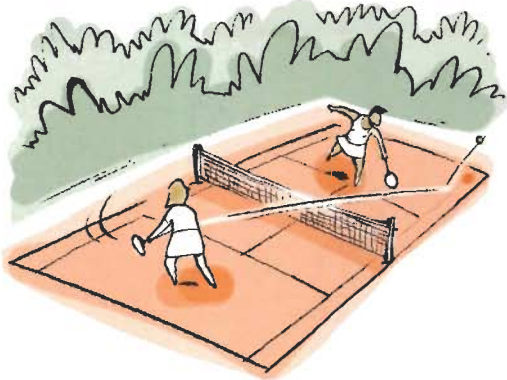


What are you doing tomorrow?

A



today is Sunday



They **are playing** tennis (now).

He **is playing** tennis tomorrow.

We use **am/is/are + -ing** (present continuous) for something happening now:

- 'Where are Sue and Amanda?' 'They're **playing** tennis in the park.'
- Please be quiet. I'm **working**.

We also use **am/is/are + -ing** for the *future* (tomorrow / next week etc.):

- Andrew **is playing** tennis tomorrow.
- I'm **not working** next week.

B

I am doing something tomorrow = I have arranged to do it, I have a plan to do it:

- Sophie **is going** to the dentist on Friday.
(= she has an appointment with the dentist)
- We're **having** a party next weekend.
- Are** you **meeting** your friends tonight?
- What **are** you **doing** tomorrow evening?
- I'm **not going** out tonight. I'm **staying** at home.

You can also say 'I'm going to do something' (→ Unit 26).



C

Be careful! Do not use the *present simple* (**I stay / do you go** etc.) to say what somebody has arranged to do:

- I'm **staying** at home this evening. (*not* I stay)
- Are** you **going** out tonight? (*not* Do you go)
- Lisa **isn't coming** to the party next week. (*not* Lisa doesn't come)

But we use the present simple for timetables, programmes, trains, buses etc. :

- The train **arrives** at 7.30.
- What time **does** the film **finish**?

Compare:

present continuous (usually for people)

- I'm **going** to a concert tomorrow.
- What time **are** you **leaving**?

present simple (for timetables, programmes etc.)

- The concert **starts** at 7.30.
- What time **does** your train **leave**?

25.1 Look at the pictures. What are these people doing next Friday?



- 1 Andrew is playing tennis on Friday.
- 2 Richard to the cinema.
- 3 Rachel
- 4 lunch with Ken.
- 5

25.2 Write questions. All the sentences are future.

- 1 (you / go / out / tonight?) Are you going out tonight?
- 2 (you / work / next week?)
- 3 (what / you / do / tomorrow evening?)
- 4 (what time / your friends / come?)
- 5 (when / Liz / go / on holiday?)

25.3 Write sentences about yourself. What are you doing in the next few days?

- 1 I'm staying at home tonight.
- 2 I'm going to the theatre on Monday.
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

25.4 Put the verb in the present continuous (he is leaving etc.) or present simple (the train leaves etc.).

- 1 '..... Are you going..... (you/go) out tonight?' 'No, I'm too tired.'
- 2 We're going..... (we/go) to a concert tonight. It starts..... (it/start) at 7.30.
- 3 Do you know about Sally? (she/get) married next month!
- 4 A: My parents (go) on holiday next week.
B: Oh, that's nice. Where (they/go)?
- 5 Silvia is doing an English course at the moment. The course
(finish) on Friday.
- 6 There's a party tomorrow night, but (I/not/go).
- 7 (I/go) out with some friends tonight. Why don't you come too?
..... (we/meet) outside the Royal Hotel at 8 o'clock.
- 8 A: How (you/get) home after the party tomorrow? By taxi?
B: No, I can go by bus. The last bus (leave) at midnight.
- 9 A: Do you want to go to the cinema tonight?
B: Yes, what time (the film / begin)?
- 10 A: What (you/do) tomorrow afternoon?
B: (I/work).

I'm going to ...

A

I'm going to do something

I'm going to watch TV this evening.



She **is going to watch** TV this evening.

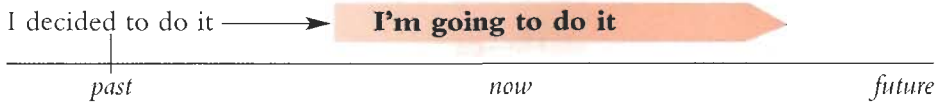
We use **am/is/are going to ...** for the *future*:

I	am		do ...
he/she/it	is	(not) going to	drink ...
we/you/they	are		watch ...

am	I		buy ... ?
is	he/she/it	going to	eat ... ?
are	we/you/they		wear ... ?

