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Chapter 4
Future Time

Exercise 1. What do I already know? (Chapter 4)
Look at the verbs in italics. Do the sentences express present or future time?

1. The students are going to give oral reports today. present future
2. I’m beginning a new job next week. present future
3. Look. It’s beginning to rain. present future
4. The teacher will be in her office after class today. present future
5. When class is over, the teacher will be in her office. present future
6. Finally, class is over. Let’s get a cup of coffee. present future
7. Oh no! We have only five minutes to make our train! present future
8. Our train leaves from Track 37 in five minutes. present future
9. The soccer team is playing in Barcelona next week. present future
10. The soccer team is playing well today. They’re winning. present future

Exercise 2. Warm-up. (Chart 4-1)
Correct the errors.

1. Marie will cooks some chicken and rice for dinner tonight.
2. Where you will be tomorrow morning?
3. I no will ride the bus to work tomorrow.
4. Marco will probably to call us this evening.
5. I going to look for a new apartment.
## 4-1 Simple Future: Will and Be Going To

**Will**

(a) Jack will finish his work tomorrow.

(b) Jack is going to finish his work tomorrow.

**Be Going To**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Analysis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(c) Anna will come tomorrow around 5:00.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INCORRECT: Anna wills come.  
INCORRECT: Anna wills come.  
INCORRECT: Anna will come. | **Will** typically expresses predictions about the future, as in (c).  
**Will** does not take a final -s.  
**Will** is followed immediately by the simple form of a verb. |
| (d) Alex will not be here tomorrow. Peter won’t be here either. | 
NEGATIVE: will + not = won’t | |
| (e) Will you be here tomorrow?  
How will you get here? | QUESTION: will + subject + main verb  
In (e): The speaker is asking for information about a future event.* |
| (f) Spoken or written: I’ll be there. | CONTRACTIONS WITH PRONOUNS AND NOUNS:  
**Will** is often contracted with pronouns in both speaking and informal writing: I’ll, you’ll, she’ll, he’ll, it’ll, we’ll, they’ll.  
**Will** is also often contracted with nouns in speaking but usually not in writing, as in (g).  
In very informal writing, will may be contracted with other kinds of pronouns and there, as in (h). |
| (g) Spoken: Tom’ll be there too.  
Written: Tom will be there too. | |
| (h) Spoken or very informal writing: Nobody’ll notice.  
That’ll be fun.  
There’ll be a test tomorrow. | |

**Exercise 3. Listening.** (Chart 4-1)

If you hear a form of will, choose yes. If not, choose no.

Example: I’ll have time to see you tomorrow.  
I have time to see you tomorrow.  

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. yes no</td>
<td>5. yes no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. yes no</td>
<td>6. yes no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. yes no</td>
<td>7. yes no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. yes no</td>
<td>8. yes no</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Will* can also be used in questions to make polite requests: **Will** you open the door for me, please? See Chart 9-3, p. 159.
Exercise 4. Pronunciation. (Chart 4-1)
Practice pronouncing contractions with will.
1. Bob will be here soon.  
   → Bob’ll be here soon.
2. I’ll come. He’ll come. You’ll come.
3. She’ll help us. They’ll help us too.
4. I’m sure we’ll do well on the test.
5. It’ll probably rain tomorrow.
6. The weather will be hot in August.
7. Mary will come tomorrow.
8. Bill will be here too.
9. The children will be home at 3:00.
10. Who will be at the meeting?
11. Where will you be around five?
12. How long will Tom be here?
13. Nobody will recognize you in that wig.
14. That will be interesting.
15. What will you do?

Exercise 5. Listening. (Chart 4-1)
Complete the sentences with the words you hear. Write the non-contracted forms of the verbs you hear.
1. to turn in all your assignments by tomorrow.
2. for the final exam on Monday.
3. The 50 questions.
4. 50 questions on the exam.
5. the whole hour to complete the test.
6. It’s a long exam. Sorry, but early.
7. a lot of work. Study hard!
8. The available in my office the next day.

