



The Future

Asking about the future:

- What have you got going on today?
- Do you have anything going on later?
- What are your plans this weekend?
- Where do you see yourself in 3 years?

Phrases to talk about the future:

- I'm going to...
- I will...
- I'd like to...
- I plan to...
- I'm thinking about...
- I might...
- I will probably...
- I hope...
- I'm hoping...

Causes and results:

If you want to be successful, you need to work really hard.
You need to work really hard if you want to be successful.

Thinking about things that aren't real:

If I lived in Beijing, I would never take the subway.

I would never take the subway if I lived in Beijing.

Discussing possibilities:

- If it doesn't rain tomorrow, I guess we can go to the zoo.
- If I go to Canada next year, I will probably stay in Toronto.
- I'm planning to go to MIT, but if I don't get in, I will probably attend Yale.
- If I become a better English speaker I should be able to get an accounting job at an international firm.

Job interview:

So, where do you see yourself in five years and how will you get there?

I think it's really likely that I'll be working in a management capacity at some firm related to my field of finance. If I am hired here I will work toward that goal, and I think it would be a win-win. My attention to detail and knack for picking up new skills makes me, I think, an asset.

I'm hoping that I can move to an upper management position, although I obviously have a lot to learn about management. If I do, I may work on getting an MBA. Regardless, I'm going to constantly work to expand my knowledge of the field, and continue working on my English skills, as I realize my accent can sometimes be an issue for people. I'm hoping this role will be the next big step in my career.

Assignment:

Explain your future goals, and talk about what you can do now to achieve them. Remember to use the phrases from this lesson.