

# **FUTURE FORMS**

**WILL, GONG TO, PRESENT CONTINUOUS**

# OLIVER AND ALFIE DECIDE TO ENTER A BIKE RACE.

<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/grammar-vocabulary/grammar-videos/future-forms>

We have different ways of talking about the future. We often use going to (+ infinitive), the present continuous (to be + -ing) or will (+ infinitive). The structure we use depends on the function of what we want to say, whether we are talking about arrangements, plans, predictions, etc.



**WILL**

# EXAMPLES

- Oliver'll be back soon.
- We won't be ready.
- Do you think it'll rain this afternoon?
- (The doorbell rings) I'll get it.
- I'm sure you'll have a good time.

# **WILL / WON'T (= WILL NOT) + THE INFINITIVE**

## **PREDICTIONS**

- Oliver'll be back soon.
- We won't be ready.
- Do you think it'll rain this afternoon?

We also use: think, don't think, expect, be + sure.

I'm sure you'll have a good time.

## **WHEN WE DECIDE SOMETHING AT THE MOMENT OF SPEAKING**

- (The doorbell rings) I'll get it.



**GOING TO &  
PRESENT  
CONTINUOUS**

# WHAT DO THEY HAVE IN COMMON?

- Amy's coming round.
- We're going to watch a film – want to join us?
- What are you doing this evening?

# THEY ARE BOTH DECISIONS MADE BEFORE THE MOMENT OF SPEAKING

- Amy's coming round.
- We're going to watch a film – want to join us?
- What are you doing this evening?



# WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

## WHAT IS THE TENSE OF THESE SENTENCES?

- Amy's coming round.

Is this sentence correct?

- I'm cleaning my room tonight.

- Amy's going to come round.

- I'm going to clean my room tonight.

# PRESENT CONTINUOUS&GOING TO

## PRESENT CONTINUOUS= ARRANGEMENT

- Amy's coming round. (= arrangement between Amy and Daisy)

NO!!!

- I'm cleaning my room tonight. (It is incorrect!! It is not an arrangement)

## GOING TO=INTENTION

- Amy's going to come round. (= Amy's intention)
- I'm going to clean my room tonight. (= intention)

# ARE THESE SENTENCES CORRECT?

- 'I'm going to go to the cinema with Alex'
- 'I will go to the cinema with Alex'

# ANSWER

## 'I'M GOING TO GO TO THE CINEMA WITH ALEX'

- Yes, that's correct. But we usually avoid saying going to go, just because it doesn't sound very elegant. We normally use the present continuous with go:
- I'm going to the cinema with Alex.

## 'I WILL GO TO THE CINEMA WITH ALEX'

- NO!
- We don't use will for arrangements or intentions if the decision was made before the moment of speaking.

# IS THERE ANOTHER USE OF GOING TO

- 'Look out! You're going to spill that coffee.'

# YES, THERE'S ANOTHER USE OF GOING TO!

## PREDICTIONS

We use it for predictions too, especially when you can see something happening or about to happen.

- Look out! You're going to spill that coffee.

## INTENTIONS

# CAN YOU USE WILL & GOING TO FOR PREDICTIONS?

- I think the Green Party will win the election.

- I think the Green Party are going to win the election.

# **YES! SOMETIMES BOTH WILL AND GOING TO CAN BE USED.**

- I think the Green Party will win the election.
- I think the Green Party are going to win the election.





**PRESENT SIMPLE**

# CAN I USE PRESENT SIMPLE FOR FUTURE EVENTS?

- My plane leaves at 4pm tomorrow.
- The match starts at 8pm.

# **YES. YOU CAN USE PRESENT SIMPLE FOR TIMETABLED EVENTS.**

- My plane leaves at 4pm tomorrow.
- The match starts at 8pm.

# EXERCISES

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