

Future Time

- 1) **Present Continuous = Arrangements: we have already done something which tells us that the future is happening for 100%**

"Do you know where you want to go on holiday?" – "Yes, of course. I am going to Greece."

- 2) **Going to = plans, intentions: we know what we want to do in the future, but we haven't made any arrangements yet**

"Do you know where you want to go on holiday?" – "Well, actually I am not going to go on holiday."

Going to = decisions from the past – we decided some time ago

"Do you know that Sarah is in hospital?" – "Yes, I talked to her yesterday and tomorrow I am going to visit her."

Going to = predictions based on the evidence/experience now – something now shows that something is going to happen in the future

It is going to rain.

You are going to fail the exam.

You are going to fall.

- 3) **Will = uncertain future – it is a prediction which is not based on anything, just thinking, guessing – key words: maybe, perhaps, probably, I think, I don't think, I am sure, I am not sure, etc.**

She will be happy.

"Do you know where you want to go on holiday?" – "I think I will go to Greece."

Will = decision now – when we decide about the future at the moment of speaking

Don't worry. We will help you.

"Do you know that Sarah is in hospital?" – "Oh no, really? I didn't know that. I will visit her tomorrow."

It will rain.

- 4) **Might = the least certain future – this is one of the possible things in the future**

"Do you know where you want to go on holiday?" – "Not really. I might go to Greece."

- 5) **Future Continuous = an action in progress in a certain point in the future**

This time next week I will be lying on the beach. I am so looking forward to it.

Next week we are going to have a lot of work so I will be working harder than usual.

Do not call me tomorrow at 5 in the afternoon. I will be watching an interesting programme.

- 6) **Future Perfect Simple** = something in the future is going to be done before a point in the future – key word: **by**
Future Perfect Continuous = a continuous action will be finished in a point in the future, or will have lasted until a point in the future

They will have finished the construction of the new station by the end of this year.

My parents will have been married for 20 years next year.

I am quite angry because in five minutes I will have been waiting for her for two hours.

- 7) **Present Simple for Future** = the future is based on a timetable (trains, buses, planes), schedule (personal schedule), programmes (TV, cinema, exhibitions).

When does the train arrive in London? (timetable)

Please, do not call me on Monday morning. I have my English lesson at 8.30. (personal schedule)

Hurry up. It is already 5 o'clock and the film starts at 6. I am really afraid we will be late. (cinema programme)

The exhibition starts on 21st August and finishes on 21st October. (exhibition programme)

- 8) **Time Clauses** – Even when we refer to the future, after time conjunctions (e.g. **when, as soon as, while, as long as, until** etc.) we use the present tense.

When you get here, I will tell you everything.

Everything will be fine as long as you listen.