Exercise 6. Listening. (Chart 4-1)
Listen to the sentences. Circle whether you hear “going to” or “gonna.”
1. going to gonna
2. going to gonna
3. going to gonna
4. going to gonna

Exercise 7. Let’s talk: small groups. (Chart 4-1)
Choose a leader for your group. Practice using be going to. Follow these steps:
1. Every person in the group, including the leader, will hand the leader a slip of paper on which is written the name of an occupation or any kind of work adults do. Examples: movie star, teacher, plumber, peace activist, artist, stay-at-home dad, civil engineer, architect, politician.
2. The leader will redistribute the slips of paper to the group.
3. Each member of the group will then explain what he/she is going to be or do according to what is written on the slip of paper. Example: “I’m going to be a famous movie star.”
4. The group will ask the speaker questions about his/her future career. Example: “What kind of movies are you going to be in? Where will you live?” Etc.
Exercise 8. Warm-up. (Chart 4-2)
Read the sentences and answer the questions.

a. It’s going to rain tomorrow.
b. I’m going to paint the house next week.
c. Here. I’ll help you carry that box. It looks heavy.
d. It will be cloudy this weekend.

1. Which sentence expresses a prior plan?
2. Which sentences are predictions?
3. Which sentence expresses willingness?

4-2 Will vs. Be Going To

Prediction

(a) According to the weather report, it will be cloudy tomorrow.
(b) According to the weather report, it is going to be cloudy tomorrow.

Will and be going to mean the same when they make predictions about the future (prediction = a statement about something the speaker thinks will be true or will occur in the future).

Examples (a) and (b) have the same meaning.

Prior Plan

(c) — Why did you buy this paint?
   — I’m going to paint my bedroom tomorrow.

Be going to (but not will) is used to express a prior plan (i.e., a plan made before the moment of speaking).*

In (c): The speaker already has a plan to paint his/her bedroom.

Willingness

(d) — The phone’s ringing.
   — I’ll get it.

(e) — How old is Aunt Agnes?
   — I don’t know. She won’t tell me.

(f) The car won’t start. Maybe the battery is dead.

Will (but not be going to) is used to express willingness. In this case, will expresses a decision the speaker makes at the moment of speaking.

In (d): The speaker decides to answer the phone at the immediate present moment; she/he does not have a prior plan.

Will not / won’t can express refusal, as in (e) with a person or in (f) with an inanimate object.

*Compare:

Situation 1: A: Are you busy this evening?
   B: Yes. I’m going to meet Jack at the library at seven. We’re going to study together.

In Situation 1, only be going to is possible. The speaker has a prior plan, so he uses be going to.

Situation 2: A: Are you busy this evening?
   B: Well, I really haven’t made any plans. I’ll eat (or I’m going to eat) dinner, of course. And then I’ll probably watch (or I’m probably going to watch) TV for a little while.

In Situation 2, either will or be going to is possible. Speaker B has not planned his evening. He is “predicting” his evening (rather than stating any prior plans), so he may use either will or be going to.
Exercise 9. Looking at grammar. (Chart 4-2)

Discuss the italicized verbs in these short conversations. Decide if the speakers are expressing
(a) predictions,
(b) decisions they are making at the moment of speaking (willingness), or
(c) plans they made before the moment of speaking.

   B: Oh, I wish I could, but I can’t. I’m going to be at my niece’s wedding on Saturday.

2. A: Masako’s such a creative artist. And she’s so patient with children.
   B: She’ll be very successful as an elementary art teacher.

3. A: We’re going to go out to dinner in a few minutes. Do you want to join us?
   B: Sure. Give me just a minute. I’ll grab my coat.

4. A: I heard Sue and David are engaged for the third time!
   B: They won’t ever get married. They fight too much.

5. A: How do you spell “accustomed”?
   B: I’m not sure. I’ll look it up for you.

6. A: That’s great news about your new job.
   B: Well, actually, I’ve changed my mind about it. I’m not going to take it after all. I’ve decided to stay with my old job.

Exercise 10. Looking at grammar. (Chart 4-2)

Decide if each italicized verb expresses a prediction, a prior plan, or willingness.

