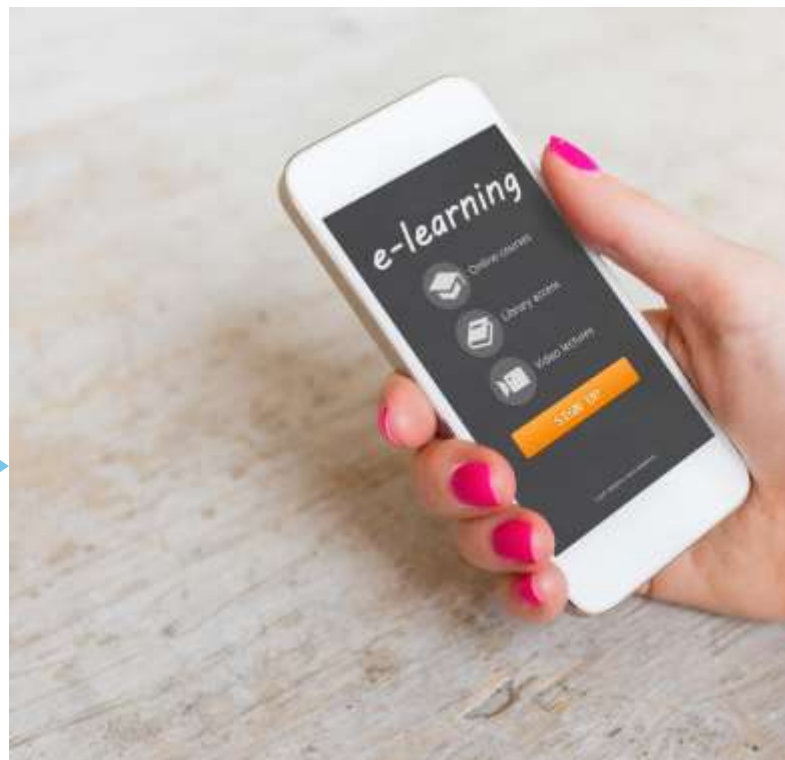
Below are some more examples of **assumptions** being made about the **past** and **present** using the **future perfect simple**.

- The new phone that came out **will have made** a huge impact on technology prices.

The **assumption** here is that the new phone has affected prices of technology.

- They **will have explained** to you how the new photocopier works of course.

The **assumption** here is that the person already knows how to use the new photocopier.



Future perfect simple and politeness

The **future perfect simple** can also be used in very **formal** contexts, usually in **written English**, as a form of **politeness**.

You might see something like the examples below in a very formal customer service letter.



I trust this information **will have helped** you figure out the problem.



I hope you'll **have gotten** some reassurance from this.



Prediction or assumption?

	PREDICTION	ASSUMPTION (PRESENT OR PAST)
1. She'll have already gone by the time you get here.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Marco will have finished work by now.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I will have finished the project by the deadline.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I'll have gone to the post office by Friday at the latest.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. He'll already have been told what to do.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Dropping over that lasagne will have helped Laura out immensely.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Making assumptions with the future perfect simple

Complete the following sentences.

1. You will probably have already seen...

2. You'll have gotten a chance to...

3. You'll likely have noticed...

4. By now, you'll have gained an insight...

5. You'll have gotten a picture of...

6. You won't have heard...

7. You won't have received...

8. You'll have got an idea about...



Making assumptions

Use the future perfect simple to make a sentence based on the situations below.

1. You are talking about your friend Bella and you assume your friend Mark already knows that she was in a car crash yesterday.
2. You think your colleague has already seen changes that were made to the company website.
3. You're making an announcement to a group of your friends. You assume everyone already knows you're throwing a birthday party for your friend Lauren next week but you're repeating it for emphasis.
4. You're assuming your boss hasn't had a chance to look at the documents you sent her.



Make assumptions about what has happened to these people using the future perfect simple



Adverbs of certainty with *be + going to* and the future continuous

When you are **very sure** about something happening in the future, another way of making an **assumption** about the future is by pairing an **adverb of certainty** with the structure **be + going to** or with the **future continuous**.



I'll **probably** be starting the new job next month.



I am **probably** going to be starting the new job next month.