B

I am going to do something = I have decided to do it, my intention is to do it:



- I'm **going to buy** some books tomorrow.
- Sarah **is going to sell** her car.
- I'm **not going to have** breakfast this morning. I'm not hungry.
- What **are you going to wear** to the wedding next week?
- 'Your hands are dirty.' 'Yes, I know. I'm **going to wash** them.'
- Are you going to invite** Martin to your party?

We also use the present continuous (**I am doing**) for the future, usually for arrangements (→ Unit 25):

- I **am playing** tennis with Julia tomorrow.

C

Something **is going to happen**

Something **is going to happen** = we can see *now* that it is sure to happen:

- Look at the sky! It's **going to rain**.
(black clouds *now* → rain)
- Oh dear! It's 9 o'clock and I'm not ready.
I'm **going to be** late.
(9 o'clock *now* and not ready → late)



26.1 What are these people saying?

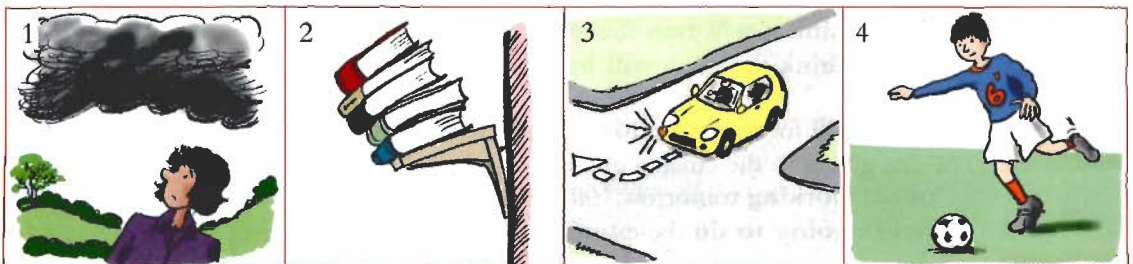


26.2 Complete the sentences. Use going to + these verbs:

do eat give lie down stay walk ~~wash~~ watch ~~wear~~

- 1 My hands are dirty. I'm going to wash them.
- 2 What are you going to wear to the party tonight?
- 3 It's a nice day. I don't want to take the bus. I
- 4 Steve is going to London next week. He with some friends.
- 5 I'm hungry. I this sandwich.
- 6 It's Sharon's birthday next week. We her a present.
- 7 Sue says she's feeling very tired. She for an hour.
- 8 There's a good film on Channel 6 tonight. you it?
- 9 What Rachel when she leaves school?

26.3 Look at the pictures. What is going to happen?



- 1 It's going to rain.
- 2 The shelf
- 3 The car
- 4 He

26.4 What are you going to do today or tomorrow? Write three sentences.

- 1 I'm
- 2
- 3

I will and I'm going to

A

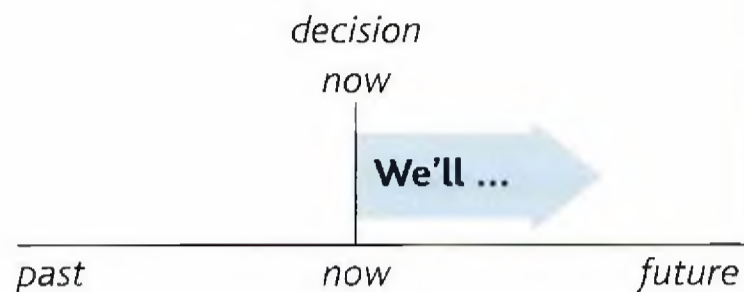
Future actions

Study the difference between **will** and **(be) going to**:

Sarah is talking to Helen:



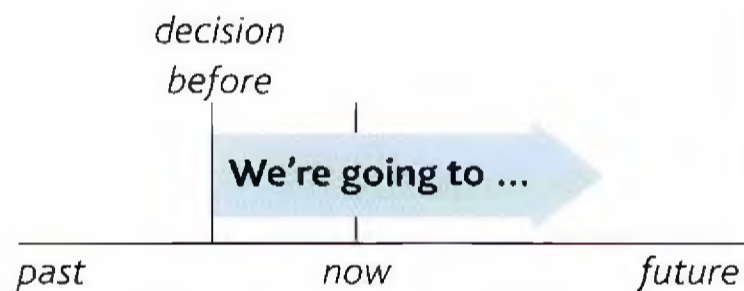
will ('ll): We use **will** to announce a new decision. The party is a new idea.



