

GRAMMAR

Review of future tenses

LEVEL

Intermediate (B2)

NUMBER

EN_B2_3082G

LANGUAGE

English

Learning outcomes

- I can identify and explain the use of a range of future forms.
- I can accurately use simple, continuous and perfect future tenses in a sentence.



Warm-up

1. **Write** three sentences about the future into the chat. See the examples below for inspiration.
2. **Your teacher** will choose one of your sentences and ask you for more detail.



***I'm going to throw** a massive party for my thirtieth birthday.*

***I think my apartment will be** worth a lot of money in a few years' time, because this is an up-and-coming area.*

***This time next week, I'll have finished** my thesis and then I can finally relax!*





Future simple

- The future with **will** is formed with **will + bare infinitive**.
- It has **many different uses**.
- When making predictions, we often use phrases like ***I think, reckon, or believe, as*** as well as adverbs like ***probably***.

Future with <i>will</i>	What it expresses
We'll help you with your presentation after work.	A promise or offer
Experts think the price of oil will rise over the next few months.	A prediction about the future, based on a belief or opinion.
I'll go and see who is at the door.	A decision that's been made at the time of speaking
If you send me your essay, I will edit it.	First conditional



will they, won't they?

This phrase is used to describe an **uncertain** situation – often in the context of speculating about a **romantic relationship**, when two people clearly have a connection but nothing has happened between them yet.



Going to

Read the example sentences and the explanation in the blue box.

What **are you going to do** about all those unhappy customers?

Our product isn't selling well. **We are going to have to** come up with a new marketing strategy.

- We use ***be + going to + bare infinitive*** to talk about **future intentions and general plans**.
- We also use this future form to make **predictions**, but typically only if the outcome is **clear** or **evident**, and based on present evidence.





Present continuous

- The **present continuous** can express current as well as **future actions**.
- We often use it to describe a **planned future event** (ie. something that has been **scheduled** in advance.)



I'm playing the flute at my cousin's wedding next month.

She's meeting her friends for a drink this evening, but I'll let her know you called.



Future continuous

- We form the future continuous using: **will + be + verb** in the **-ing form**
- We use it for an action that **will be in progress** at a **specific time** or **for a specific duration** in the future.



I can't come to dinner. I'll be doing my yoga class from 7-8.

I'll be sleeping when you get home, so please be quiet!





Multiple choice

1 I can't come for drinks after work! I _____ my niece this evening.

- a. will be babysitting b. 'm going to babysit c. will babysit d. would babysit

2 Once you sign the papers, I _____ send them to my solicitor at once!

- a. am b. will be c. am going to d. will

3 Come by the comedy club tomorrow, I _____ for the first time ever at 8pm!

- a. am performing b. 'm going to perform c. can perform d. will perform

4 If you need something from the shop, let me know. I _____ in fifteen minutes.

- a. won't be going b. will be going c. am going to go d. will go



Future perfect

- The **future perfect** allows you to discuss events that **will be completed** by a specific time in the future.
- We form the **future perfect** using: **will + have + past participle**.
- We often use it with the preposition **by**.

Example

Call me after 9 pm! The kids **will have gone** to bed **by then**.

Explanation

It is currently before 9 pm and the kids have not gone to bed. At 9 pm, the kids will be in bed. Their **going to bed** is an action that will be completed **in the future**.

Once I finish this last novel, I **will have read** the whole series!

She **hasn't yet read** the whole series. Soon, however, she will be done with them all. That achievement will first be reached in the future.



Future perfect

Read the sentences below. **Complete** the sentences using the verbs in the blue box.

I _____ the application by 3pm today.

She _____ her meeting by the time we get back from our walk.

Our car _____ over 100,000 miles soon.

- **Choose** the correct verb below to complete the sentences in the future perfect:
- **to finish**
- **to clock up**
- **to send off**



Present simple and future perfect

Read the examples below and **complete** the blue boxes.

If the team wins, all the training will have been worth it.

If we put any more money into this project, **we'll have spent** over a million!

- The examples above follow this structure:

***If*-clause (present simple) + future perfect**

- The present simple can be combined with the future perfect to **speculate** about a future event.
- We use ***if*** to emphasise that this is a possible situation or outcome.



Match the sentence parts

You are on your way to Paris for a meeting at the French office of your company.
Your plane was delayed and now you are stressed about making it to the meeting on time.

1 I can't believe the plane was late! When I get there...

2 The office arranged for a car at the airport...

3 I hope they won't have finished all the refreshments...

4 I'll go for a run in the evening, because between the flight and the meeting,

5 But if the meeting is over already,

a ...but it will surely have left by now.

b ...by the time I get to the offices.

c ...I'll have been indoors for most of the day.

d ...they will have finished the important presentations.

e ...this trip will have been a complete waste of time!



Fill in the gaps

In breakout rooms, complete the sentences using the correct form of the verb in parentheses.
Discuss any answers you are not sure about afterwards as a class.
(See answer key for further explanation.)