1. Dinner’s almost ready. I’ll set the table. prediction plan willingness

2. Ivan has some vacation time. He is going to take next week off. prediction plan willingness

3. Heidi will love her birthday present. It’s just what she wants. prediction plan willingness

4. I don’t like my job. I’m going to quit when I get back from vacation. prediction plan willingness

5. That’s okay. Don’t worry about the spilled coffee. I’ll clean it up. prediction plan willingness

6. Someday, there are going to be computers in every classroom in the world. prediction plan willingness

7. The light bulb is burned out. I’ll get a new one from the supply room. prediction plan willingness

8. I’m going to the bookstore. Do you want to go with me? prediction plan willingness
Exercise 11. Looking at grammar. (Chart 4-2)
Complete the sentences with be going to if you think the speaker is expressing a prior plan. If you think she/he has no prior plan, use will. Use won’t if the speaker is expressing refusal.

1. A: This letter is in French, and I don’t speak French. Can you help me?
   B: Sure. I (translate) will translate it for you.

2. A: Do you want to go shopping with me? I (go) am going to go to the shopping mall downtown.
   B: Sure. What time do you want to leave?
   A: How about 1:00?
   B: Great! See you then.

3. A: Who wants to erase the board?
   Are there any volunteers?
   B: I (do) do it!
   C: I (do) do it!

4. A: Why does he have an eraser in his hand?
   B: He (erase) erase the board.

5. A: How about getting together for dinner tonight?
   B: Sounds good. Where?
   A: How about Alice’s Restaurant or the Gateway Café? You decide.
   B: Alice’s Restaurant. I (meet) meet you there around six.
   A: Great. I (see) see you then.
   B: It’s a date.
6. A: Do you have plans for dinner?
   B: Yes. I (meet*) __________________________ a co-worker for dinner at Alice’s
       Restaurant. Want to join us?

7. A: Why is that little boy crying?
   B: I don’t know. He (tell, not) ________________ me. I wonder where his parents are.

8. A: What’s wrong?
   B: The door (open, not) ________________.
   A: Well, of course not. It’s locked.

Exercise 12. Listening. (Chart 4-2)
Listen to the sentences and choose the expected response (a. or b.).

1. a. I’m going to work at a summer resort in the mountains.
    b. I’ll work at a summer resort in the mountains.

2. a. Sure. I’m going to drop it off on my way to work.
    b. Sure. I’ll drop it off on my way to work.

3. a. I’m going to attend my cousin’s funeral.
    b. I’ll attend my cousin’s funeral.

4. a. Here, give it to me. I’m going to fix it for you.
    b. Here, give it to me. I’ll fix it for you.

5. a. I’m going to sweep the front steps.
    b. I’ll sweep the front steps.

Exercise 13. Warm-up. (Chart 4-3)
Complete the sentences with your own words. All the sentences talk about future time. What
do you notice about the verbs in blue?

1. After I leave this class, I’m going to ____________________________.

2. As soon as I get home tonight, I’ll ____________________________.

3. When I finish my English studies, I’m going to ____________________________.

*When be going to expresses a prior plan, it is often also possible to use the present progressive with no change in meaning.
See Chart 4-2, p. 63. There is no difference in meaning between these sentences:
I am going to meet Larry at Alice’s Restaurant at six.
I am meeting Larry at Alice’s Restaurant at six.
Exercise 14. Looking at grammar. (Chart 4-3)

Draw brackets around the time clause in each sentence and underline its verb. Identify and discuss the use of verb tenses.

1. We’ll be here \[when you arrive tomorrow.\]
2. After the rain stops, I’m going to sweep the front porch.
3. I’m going to start making dinner before my wife gets home from work today.
4. I’m going to wait right here until Sonya comes.
5. As soon as the war is over, there will be new elections.
6. Right now the tide is low, but when the tide comes in, the ship will leave the harbor.
7. While I’m driving to work tomorrow, I’m going to listen to my Greek language CD.

Exercise 15. Looking at grammar. (Chart 4-3)

Use \textit{will} / \textit{be going to} or the simple present. (In this exercise, both \textit{will} and \textit{be going to} are possible when a future verb is necessary, with little or no difference in meaning.)

