

JUST A SHORT TALK ABOUT FUTURE FORMS

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FUTURE SIMPLE

Subject + will + verb

Will + subject + verb?

Subject + will + not + verb

It is used:

- ✓ in predictions about the future (BASED ON WHAT WE THINK, BELIEVE OR IMAGINE) usually with the verbs **think, believe, expect**, the expressions **be sure, be afraid**, and the adverbs **perhaps, certainly, probably**
His parents think he will become an artist.
- ✓ for on-the-spot decisions/offers
I'll take this book.
Since it's your birthday, I'll pay for your blouse.
- ✓ For actions/events/situations which will definitely happen in the future and which we cannot control.
He will be 42 next year.
- ✓ For promises (**promise, swear, guarantee**), for threats, for warnings, for requests, for hopes
I hope pollution will drop soon.
- ✓ With time clauses: I will read the book when I finish my homework.
- ✓ In first conditional clauses: I will go out if I have time.

Time expressions:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| ➤ tomorrow | ➤ next week... | ➤ soon |
| ➤ the day after tomorrow | ➤ tonight | ➤ in a week/month/year... |

BE GOING TO

I am going to buy

Are you going to buy?

He is not going to buy

It is used:

- ✓ for plans, intentions or ambitions we have for the future
I am going to work more.
- ✓ In predictions (BASED ON WHAT WE CAN SEE OR KNOW) when there is evidence that something will happen in the near future
Look! He is going to win the race.

Time expressions:

- | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| ➤ tomorrow | ➤ the day after tomorrow | ➤ next week... |
|------------|--------------------------|----------------|

➤ tonight

➤ soon

➤ in a week/month/year...

PRESENT SIMPLE TENSE

It is used with a future meaning

- ✓ When we refer to timetables and programmes
The plane to London takes off at 3 pm.

PRESENT CONTINUOUS TENSE

It is used :

- ✓ for fixed arrangements in the near future
She is flying to London tomorrow.

MAY and MIGHT

It is used:

- ✓ to talk about possible future events/ uncertain predictions
He may be home. I'm not sure.
They might be late.

FUTURE CONTINUOUS

Subject + will + BE+ verb-ING

Will + subject + BE+ verb-ING?

Subject + will + not + BE+ verb-ING

It is used:

- ✓ for an action which will be in progress at a stated future time

This time next week, I'll be skating

- ✓ for an action which will definitely happen in the future as the result of a routine or arrangement
Shall I inform the rest of the team?
No, I'll do it. I'll be seeing them at the meeting anyway.
- ✓ When we ask politely about someone's plans for the future.
Will you be going out later?

FUTURE PERFECT

Subject + will + HAVE + VB 3 I will have seen

Will + subject + HAVE + VB 3? Will you have seen?

Subject + will + not + HAVE + VB 3 He won't have seen

It is used:

- ✓ For an action which will be finished before a stated future time
They will have finished their meeting by 4 o'clock this afternoon.

The future perfect is used in sentences with the following time expressions:

- by
- by the time
- before
- until
- by then

*After the time expressions **by the time, until, before**, we use the **present simple** because they introduce time clauses. The future perfect may come either before or after the time clause.*

I will have tidied up by the time you get back.

FUTURE PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Subject + will + HAVE + BEEN + VB-ING I will have been working

Will + subject + HAVE + BEEN + VB-ING? Will you have been working?

Subject + will + not + HAVE + BEEN + VB-ING He won't have been working

It is used:

- ✓ to emphasise the duration of an action up to a certain time in the future
By the time Ton retires, he will have been working for the same company for 30 years.

The future perfect is used in sentences with the following time expressions:

- by...for

*By the time he finishes work, we **will have been waiting** for more than an hour.*
Time clause

TIME CLAUSE

The future simple is **not** used after:

- while
- before
- until
- as soon as
- after
- by the time
- when

WE USE PRESENT SIMPLE OR PRESENT PERFECT INSTEAD:

I will come when I finish my homework.

- **WHEN** – used as a question word can be followed by the future simple:
When will you come?

- **WHEN** – used as a time word is followed by present simple
I will read when I finish work.

But! I don't know when he will come