- 1 We should include a nice activity before lunch. The participants _____ (listen) to nothing but heavy budget updates between 8 and 11. They _____ (be) exhausted afterwards.
- 2 Should we order breakfast for the morning session? Perhaps people _____ (eat) breakfast at home. On the other hand, it _____ (start) super early, so they might not have time!
- 3 I think the team updates _____ (be, actually) quite good. They knew about the meeting weeks ago, so they _____ (prepare) a lot of new material to present.
- 4 It's an all-day meeting with a working lunch. I don't think we should plan a team dinner. By 7:00pm they _____ (spend) eleven hours together! It _____ (be) an intense day.
- 5 If this all _____ (go) to plan and the participants _____ (not hate) each other by the end of the conference, we'll have done a great job!

What will you be doing? What will you have done?

Make sentences in the future perfect and continuous with the prompts below. For example:

- At 5pm this evening **I'll be collecting** my kids from school.
- 10 years from now, **I'll have paid off** my mortgage and **will be relaxing** on a beach somewhere!



by this time next
week/month...

at ____ this evening...

when I finish my English
course.....

____ years from now.....



End of the lesson

Idiom

Just around the corner

Meaning: Use this phrase to refer to an upcoming event

Example: Summer is just around the corner, so we'd better start planning our holidays!



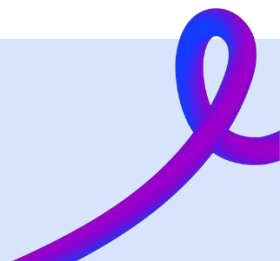
Additional practice



Future forms overview

Complete the table below.

Future tense	Form	Use
Future simple	_____ + infinitive	...
Future with <i>going to</i>	<i>be + going to</i> + _____	...
Present continuous	<i>be + verb (-ing)</i>	Future arrangements/ planned or scheduled events
Future continuous	<i>will + be +</i> _____	an action that will be in progress at a specific time or for a specific duration in the future
Future perfect	<i>will + have +</i> _____	...





Review your sentences

1. **Review** the sentences about the future that you wrote in the chat in the warm-up.
2. **Expand on** them, revising any language issues if necessary, using what you learned about future tenses during the lesson.



***I'm going to throw** a massive party for my thirtieth birthday.*

***I think my apartment will be** worth a lot of money in a few years' time, because this is an up-and-coming area.*

***This time next week, I'll have finished** my thesis and then I can finally relax!*



Discuss



Have you ever been delayed on your way to an important event?



**What caused the delay?
Did you manage to attend in the end?**



Answer key

P.9: 1. (a) 2. (d) 3. (a) 4. (b)

P.13: 1. (d) 2. (a) 3. (b) 4. (c) 5. (e)

P.14:

1.

will be listening (future continuous – an activity that will be in progress at/around a time in the future)

will probably be (future simple – a prediction based on belief/opinion)

2.

will have eaten (future perfect – something expected to happen before a particular time in the future)

is starting (present continuous – a planned/scheduled event. Present simple is also possible here, as it relates to a schedule/timetable event)

3.

will (actually) be (future simple)

will have prepared (future perfect – an action that will be completed before a particular time)

4.

will have spent (future perfect – an action that will be completed before a particular time)

is going to be (be going to + infinitive – a prediction based on evidence)

5.

goes; don't hate (present simple – complex sentence speculating about the future)



Summary

The future simple:

- The future with **will** is formed with **will + bare infinitive**. When making predictions, we often use phrases like ***I think, reckon, or believe, as*** well as adverbs like ***probably***.
- ***We'll help*** you with your presentation after work.; Experts think ***the price of oil will rise*** over the next few months.; ***I'll go*** and see who is at the door.; ***If*** you send me your essay, ***I will edit*** it.

Going to:

- We use **be + going to + bare infinitive** to talk about **future intentions and general plans**. We also use this future form to make **predictions**, but typically only if the outcome is **clear** or **evident**, and based on present evidence.
- What ***are you going to do*** about all those unhappy customers?

The present continuous and future continuous:

- Present continuous is used to describe a **planned future event** (ie. something that has been **scheduled** in advance.) ***I am playing*** the flute at my cousin's wedding next month.
- Future continuous: **will + be + verb** in the **-ing form**. Used for an action that **will be in progress** at a **specific time** or **for a specific duration** in the future. ***I will be sleeping*** when you get home.

The future perfect:

- The **future perfect** is used to discuss events that **will be completed** by a specific time in the future. We form the **future perfect** using **will + have + past participle**. Often used with the preposition **by**.
- ***Call me after 9 pm! The kids will have gone*** to bed ***by then***.



Summary

The future perfect and the present simple:

- The present simple can be combined with the future perfect to **speculate** about a future event.
- We use **if** to emphasise that this is a possible situation or outcome.
- **If-clause (present simple) + future perfect**
- *If the team wins, all the training will have been worth it.*



Vocabulary

to throw a party

up-and-coming

will they won't they

to clock up

to send off