1. Pete is going to leave in half an hour. He (\textit{finish}) \underline{will finish / is going to finish} all of his work before he (\textit{leave}) \underline{leaves}.
2. I'm going to eat lunch at 12:30. After I (eat) __________________________,
   I (take, probably) _____________________________ a nap.
3. I'll get home around six. When I (get) __________________________ home, I (give)
   ___________________________ Sharon a call.
4. I'm going to watch a TV program at nine, but before I (watch) __________________________
   the program, I (call) ____________________________ my parents.
5. Bakir will come soon. I (wait) __________________________ here until he (come)
   ____________________________.
6. I'm sure it will stop raining soon. As soon as the rain (stop) __________________________,
   I (walk) ___________________________ to the store to get some film.
7. I'm a junior in college this year. After I (graduate) ___________________________ with a B.A.
   next year, I (intend) __________________________ to enter
   graduate school and work for an M.A. Perhaps I
   (go) __________________________ on for a Ph.D. after
   I (get) __________________________ my master's degree.
8. I (listen) __________________________ to an English language course while I (sleep)
   ____________________________ tonight. Do you think it will help me learn English faster?

Exercise 16. Let's talk: interview. (Chart 4-3)
Make questions using the given words. Ask two students each question. Share some of their
answers with the class. Use be going to for the future verb.

1. What \ you \ do \ after \ you \ wake up \ tomorrow?
2. What \ you \ do \ as soon as \ class \ end \ today?
3. Before \ you \ go \ to bed \ tonight \ what \ you \ do?
4. What \ you \ do \ when \ you \ have \ free time \ this weekend?
5. When \ you \ finish \ school \ what \ you \ do?

Exercise 17. Warm-up. (Chart 4-4)
Decide if each sentence has a present or future meaning. What do you notice about the verb
tense in each sentence?

1. I'm meeting a friend for dinner tonight. present meaning  future meaning
2. We're taking a flight at midnight. present meaning  future meaning
3. Class starts in ten minutes. present meaning  future meaning
Exercise 18. Looking at grammar. (Chart 4-4)

Decide the meaning of each italicized verb. Write in the future, now, or habitually.

1. I am taking four courses next semester.

2. I am taking four courses this semester.

3. Students usually take four courses every semester.

4. I’ll mail this letter at the corner when I take Susan home.

5. My brother’s birthday is next week. I am giving him a sweater.

6. Shhh. The broadcaster is giving the latest news about the crisis overseas. I want to hear what she’s saying.

7. When I graduate, I’m going to return home.

8. When students graduate, they receive diplomas.

9. I’m tired. I am going to bed early tonight.

10. When I am in New York, I’m going to visit the Museum of Modern Art.

11. When I am home alone in the evening, I like to read or watch television.

The PRESENT PROGRESSIVE may be used to express future time when the idea of the sentence concerns a planned event or definite intention.

COMPARE: A verb such as rain is not used in the present progressive to indicate future time because rain is not a planned event.

A future meaning for the present progressive tense is indicated either by future time words in the sentence or by the context.

The SIMPLE PRESENT can also be used to express future time in a sentence concerning events that are on a definite schedule or timetable. These sentences usually contain future time words. Only a few verbs are used in this way: e.g., open, close, begin, end, start, finish, arrive, leave, come, return.
12. A: Are you busy?
   B: Not really.
   A: What are you doing?
   B: I’m writing a letter to my folks.
   A: When you finish your letter, do you want to play a game of chess?

13. A: What are you doing after work today?
   B: I’m playing tennis with Brown at the health club.
   And you?
   A: I’m meeting Smith for a round of golf.

---

Exercise 19. Looking at grammar. (Chart 4-4)
Complete each sentence with any present progressive verb.

1. A: How about going across the street for a cup of coffee?
   B: I can’t. I am meeting Jennifer at the library at 5:00.

2. A: Why are you in such a hurry?
   B: I have to be at the airport in an hour. I get on the four o’clock plane to New York. I have an important meeting there tomorrow.

