


# 5

## Future (1)

Present tenses for future; will; future continuous

### A Context listening

1 You are going to hear a man called Tom having four conversations. Before you listen, look at the pictures. What do you think Tom's job is?

2  07 Listen and check if you were right. As you listen, match the conversations with the pictures.

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_

3  07 Listen again and write the verbs.

#### Conversation 1

- 1 Tom's plane leaves at 11.05.
- 2 It \_\_\_\_\_ at Amsterdam airport at 13.40.
- 3 The conference \_\_\_\_\_ on Wednesday at 9.30.

#### Conversation 2

- 4 I \_\_\_\_\_ badminton in a few minutes with Paul.
- 5 I \_\_\_\_\_ to a conference in Amsterdam tomorrow morning.
- 6 I \_\_\_\_\_ my eyes tested on Saturday afternoon.

4 Look at your answers to Exercise 3 and answer these questions.

- 1 Which sentences are about events fixed by a timetable? \_\_\_\_\_  
What tense is used? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Which sentences are about actions being decided or still not certain? \_\_\_\_\_  
What tense is used? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Which sentences are about arrangements people have made? \_\_\_\_\_  
What tense is used? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Which sentences are about general predictions about the future? \_\_\_\_\_  
What tense is used? \_\_\_\_\_



#### Conversation 3

- 7 I probably \_\_\_\_\_ back in time.
- 8 I think I \_\_\_\_\_ a meal in town.
- 9 I \_\_\_\_\_ breakfast in my room.

#### Conversation 4

- 10 In a hundred years' time, the world \_\_\_\_\_ a very different place.
- 11 There \_\_\_\_\_ much oil available for energy.
- 12 People \_\_\_\_\_ much longer.

## B Grammar

In English, several different tenses are used to talk about the future: the present simple (> see Unit 1), the present continuous (> see Unit 1), *will/shall*, the future continuous and *going to* (> see Unit 6 for *going to*).

### 1 Present simple

We use the present simple for scheduled events with a future meaning:

- for timetables (planes, buses, etc. leaving and arriving):  
*My plane **arrives** at Amsterdam airport at 13.40.*  
*The London train **leaves** in half an hour from platform 2.*
- for programmes (when a conference, a course, a football match, a film, etc. begins and ends):  
*The conference **starts** on Wednesday at 9.30.*  
*The match **ends** at about five o'clock.*
- for people if their plans are fixed by a timetable:  
*The students **have** their written English exam on Monday and the oral on Tuesday.*  
*Jo **starts** her drama course in two weeks' time.*

### 2 Present continuous

We use the present continuous:

- for plans which have already been arranged:  
*People **are travelling** from all over the world.*  
*What **are you doing** tomorrow evening?*  
*I'm **flying** to a conference in Amsterdam. (= already arranged)*  
*I'm **having** my eyes tested on Saturday afternoon. (= I have an appointment)*

### 3 will future

+	will + verb	<i>They'll <b>arrive</b> soon.</i>
-	will not + verb	<i>They <b>won't arrive</b> today.</i>
?	will ... + verb?	<i><b>Will they arrive</b> soon?</i>

In formal English, *shall* is occasionally used with *I/we* instead of *will*. (> For the use of *shall* with offers and suggestions, see Unit 13, B3–4.)

We use *will*:

- for decisions made at the moment of speaking:  
*No, actually, I'll **have** breakfast in my room. (he changes his mind)*  
*Thanks for telling me. I'll **ring** the office now.*  
*These plates aren't clean. I'll **put** them in the dishwasher.*
- for anything which is uncertain, especially with *probably*, *maybe*, *I think*, *I expect* and *I hope*:  
*I **probably won't be** back in time.*  
*I **think I'll get** a meal in town.*  
*I **expect you'll be** tired after the match.*  
*We **hope you'll visit** us again soon.*

## 5 Future (1)

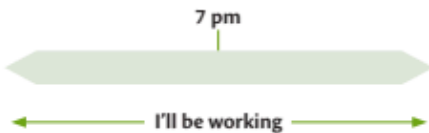
- for situations that we predict will happen but which are not definitely decided or arranged:  
*In 100 years the world **will be** a very different place. There **will be** millions more people but there **won't be** much oil available for energy.* (= nobody knows definitely what the world will be like in 100 years)  
 ▲ Compare:  
*I'm **taking** my History exam again tomorrow.* (= arranged)  
*I'll **get** higher marks this time.* (= not something which is arranged or decided in advance – a hopeful prediction)
- for something in the future which doesn't depend on personal judgment:  
*I'll **be** 23 on my next birthday.* (= I can't change this, it will just happen)  
*There'll **be** a full moon tomorrow.*