Adverb placement

- With **be + going to**, the **adverb of certainty** is usually placed between the **auxiliary to be** and the **main going to**.
- With the **future continuous**, it goes between the **auxiliaries will** and **be**.
- If you're making the sentence **negative** and adding **not**, it goes **after** the **adverb**.
- If you are **contracting** will and not, e.g. **won't**, the **adverb** goes after the **pronoun**.

I'll	definitely		be graduating next March.
I will	definitely	not	be graduating next March.
I	definitely	won't	be graduating next March.
I am	definitely		going to graduate next March.
I'm	definitely	not	going to graduate next March



Adverbs of certainty: making assumptions about the future

- Here are some more examples of **adverbs of certainty** in use, mostly with the **future continuous** and **be + going to**.
- The man below is very sure he will never come to this restaurant again.

- I am **obviously** not going to eat this. It's basically raw – I'll be lucky not to get food poisoning!
- You will **certainly** be hearing from my lawyer.
- I am **undoubtedly** never going to dine here again!
- You're **surely** not giving this to your dog?





Adverbs of certainty

surely

Kate said she didn't study – she's **surely** going to fail the exam tomorrow.

probably

I'd say she is **probably** going to buy a cake instead of making one.

definitely

I will **definitely** be taking you up on that offer.

certainly

We are **certainly** going to be working overtime tonight!

undoubtedly

Mark will **undoubtedly** be having a big party for his birthday.

obviously

I am **obviously** going to tell you as soon as it happens.



Place the adverb correctly

1. I am going to try that next time!
(certainly)



I am certainly going to try that next time!

2. I won't be asking you for help any time soon! (surely)



3. He will not be getting any more free food from me. (obviously)



4. I am not going to go to the party on Sunday. (probably)



5. I'll be counting down the days til I see you again! (definitely)



6. I'm not going to hold my breath. (certainly)



7. He won't be coming along. (undoubtedly)



8. Ask someone if they definitely won't be coming to something.





Use the forms you have learnt to answer the questions below.

1. Do you think you will do some exercise today?



2. Are you going to attend any English classes next week?



3. Will you go to work today?



4. Will you meet up with any friends tomorrow?



5. Shall we go to the party tonight?





Making assumptions

Make predictions by pairing an adverb of certainty with the structure be + going to in the following contexts.

1. You are sure your sister is going to give birth by the end of the day.
2. You're going to put off your trip to the beach due to bad weather.
3. You're positive your partner will propose to you in the next few days.
4. You are certain your first picture in your life drawing class will be atrocious.



I am quite certain!

You're quite sure the following will come to pass. Make sentences using be + going to or the future continuous with adverbs of certainty. Then flip these into things that have already happened. Address your teacher and make assumptions that each thing has already happened or is happening using the future perfect simple.

going on a date
on Friday

forgetting to pay
rent

travelling to India

gaining a
promotion at
work next month



What's the weather like?

Use the structures studied in class to make predictions and assumptions about the weather in your area. Use adverbs of certainty to comment on the likelihood of sun, rain, wind etc over the coming week.

Look outside the window – what's the weather like for you? Make assumptions about how other people will have dealt with this weather.

You will have brought an umbrella with you today!





Reflect on the lesson

Take a moment to review any new **vocabulary, phrases, language structures** or **grammar points** you have come across for the first time in this lesson.

Review them with your teacher one more time to make sure you don't forget!





Answer key

Activity p. 13

1P, 2A, 3P, 4P, 5A, 6A

Activity p. 15

Accept any correct answer. Examples:

You'll have heard about the car crash yesterday.

You'll have seen the changes we made to the website the other day.

As I'm sure you'll have heard already, I'm throwing a surprise party for Lauren next

Thursday.

I'm guessing you won't have had a chance to look at those documents yet.

Activity p. 20

I surely won't be asking you for help any time soon!

He will obviously not be getting any more free food from me.