Later that day, Helen meets Dan:



(be) going to: We use **(be) going to** when we have *already decided* to do something. Helen had already decided to invite lots of people *before* she spoke to Dan.



Compare:

- 'Gary phoned while you were out.' 'OK. I'll call him back.'
- 'Gary **phoned** while you were out.' 'Yes, I know. I'm going to call him back.'
- 'Anna is in hospital.' 'Oh really? I didn't know. I'll go and visit her.'
- 'Anna is in hospital.' 'Yes, I know. I'm going to visit her this evening.'

B

Future happenings and situations (predicting the future)

We use both **will** and **going to** to predict future happenings and situations. So you can say:

- I think **the weather will be** nice later. *or*
I think **the weather is going to be** nice later.
- Those shoes are well-made. **They'll last** a long time. *or*
Those shoes are well-made. **They're going to last** a long time.

When we say something **is going to** happen, we know this from the situation *now*. What is happening *now* shows that something **is going to** happen in the future. For example:

- Look at those black clouds. **It's going to rain.** (*not* It will rain)
(We can see that it **is going to rain** from the clouds that are in the sky *now*.)
- I feel terrible. I think **I'm going to be sick.** (*not* I think I'll be sick)
(I think **I'm going to be sick** because I feel terrible *now*.)

Do not use **will** in this type of situation.

Exercises

23.1 Complete the sentences using **will ('ll)** or **going to**.

- 1 A: Why are you turning on the TV?
B: I'm going to watch the news. (I / watch)
- 2 A: Oh, I've just realised. I haven't got any money.
B: Haven't you? Well, don't worry. _____ you some. (I / lend)
- 3 A: I've got a headache.
B: Have you? Wait a second and _____ an aspirin for you. (I / get)
- 4 A: Why are you filling that bucket with water?
B: _____ the car. (I / wash)
- 5 A: I've decided to repaint this room.
B: Oh, have you? What colour _____ it? (you / paint)
- 6 A: Where are you going? Are you going shopping?
B: Yes, _____ some things for dinner. (I / buy)
- 7 A: I don't know how to use the washing machine.
B: It's easy. _____ you. (I / show)
- 8 A: What would you like to eat?
B: _____ a pizza, please. (I / have)
- 9 A: Did you call Lisa?
B: Oh, no. I completely forgot. _____ her now. (I / call)
- 10 A: Has Dan decided what to do when he leaves school?
B: Yes. Everything is planned. _____ a holiday for a few weeks.
(he / have) Then _____ a management training course. (he / do)

23.2 Read the situations and complete the sentences using **will ('ll)** or **going to**.

- 1 The phone rings and you answer. Somebody wants to speak to John.
CALLER: Hello. Can I speak to John, please?
YOU: Just a moment. I'll get him. (I / get)
- 2 It's a nice day, so you have decided to take a walk. Just before you go, you tell your friend.
YOU: The weather's too nice to stay in. _____ a walk. (I / take)
FRIEND: Good idea! I think _____ you. (I / join)
- 3 Your friend is worried because she has lost her driving licence.
YOU: Don't worry. I'm sure _____ it. (you / find)
FRIEND: I hope so.
- 4 There was a job advertised in the paper recently. At first you were interested, but then you decided not to apply.
FRIEND: Have you decided what to do about that job you were interested in?
YOU: Yes, _____ for it. (I / not / apply)
- 5 You and a friend are stuck in traffic. You have to be in a meeting in five minutes and you need at least another 20 minutes to get there.
YOU: The meeting begins in five minutes. _____. (we / be late)
- 6 Ann and Sam are staying at a hotel. Their room is in very bad condition, especially the ceiling.
ANN: The ceiling doesn't look very safe, does it?
SAM: No, it looks as if _____. (it / fall down)
- 7 Paul has to go to the airport to catch a plane tomorrow morning.
PAUL: Kate, I need somebody to take me to the airport tomorrow morning.
KATE: That's no problem. _____ you. (I / take) What time is your flight?
PAUL: 10.30.
KATE: OK, _____ you up at your house at about 8 o'clock then. (I / pick)
Later that day, Joe offers to take Paul to the airport.
JOE: Paul, do you want me to take you to the airport?
PAUL: No thanks, Joe. _____ me. (Kate / take)