### 4 Future continuous

+	will be + verb + -ing	<i>She'll <b>be working</b> at 7.30.</i>
-	will not be + verb + -ing	<i>She <b>won't be working</b> at 7.30.</i>
?	will ... be + verb + -ing?	<i>Will she <b>be working</b> at 7.30?</i>

We use the future continuous for an event which is going on at a particular time or over a period of time in the future:

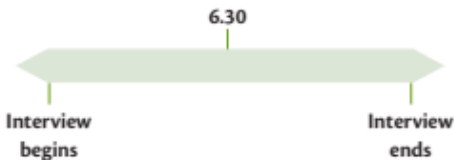
*I'll **be working** at seven o'clock.* (= I will start before seven and I will continue after seven)



*By the time you read this postcard, I'll **be walking** in the mountains.*

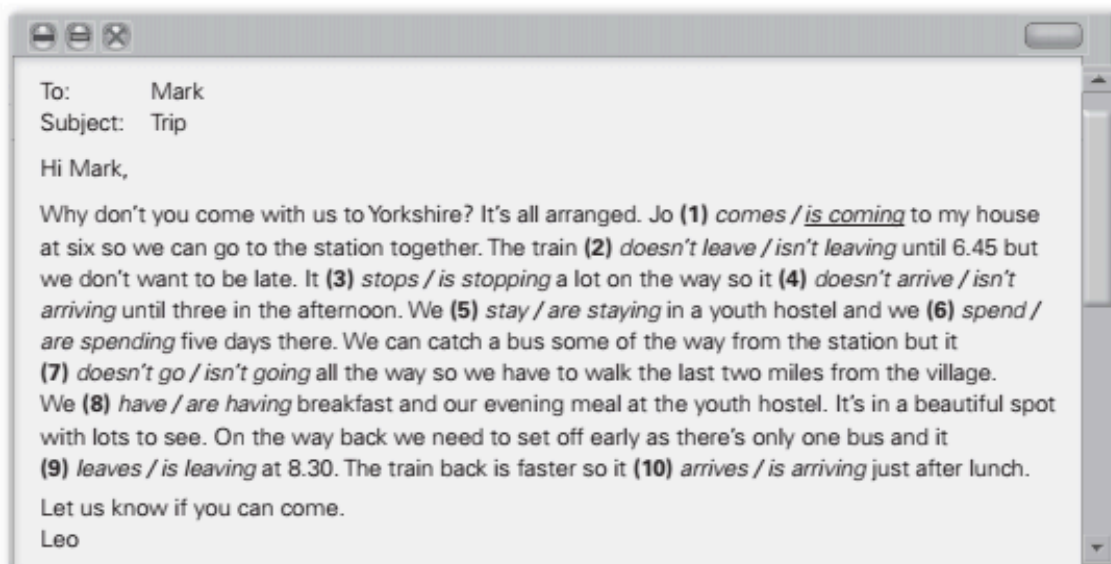
▲ Compare:

*I'll **be interviewing** him at 6.30.* (= the interview begins before 6.30 and continues afterwards)



*I'm **interviewing** him at 6.30.* (= the interview is arranged to begin at 6.30)



**C** Grammar exercises**1** Choose the most suitable form of the verbs.


To: Mark  
Subject: Trip

Hi Mark,

Why don't you come with us to Yorkshire? It's all arranged. Jo **(1)** *comes / is coming* to my house at six so we can go to the station together. The train **(2)** *doesn't leave / isn't leaving* until 6.45 but we don't want to be late. It **(3)** *stops / is stopping* a lot on the way so it **(4)** *doesn't arrive / isn't arriving* until three in the afternoon. We **(5)** *stay / are staying* in a youth hostel and we **(6)** *spend / are spending* five days there. We can catch a bus some of the way from the station but it **(7)** *doesn't go / isn't going* all the way so we have to walk the last two miles from the village. We **(8)** *have / are having* breakfast and our evening meal at the youth hostel. It's in a beautiful spot with lots to see. On the way back we need to set off early as there's only one bus and it **(9)** *leaves / is leaving* at 8.30. The train back is faster so it **(10)** *arrives / is arriving* just after lunch.