3. A: I see you’re smoking. I thought you stopped last month.
   B: I did. I don’t know why I started again. I am not going to give it up tomorrow, and this time I mean it.
4. A: Your cough sounds terrible! You should see a doctor.
   B: I know. It just won’t go away. I ________________
       Dr. Murray later this afternoon.
5. A: Where are you and your family going for your vacation this
   summer?
   B: Ontario, Canada.
   A: Are you planning to fly?
   B: No, we ________________ so we can take our time and enjoy the scenery.
   A: That sounds wonderful.

Exercise 20. Let’s write. (Chart 4-4)
Pretend that you are going to take your ideal vacation next week. All of your plans are made,
and your itinerary is in front of you. Write your travel plans. Use present tenses where
appropriate.
Example: This coming Saturday, I am beginning my ‘vacation of a lifetime.’ The first place I’m
going to is Bali. My plane leaves at six-thirty Saturday morning. I arrive in Bali late that
afternoon. I’m staying at the Nusa Dua Beach Hotel. I leave Bali on the fifteenth and
travel to the Philippines. While I’m there, I’m staying with some friends. Etc.

Exercise 21. Warm-up. (Chart 4-5)
Notice the verbs in blue. What do they have in common?
1. Right now, I’m sitting in class.
2. Yesterday at this time, I was sitting in class.
3. Tomorrow at this time, I will be sitting in class.

4-5 Future Progressive

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>I will begin to study at seven. You will come at eight. I will be studying when you come.</th>
<th>The future progressive expresses an activity that will be in progress at a time in the future.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a)</td>
<td>I will begin to study at seven. You will come at eight. I will be studying when you come.</td>
<td>The progressive form of be going to: be going to + be + -ing, as in (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b)</td>
<td>Don’t call me at nine because I won’t be home. I am going to be studying at the library.</td>
<td>The progressive form of be going to: be going to + be + -ing, as in (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c)</td>
<td>Don’t worry. She will be coming soon.</td>
<td>Sometimes there is little or no difference between the future progressive and the simple future, especially when the future event will occur at an indefinite time in the future, as in (c) and (d).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d)</td>
<td>Don’t worry. She will come soon.</td>
<td>Sometimes there is little or no difference between the future progressive and the simple future, especially when the future event will occur at an indefinite time in the future, as in (c) and (d).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Future Time 71
Exercise 22. Looking at grammar. (Chart 4-5)
Complete the sentences. Use the future progressive form of the given verbs.

1. finish, sleep, study
   Please don’t call our house after 9:00 tonight. The baby _______ is going to be sleeping _______. My husband _______. I _______ a project for work.

2. talk, do, see
   Dr. Roberts is the town’s only medical doctor and works long hours. Tomorrow she has an especially busy schedule. From early in the morning until lunch, she _______. Patients at her clinic. After lunch, she _______. research at the hospital. In the evening, she _______ to medical students about rural health care.

Exercise 23. Looking at grammar. (Chart 4-5)
Complete the sentences. Use the future progressive or the simple present form of the verbs in parentheses.

1. Tomorrow I’m going to leave for home. When I (arrive) _______ at the airport, my whole family _______ for me.

2. When I (get) _______ up tomorrow morning, the sun _______, the birds _______, and my roommate _______ in bed fast asleep.

3. A: When do you leave for Florida?
   B: Tomorrow. Just think! Two days from now I _______ my vacation in the sun.
   A: Sounds great! I _______ about you.

4. A: Are you going to be in town next Saturday?
   B: No. I (visit, in Chicago*) _______.

5. A: Where are you going to be this evening?
   B: I (work, at the library) _______.

*Expressions of place can often be used between the helping verb and the main verb in progressive tenses. See Chart 2-10, p. 34.
Exercise 24. Warm-up. (Chart 4-6)
Notice the verbs in blue. What do they have in common?

1. Eric isn’t here. He **has left**.
2. Eric wasn’t there. He **had left** by the time we got there.
3. Eric won’t be there. He **will have left** by the time we get there.