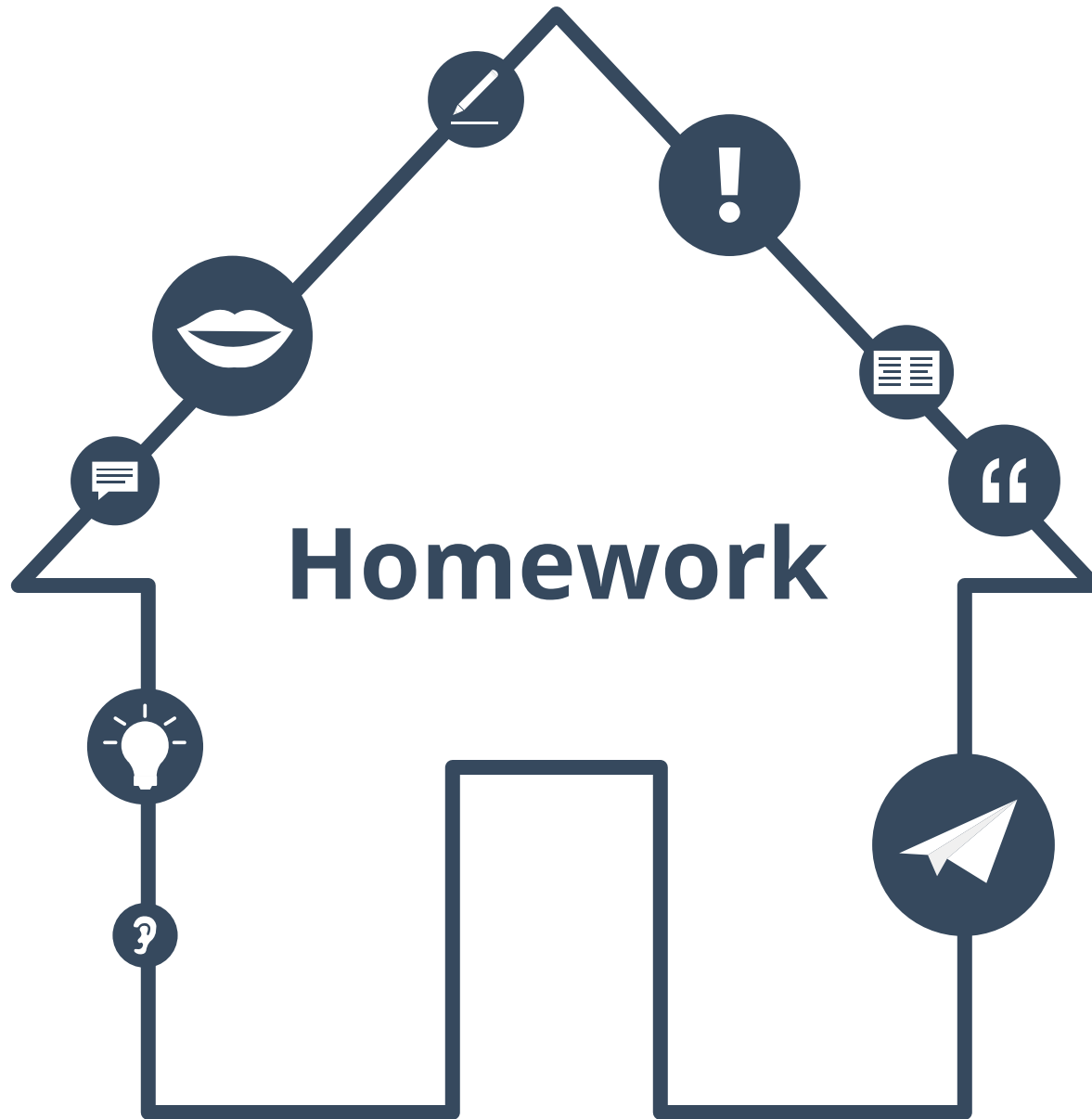
I am probably not going to go to the party on Sunday.

I'll definitely be counting down the days til I see you again! I'm certainly not going to

hold my breath.

He undoubtedly won't be coming along.

Will you definitely not be coming?





You'll have heard...

You'll have
seen...

You'll have noticed...

You won't have
had time to...

You will have
wanted to...

You will have
thought...

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Practising adverbs of certainty

Write sentences using the be + going to + adverb of certainty form.

Predict some things you will achieve this year to practise your mastery of this structure.

surely

probably



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