

English Verbs – Future Simple

To speak of future events in English, we can choose between two forms:

1) be going to + verb

2) will + verb

It all depends if we are talking about personal plans or not.

1. Personal plans: am / is / are (not) + “going to” + verb

Examples:

- I **am going to visit** (= “I am planning to visit”) my parents at the weekend.
- I **am not going to visit** my parents at the weekend.
- He **is going to be** a doctor.
- He **is not going to be** a doctor.
- **Is** he **going to be** a doctor? (Yes, he **is**. / No, he **isn't**.)
- She **is going to go** to Rio next week.
- We **are going to buy** a house in Miami.
- We **are not going to buy** a house in Miami.
- **Are** you **going to buy** a house in Miami? (Yes, we **are**. / No, we **aren't**.)

Using contractions:

- I**'m going to visit** my parents at the weekend.
- I**'m not going to visit** my parents at the weekend.
- He**'s going to be** a doctor.
- He **isn't going to be** a doctor.
- She**'s going to go** to Rio next week.
- We**'re going to buy** a house in Miami.
- We **aren't going to buy** a house in Miami.

2. Facts, predictions, reactions, promises: “will / will not” + verb

Contractions: I'll, he'll, she'll, it'll, we'll, you'll, they'll, won't

Examples:

- A: "These bags are heavy". B: "I'll **help** you with your bags." (*reaction*)
- I **won't tell** anybody about your secret. (*promise*)
- One day I **will die**. (*fact*)
- I'll **call** you when I arrive. (*promise*)
- I think it **will rain** tomorrow. (*prediction*)
- I think it **won't rain** tomorrow. (*prediction*)
- The world population **will increase** next year. (*fact*)
- A: "I'm hungry". B: " I'll **make** a sandwich for you." (*reaction*)
- Maybe **he'll be** the next president. (*prediction*)

Exercise. Complete using “will” or “am/is/are going to” (sometimes both are possible):

1. I _____ visit a friend at the weekend.
2. I'm very sleepy. I _____ go to bed.
3. I think that my wife _____ cook chicken tonight.
4. We _____ see a film at the cinema tonight!
5. We are so excited about our trip to Europe. We _____ visit Paris!
6. Sarah _____ come to my party on Saturday. (*not*)
7. A: It is very hot! B: I _____ turn on the air-conditioner.
8. I think that England _____ win the world cup!
9. My parents _____ take me to a restaurant on Saturday evening.
10. After I finish school, I _____ study medicine. (*not*)
11. I think that it _____ be sunny tomorrow. (*not*)
12. I _____ go to work tomorrow. (*not*)