4-6 Future Perfect and Future Perfect Progressive

**NOTE:** These two tenses are rarely used compared to the other verb tenses.

**Future Perfect**

(a) I will graduate in June. I will see you in July. By the time I see you, I **will have graduated**.

**Future Perfect Progressive**

(b) I will go to bed at 10:00 P.M. Ed will get home at midnight. At midnight I will be sleeping. I **will have been sleeping** for two hours by the time Ed gets home.

(c) When Professor Jones retires next month, he **will have taught** or **will have been teaching** for 45 years.

Exercise 25. Looking at grammar. (Chapter 3; Charts 4-5 and 4-6)
Complete the sentences. Use any appropriate tense of the verbs in parentheses.

1. Ann and Andy got married on June 1st. Today is June 15th. They *(be)________________________*_ married for two weeks. By June 8th, they *(be)________________________*_ married for one week. By June 29th, they *(be)________________________*_ married for four weeks.

2. This traffic is terrible. We’re going to be late. By the time we *(get)________________________* to the airport, Yuri’s plane *(arrive, already*) *(already)*, and he’ll be wondering where we are.

*With the future perfect, **already** has two possible midsentence positions: *I will already have finished.*
*I will have already finished.*
3. The traffic was very heavy. By the time we (get) ____________ to the airport, Yuri’s plane (arrive, already) ________________.

4. This morning I came to class at 9:00. Right now it is 10:00, and I am still in class. I (sit) __________________________ at this desk for an hour. By 9:30, I (sit) __________________________ here for half an hour. By 11:00, I (sit) __________________________ here for two hours.

5. Classes start at 9:00 every day. It’s 9:30 and the school bus is late. When the bus gets to school, classes (begin) _________________. The teachers (teach) __________________________ since 9:00.

6. I’m getting tired of sitting in the car. Do you realize that by the time we arrive in Phoenix, we (drive) ________________ for twenty straight hours?

7. Go ahead and leave on your vacation. Don’t worry about this work. By the time you (get) ________________ back, we (take) ________________ care of everything.

8. I don’t understand how those marathon runners do it! The race began more than an hour ago. By the time they reach the finish line, they (run) ________________ steadily for more than two hours. I don’t think I can run more than two minutes!

9. We have been married for a long time. By our next anniversary, we (be) ________________ married for 43 years.

Exercise 26. Let’s talk or write. (Chapter 4)

These sentences describe typical events in a day in the life of a man named Bill. The sentences are in the past, but all of these things will happen in Bill’s life tomorrow. Change all of the sentences to the future.

1. When Bill got up yesterday morning, the sun was shining. And tomorrow?
   → When Bill gets up tomorrow morning, the sun will be shining.

2. He shaved and showered, and then made a light breakfast. And tomorrow?

3. After he ate breakfast yesterday, he got ready to go to work. And tomorrow?

4. By the time he got to work yesterday, he had drunk three cups of coffee. And tomorrow?

5. Between 8:00 and 9:00, Bill answered his email and planned his day. And tomorrow?

6. By 10:00 yesterday, he had called new clients. And tomorrow?

7. At 11:00 yesterday, he was attending a staff meeting. And tomorrow?

8. He went to lunch at noon and had a sandwich and a bowl of soup. And tomorrow?
Exercise 27. Let's talk or write. (Chapter 4)
What do you think the world will be like in a hundred years? What changes will have occurred between then and now? Use your imagination and make some predictions. **NOTE:** You may wish to make comparisons among the past, the present, and the future.

Example: A hundred years ago, the automobile hadn’t been invented. Today it is one of the most common means of transportation and has greatly changed the way people lead their lives. By the year ________, the automobile will have become obsolete. A hundred years from now, people will use small, jet-propelled, wingless flying machines in place of cars.

Possible topics:
1. types of transportation
2. energy sources
3. population growth
4. food sources
5. extinction of animal species
6. architecture
7. clothing styles
8. exploration of the oceans or of the earth’s interior
9. space exploration; contact with beings from outer space
10. weapon technology
11. role of computers in daily life
12. long-term solutions to today’s political crises
13. international language
14. international world government