

Language Generator 9—Идти (To be Going)

With the help of this universal language generator you can talk about moving from place to place. The verb *идти* means “to be traveling on foot in some particular direction”. It is imperfective. A speaker will use it when he wants you to picture someone or something moving in a particular direction.

Subject and Verb	Starting Point	Destination	Time
Я <i>иду́</i> I am on the way	из <i>шко́лы</i> from school	в <i>шко́лу</i> to school	в <i>во́семь часо́в</i> at eight o'clock
Мы <i>идём</i> We are on the way	с <i>ры́нка</i> from the market	на <i>ры́нок</i> to the market	в <i>четве́рг</i> on Thursday
Ты <i>идёшь</i> Thou art on the way	с <i>собра́ния</i> from the meeting	на <i>собра́ние</i> to the meeting	<i>сейча́с</i> right now
Вы <i>идёте</i> You are on the way	от <i>врача́</i> from the doctor	к <i>врачу́</i> to the doctor	<i>тогда́</i> then
Он/Она́/Оно́ <i>идёт</i> He/She/It is on the way	от <i>тёти</i> from an aunt	к <i>тёте</i> to an aunt	<i>по́сле обе́да</i> after lunch
Они́ <i>иду́т</i> They are on the way	от <i>до́ма</i> from home	<i>домо́й</i> home	<i>деся́того декаб́ря</i> on the tenth of December
Он <i>шёл*</i> He was on the way		в <i>служе́ние</i> to service	<i>по́сле собра́ния</i> after the meeting
Она́ <i>шла</i> She was on the way		к <i>нам</i> toward us	
Они́ <i>шли</i> They were on the way			

* Note that *идти* has a different root in the past tense just as “to go” changes to “went” in the past tense.

Some present-tense examples:

Я *иду́* с *собра́ния* *домо́й* в *восе́мь часо́в*. I am on my way home from the meeting at eight o'clock.
Смотри, А́нна идёт к нам! Look, Anna is coming toward us.

Some past tense examples:

Я *шёл* с *собра́ния* в *четверг*. I was walking home from the meeting on Thursday.
Когда́ я шёл с собра́ния я уви́дел А́нну. When I was walking from the meeting I saw Anna.

Prefixes

Prefixes are added to *идти* in order to specify a particular moment in the journey. Prefixes convert present tense forms into future tense. In some cases a few letters change or drop out when a prefix is added.

- по-** This prefix changes the meaning of *идти́* from “to be going” to “to set out”. For example:
Я *пойду́* к *врачу́* в *восе́мь часо́в*. I will set out for the doctor at eight o'clock.
- при-** This prefix changes the meaning from “to be going” to “to arrive”. For example:
Я *приду́* в *шко́лу* в *восе́мь часо́в*. I shall arrive at school at eight o'clock.
- у-** This prefix changes the meaning from “to be going” to “to depart”. For example:
Я *ушёл* *домо́й* в *восе́мь часо́в*. I left for home at eight o'clock.
- за-** To make a stop during one's journey in order to make a visit or to pick someone up.
Я *зашёл*, но вас *не́* было. I stopped by, but you were out.
- до-** To come right up to something or to come as far as something.
Я *дошёл* до *ры́нка*. I reached the market.