Let us know if you can come.  
Leo

**2** Complete these dialogues. Use the present continuous or the *will* future form of the verbs.

- 1** **Tim:** Where are you going?  
**Julie:** To the cinema.  
**Tim:** Wait for me. I think I 'll come (come) with you.
- 2** From next week all enquiries should be sent to Mary because Frances leaves (leave) on Friday.
- 3** **Rachel:** I will give (give) Sophie a CD for her birthday. What will you give (you / give) her?  
**Fiona:** I will probably get (probably get) her a new purse. She keeps losing money from her old one.
- 4** **John:** I need to finish packing today because we will move (move) tomorrow and there's still lots to do.  
**Peter:** Don't worry. I will come (come) round tonight and help you.
- 5** **James:** Never walk under a ladder or you will have (have) ten years' bad luck.  
**Kay:** Rubbish!
- 6** Details of the president's visit are now confirmed. He will stay (stay) at the Castle Hotel for two days.
- 7** **Assistant:** We have milk chocolate, plain chocolate, with nuts, with fruit.  
**Man:** Er ... what a lot of choice! I will have (have) a bar of milk chocolate, please.
- 8** **Sarah:** Will you do (you / do) anything special next Saturday?  
**Lee:** Yes, I am. My cousin will arrive (arrive) from Italy so I will drive (drive) to the airport in the afternoon to meet him.
- 9** **Carol:** Have you finished that book I lent you?  
**Sam:** Oh, sorry. I forgot all about it. I will get (get) it now.

## 5 Future (1)

**3** Complete the following sentences by Cambridge First candidates. Use the present simple, present continuous, *will* future or future continuous form of the verbs.

- 1 There's a special bus to the conference centre, which leaves (leave) the hotel at 8 am.
- 2 We're going to Miami! This time tomorrow we will be sitting (sit) on a boat fishing.
- 3 I think I will apply (apply) for a job when I have finished university.
- 4 I'm worried about the meeting because we will be speaking (speak) English for the whole two hours.
- 5 My friends will be having (have) dinner at my house tonight and I haven't started cooking yet!
- 6 You should meet me at 7 o'clock, the concert will start (start) at 7:30.
- 7 I can't meet you on Saturday because a cousin of mine will be coming (come) from Bologna.
- 8 I have just bought a new bicycle, so maybe I will lose (lose) some weight.

**4** Look at the pictures and fill in the gaps with suitable verbs in the present continuous, *will* future or future continuous.



- 1 I expect my parents will give me books again for my birthday.
- 2 Sam will be seeing the doctor tomorrow morning at ten o'clock so he can't meet us then.
- 3 My grandfather will be celebrating eighty on his next birthday.
- 4 I think I will be a teacher when I grow up.
- 5 At midday tomorrow I will be flying over the Atlantic.
- 6 This time next week we will be skiing in Austria.
- 7 We will be travelling to Ireland by ferry this summer.
- 8 Maybe my father will give me the money I need.

## Listening Part 2

**08** You will hear a tutor talking to a group of students about a geography trip to New Zealand. For questions 1–10, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

## GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

New Zealand was chosen because of the range of (1) \_\_\_\_\_ which can be seen.  
 The first week concentrates on changes in (2) \_\_\_\_\_ over the last thirty years.  
 The second week is spent studying the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ on the west coast.  
 There is a limited chance of seeing a particular kind of (4) \_\_\_\_\_ on the boat trip.  
 People are often not prepared for the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ on the west coast.  
 Students should try to take a photograph of the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ if possible.  
 Students need to write a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ before they leave for New Zealand.  
 Most students choose to go (8) \_\_\_\_\_ on their free weekend.  
 Everyone needs to bring at least one (9) \_\_\_\_\_ with them.  
 Accommodation will be in (10) \_\_\_\_\_ for most of the trip.



## Exam tip

Listen for words in the recording which mean the same as the words around the gap.

## Grammar focus task

**08** Complete these extracts from the Listening task with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Then listen again to check.

- 1 Our flight \_\_\_\_\_ *departs* \_\_\_\_\_ (depart) at 10.30.
- 2 During our first week we \_\_\_\_\_ (stay) in a very rural area.
- 3 We \_\_\_\_\_ (go) on a couple of boat trips.
- 4 I expect we \_\_\_\_\_ (have) some rain.
- 5 They \_\_\_\_\_ (wait) for us.
- 6 We \_\_\_\_\_ (work) all day.
- 7 I hope you \_\_\_\_\_ (get) some good shots.
- 8 Maybe we \_\_\_\_\_ (see) some of the fishing boats too.
- 9 We probably \_\_\_\_\_ (not get) a chance to buy much.
- 10 We \_\_\_\_\_ (hire) everything we need.