

# 58 The future continuous

You can use the future continuous with "will" to make predictions about the future, and also to speculate about what might be happening at the current moment.

 **New language** The future continuous with "will"

 **Aa Vocabulary** Polite requests

 **New skill** Planning your career

## 58.1 KEY LANGUAGE THE FUTURE CONTINUOUS WITH "WILL"

The future continuous describes an event that will be in progress at a given time in the future. The event will start before the stated time and may continue after it.

### PRESENT CONTINUOUS

### FUTURE CONTINUOUS

Right now I'm working in a café. In 10 years' time, I hope I will be running a restaurant.



## 58.2 FURTHER EXAMPLES THE FUTURE CONTINUOUS WITH "WILL"



This time next week,  
I'll be relaxing on a beach.



This time tomorrow,  
she'll be taking her last exam.

## 58.3 HOW TO FORM THE FUTURE CONTINUOUS WITH "WILL"





## 58.4 FILL IN THE GAPS BY PUTTING THE VERBS IN THE FUTURE CONTINUOUS WITH "WILL"

By this time next year, I think I will be living (live) in a different country.

- 1 In a few years' time, I think you will be running (run) this place.
- 2 I suppose you will be feeling (feel) too tired to go out after work this evening.
- 3 Tomorrow evening, Jorge's band will be performing (perform) at a concert.
- 4 I guess she will not be coming (not come) to the office party if she doesn't like the boss.
- 5 Jane bought two tickets so I think she will be bringing (bring) a friend to the exhibition.
- 6 Meilin has already told me that she will not be checking (not check) her emails today.



## 58.5 USE THE FUTURE CONTINUOUS WITH "WILL" TO DESCRIBE THE EVENTS ON THE TIMELINE, SPEAKING OUT LOUD



WORKING IN  
THE SAME OFFICE



WORKING IN A  
NEW DEPARTMENT



WORKING AT  
HEADQUARTERS



MANAGING  
HEAD OFFICE



ENJOYING MY  
RETIREMENT

NEXT WEEK

1 YEAR'S TIME

5 YEARS' TIME

10 YEARS' TIME

20 YEARS' TIME

This time next week, I will still be working in the same office.



- 1 In a year's time, \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 In 5 years' time, \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 In 10 years' time, \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 In 20 years' time, \_\_\_\_\_.



## 58.6 KEY LANGUAGE THE FUTURE CONTINUOUS WITH "ANYWAY"

The future continuous can also be used to talk about events that are going to happen as a matter of course or "anyway."

Oh no, I've run out of milk.

I can get some for you later.



No, please don't worry!

It's okay, I'll be driving past the store anyway.



## 58.7 KEY LANGUAGE NEUTRAL QUESTIONS

The future continuous is also used to ask neutral questions. These are questions asked for information, not to make a request.

### NEUTRAL QUESTION

Will you be coming into work tomorrow?

Future continuous.

OK, let's talk about the report then.



### REQUEST

Will you come into work tomorrow, please?

Future with "will."

Sure, no problem.



## 58.8 REWRITE THE QUESTIONS USING THE FUTURE CONTINUOUS WITH "WILL"

Are all of your family coming?

Will all of your family be coming?

1 Are you leaving soon?

2 Are you going to watch all of those DVDs?

3 Are the children coming too?

4 Will you eat all of those cakes?

5 Are you going to the store?

## 58.9 SAY THE QUESTIONS OUT LOUD, PUTTING THE VERBS IN THE FUTURE CONTINUOUS WITH "WILL"

Will you be driving (drive)  
to work tomorrow?



\_\_\_\_\_ (take)



the kids to school tomorrow?



\_\_\_\_\_ (eat)  
all that popcorn on your own?



\_\_\_\_\_ (return)  
your books to the library?



\_\_\_\_\_ (get)  
your hair cut any time soon?



\_\_\_\_\_ (cook)  
some food later on?



## 58.10 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS



Brian and Jeanette are talking about their plans after work.

Jeanette offers to give Brian a ride after work.

True  False

1 Brian asks Jeanette to drive him to his house because his car has broken down.

True  False

2 Brian's car is a valuable antique and worth a lot of money.

True  False

3 Brian's wife does not want him to get a motorcycle.

True  False

4 Brian likes being spontaneous.

True  False

5 Jeanette thinks Brian should be more careful with his money.

True  False

6 They are going to meet in Brian's office at 5 o'clock.

True  False

## 58.11 KEY LANGUAGE THE FUTURE CONTINUOUS TO TALK ABOUT THE PRESENT

You can also use the future continuous to speculate about something that might be happening at the present moment.



Have you noticed that Andrew isn't at work today?



He'll be working on his presentation at home.



It's more likely that he'll be watching the golf on TV!



### 58.12 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO AND MARK WHO SAID EACH SENTENCE



Darren and Kate are talking about why Jonas might not be at work today.

He'll be playing basketball with his nephew.

Darren  Kate  Nobody

1 His nephew will be studying for his big exam.

Darren  Kate  Nobody

2 He'll be playing football with his brother.

Darren  Kate  Nobody

3 I imagine he'll be doing something fun though.

Darren  Kate  Nobody

4 He'll be preparing for tomorrow's big meeting.

Darren  Kate  Nobody

5 He'll be practicing his presentation.

Darren  Kate  Nobody

6 He'll be panicking about the annual accounts.

Darren  Kate  Nobody



### 58.13 USE THE IMAGES TO SAY SENTENCES USING THE FUTURE CONTINUOUS WITH "WILL"



She'll be doing

the gardening.



1 a book at home.



2 with her friend.



3 on the treadmill.





## 58.14 READ THE BLOG POST AND WRITE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS AS FULL SENTENCES

**What will you be doing in five years' time?**

HOME | ENTRIES | ABOUT | CONTACT

POSTED FRIDAY, 28 AUGUST

**Melissa:** In five years' time? I think I'll be working for a different company. Hopefully I'll have a more important role and be earning more money. One thing's for sure, I'll be going on a lot more vacations abroad!

**Boris:** If I look back five years, nothing much has changed. So, in five years' time, I predict I'll be working in the same job. I hope I'll be working with the same colleagues but they've got more ambition than me.

**Jeremy:** Hopefully I'll be living in a different country by then. I want to study abroad and have lots of exciting experiences. I won't be getting married or anything like that because I want to put my studies first.

**Erika:** I'm getting married next month and I hope that in five years' time, we'll be looking after two children. Who knows? Maybe by that point we'll be taking our oldest child to school for the very first time.

Is Melissa optimistic about her career?

*Yes, she thinks she'll end up with a more important role, earning more money.*

1 Apart from work, what else does Melissa think will change?

2 Is Boris optimistic about his future career?

3 What does Jeremy hope he will be doing in five years' time?

4 What is Erika doing in her short-term future?

5 What might Erika be doing at school in five years' time?

### 58 CHECKLIST

The future continuous with "will"  Polite requests  Planning your career