

A Present tenses: future meaning**Present simple**

+	The train leaves at 8.00 p.m. on Sunday.
-	The film doesn't start until 7.30.
?	What time is your flight tomorrow?

- 1 We use the Present simple to talk about actions in the future determined by timetables and fixed programmes.

Present continuous

+	I'm seeing the optician next week.
-	We aren't doing anything tomorrow.
?	Are they getting married soon?

- 1 We use the Present continuous to talk about definite arrangements for the future, such as plans and appointments.
- 2 We often use it with a future time expression like **at 3 o'clock, tonight, tomorrow, next weekend.**

B be going to

+	I'm going to work really hard this term. She's going to tell you a secret.
-	We aren't going to go on holiday this year. He isn't going to come to the party.
?	Is he going to buy a new scooter?
✓	Yes, he is.
✗	No, he isn't.

- 1 We use **be going to** + the base form of the verb:
- ▶ to talk about future intentions;
I'm going to study Chemistry next year.
 - ▶ to make predictions about the future based on things we know or can see now.
John's going to be really angry.
Oh look! I think it's going to rain.

- 2 When we use **going to go** or **going to come** in spoken English, we usually omit **going to** to avoid repetition.

They're coming to visit us tomorrow.

NOT They're going to come to...

We're going to the cinema tonight.

NOT We're going to go...

- 3 We use **be about to** + the base form of the verb to talk about an imminent event.
Can I call you back? I'm about to go out.
Be quiet – the film's about to begin.
- 4 We use **was about to** to talk about an intention or something we planned, but didn't do.
I was going to see Patrick, but he called to cancel.

C Modal verbs will, may and might**will**

+	I will/I'll come to the concert. The world's population will continue to grow.
-	She will not/won't pass the exam. We will not/won't be late.
?	Will the party be good?
✓	Yes, it will.
✗	No, it won't.

- 1 We use **will/won't** + the base form of the verb:
- ▶ to express a decision about the future taken at the moment of speaking;
I think I'll get the bus home.
 - ▶ to make future promises;
I'll call you as soon as I arrive.
 - ▶ to talk about future facts;
I'll be 17 on my next birthday.
 - ▶ to make predictions about the future based on what we think, hope or expect will happen. We often use these expressions with **will: I think, I don't think, I'm sure, I believe, I hope, I expect.** We also often use these adverbs: **maybe, perhaps, probably, definitely, certainly.** **Maybe** and **perhaps** go at the beginning of a sentence.

The other adverbs go after **will**, but before **won't**.

I think he'll say yes.

Maybe he'll say yes.

It'll probably rain later.

We certainly won't be late.

- 2 **Will** is a modal verb so the third person singular does not take **-s**, and we do not use **do/does** to form the negative or questions.
We usually use the contracted forms **'ll** and **won't** in spoken English.
- 3 **Note:** We usually say **I don't think... + will.**
I don't think it will rain. **NOT I think it won't rain.**

may, might

+	We might go to the cinema later. The exam may be difficult.
-	She might not (mightn't) come. They may not answer you.

- 1 We can also use the modal verbs **may** and **might** (= **will perhaps**) to talk about future possibilities.
It might rain. (= Perhaps it will rain.)
- 2 The negative forms are **may not** and **might not** or **mightn't**. We do not say **mayn't**.

A Present tenses: future meaning

1 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the Present simple or Present continuous and a verb from the box.

visit start go see
meet kick off leave have

- The exhibition starts on January 6th.
- We _____ to Cuba for Christmas.
- I _____ dinner with Bill tomorrow evening.
- The match _____ at 3.00 p.m. on Saturday.
- My Italian penpal _____ us this summer.
- Hurry up! The train _____ in half an hour.
- I _____ the dentist this afternoon.
- Mel _____ Mark at the station later.

2 Complete the questions for these answers. Use the Present simple or continuous.

- A What are you doing tonight?
B Nothing much. I'm staying in.
- A When _____?
B The flight arrives at 10.00 in the morning.
- A When _____ your new car?
B I'm getting it next month.
- A Who _____ to the cinema?
B He's taking Francesca.
- A What time _____ dinner?
B We're having it at 8 o'clock.
- A What time _____?
B The concert begins at 8.30 p.m.

B be going to

3 Complete the sentences with the correct form of *be going to* and a verb from the box.

stay finish be pass speak get

- The sun's really hot. You 're going to get burnt.
- Look at the queue for the film. It's _____ sold out.
- He hasn't studied very hard for his exams. _____ (He/not).
- She's hurt my feelings. _____ (I/not) to her again.
- That pizza's enormous! _____ (You/not) it.
- I _____ at home this weekend.

4 Complete the questions.

- A What film are you going to see? _____
B We're going to see *Extreme Risk*.
- A What _____ on holiday?
B I'm going to lie on the beach!
- A When _____?
B She's going to start looking for a job soon.
- A Why _____ your scooter?
B I'm going to sell it because I want a new one.
- A When _____ the house?
B Dad's going to paint the house this summer.
- A Where _____ in Asia?
B They're going to go to Vietnam and Laos.

C Modal verbs *will, may and might*

5 Write full answers to the questions using *will* and the adverbs in brackets.

- A Will you be home early tonight? (definitely)
B Yes, I'll definitely be home early tonight.
- A Do you think you'll get the job? (probably not)
B _____
- A Will she help you with the shopping? (perhaps)
B _____
- A Will the students get bored on the school trip? (certainly not)
B _____
- A Will you go to university when you finish school? (probably)
B _____
- A Will she see him again? (maybe)
B _____

6 Complete the sentences with the correct form of *will, may or might* and a verb from the box.

have go get help
remain come enjoy know

- I believe the UK will remain a monarchy.
- I don't feel very well. I _____ tonight.
- Please come to my party. You _____ a great time!
- Believe me, this film's really scary. You _____ it.
- Ask Sam. He _____ the answer.
- We haven't decided where to go on holiday. We _____ to Trinidad.
- That train is usually busy. We _____ a seat.
- Don't worry. I'm sure Dad _____ us.