

39 Predictions and promises

You can talk about future events in English using the verb “will.” This construction has several meanings, which are all different from the future using “going to.”

 **New language** Future tense with “will”

Aa Vocabulary Weather

 **New skill** Making predictions and promises

39.1 KEY LANGUAGE THE FUTURE USING “WILL”

English uses “will” when talking about the future in four main ways:

To make a prediction about what you think will happen.



Wait a few minutes. I think **it will stop** raining soon.

This prediction is not based on evidence.

To offer to do something for someone.



You look frozen. **I'll make** you some hot soup.

To make a promise.



We'll be there by eight. Don't worry!

This decision was not planned in advance.

To describe a decision you've just made.



I know! **I'll buy** Aaron a surfboard for his birthday.

TIP

Remember to use the future with “going to” for predictions based on current evidence, and for decisions made before the time of speaking.



39.2 FILL IN THE GAPS WITH EITHER “WILL” OR “TO BE” WITH “GOING TO”

Zoe 's going to meet Hannah and Ketil in the park this afternoon by the fountain.

- 1 Have a rest, and I _____ cook a warm stew for us to eat tonight.
- 2 I _____ take the dog for a walk after it stops raining, I promise!
- 3 Amelia and Jill _____ buy dresses tomorrow to wear to Tom's birthday party.
- 4 You _____ be cold playing football today. It was snowing this morning!





39.3 MARK WHETHER EACH SENTENCE IS A PREDICTION, OFFER, PROMISE, OR DECISION



Don't worry, I'll make sure I get there in time for the start of your show.

Prediction ☐ Offer ☐ Promise ☒ Decision ☐

1



What a great idea! It's such a hot day. I'll have some ice cream, too.

Prediction ☐ Offer ☐ Promise ☐ Decision ☐

2



Make sure you take a coat, warm hat, and a scarf. It'll be cold tonight.

Prediction ☐ Offer ☐ Promise ☐ Decision ☐

3



It's started raining! I'll make sure I finish painting the fence when the weather is better.

Prediction ☐ Offer ☐ Promise ☐ Decision ☐

4



I'll look after your dog for you while you're on vacation. I'd be pleased to do it.

Prediction ☐ Offer ☐ Promise ☐ Decision ☐



39.4 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO AND WRITE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS IN FULL SENTENCES



Carla is talking to her sister Stacey on the phone about her plans for the evening.

What does Stacey think will happen with the traffic?

Stacey thinks the traffic will get very heavy.

1

What will Carla make to eat tonight?

2

What will Carla do after Kevin's guitar lesson?

3

Did Stacey accept Carla's offer to eat with Stacey and Kevin this evening?

4

When will Carla pick up Stacey?

39.5 KEY LANGUAGE ADVERBS WITH "WILL"

Add an adverb after "will" to show how likely you think the future action is to occur.

He'll **probably** go skiing when it snows.



They'll **definitely** go hiking if it's sunny.



It'll **certainly** be easier to run in this cool weather.



39.6 KEY LANGUAGE VERBS THAT MODIFY THE FUTURE WITH "WILL"

Like the future with "going to," the future with "will" is often used to say what someone thinks or knows about the future.

Shows the "will" phrase is unlikely.

Hamid **doubts** the storm **will** be dangerous.



Claire **thinks** it'll snow later on.



Sita **hopes** the rain **will** soon stop.



Jo **knows** it'll be difficult to surf because of the wind.



Shows the "will" phrase is certain.



39.7 CROSS OUT THE INCORRECT WORD IN EACH SENTENCE

I **know** / ~~**definitely**~~ we'll go to the festival tomorrow, whether it's sunny or not.

- 1 I'll **doubt** / **definitely** be at the airport by 7pm so I have enough time to catch the plane.
- 2 You'll **certainly** / **hope** look handsome in your new suit. It's a really nice color and cut.
- 3 I **know** / **doubt** you'll win the race because you've not been training very hard.
- 4 I **hope** / **definitely** I'll pass my geography exam tomorrow. I'm very nervous about it.





39.8 READ THE ARTICLE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

GREENWAY SPORTS FACILITIES

A Strategy for the Future

Following last year's extreme weather, we will need to make Greenway more accessible whatever the weather conditions are outside.

SHORT TERM

Adding to the existing outdoor tennis facilities, the new indoor tennis court will be finished this spring. This will offer a great alternative to the outdoor courts for rainy days.



LONG TERM

We need stands next to our outdoor sport fields suitable for all weather. Also, plans for a heated swimming pool are under way. We will introduce a reduced entry fee in the colder, darker months, as promised at the last meeting.

The weather was not unusual last year.

True ☐ False ☒

1 The facilities will be made suitable for all weather.

True ☐ False ☐

2 An outdoor tennis court is being built.

True ☐ False ☐

3 The indoor tennis court will be good for rainy days.

True ☐ False ☐

4 A heated swimming pool is part of the long-term plans.

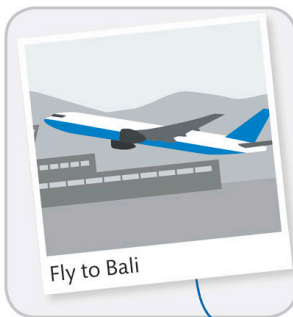
True ☐ False ☐

5 Pool entry will cost more in winter.

True ☐ False ☐



39.9 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO AND MATCH THE MODIFYING ADVERBS TO THE ACTIVITIES YOU HEAR



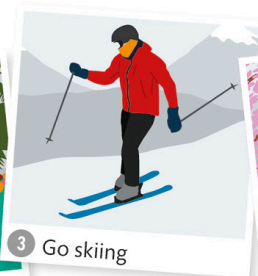
Fly to Bali



1 Go surfing



2 Go to Hawaii



3 Go skiing



4 Be back home

probably

think

know

certainly

hope

39 CHECKLIST

⚙️ Future tense with "will" ☐

Aa Weather ☐

🧩 Making predictions and promises ☐