

Grammar Reference

Will, going to, be likely to and might

Form - will and might

For **will** and **might**, the form is **subject + will / might + infinitive**.

We use the same form for all persons (I, you, he, she, and so on). You can contract **will** to **'ll** in the positive form - we normally do this in spoken language.

Positive

*The new smartphone **will have** all sorts of special features.
We'll **be connected** 24/7 when everywhere has free wifi.
I've ordered a new phone for the office. **It might arrive** today.*

Negative

*This video call **will not last long** - we only have one thing to discuss.
We **won't see** much change in keyboard layouts for the next few years.
There **might not be** any announcements about the new technology room today - don't count on it!*

We can use the contracted form **won't** for all persons (I, you, he, she, and so on). Sometimes we contract **might not** to **mightn't**, especially in speaking.

Form - going to and be likely to

For **going to** and **likely to**, the form is **subject + am/are/is + going to/likely to + infinitive**. We can contract **I am** (I'm), **you are/we are/they are** (you're/we're/they're) and **he is/she is** (he's/she's).

Positive

*They're **going to announce** a new line of laptops soon.
The line **is going to come out** in September. **It's going to be** all over the news.
It's **likely to be** a major advance in computing technology.*

Negative

*Some people say **technology isn't going to change** our lives that much.
We **aren't going to see** the smarting any time soon.*

The negative of **likely** is **unlikely**.

*The new smartwatches **are unlikely** to be a big revolution in technology.*

Questions

To form questions with **will**, **going to** and **likely**, it's **auxiliary** (Will/Am/Is/Are) + **subject + verb**. We often use short answers.

***Will this new smartwatch change** my life? No, it **won't**.
Are they going to announce the software release today? Yes, they **are**.
Is it likely to be any better than the previous version? No, it **isn't**.*

We can also make questions with question words.

***When will they sort out** the computers at work?
Who will win the tech race?
Where are they going to release the new phone first?*

It is possible to ask a question with **Might + subject + infinitive**, but it's more common to form a question with **Do you think + subject + might + infinitive**.

***Do you think this might change** computing as we know it?*

Important note: Will and might

Remember that **will** and **might** are modal verbs, so we use the infinitive without **to** after them.

WRONG:

*People **will to go** on holiday to the moon within 50 years.
They **might to make** a computer that is really small.*

CORRECT:

*People **will go** on holiday to the moon within 50 years.
They **might make** a computer that is really small.*

