

#### Future Tenses – Exercise Sheet 2 – ANSWERS

## 1. Conversation Exercise – Future Tenses (Original Version with Different Future Forms) - ANSWERS

James: Hey Sally! What are you doing this weekend?

**Sally:** Hi James! I **am visiting** my grandparents on Saturday. How about you?

James: I am going to a football match with my dad. It starts at 3 p.m.

Sally: That sounds fun! Oh, I just remembered! I am going to buy a new laptop

tomorrow.

James: Nice! Do you need help choosing one?

**Sally:** No thanks, my brother **is going to help** me. He knows a lot about computers. **James:** Oh, by the way, have you heard? Anna **is going to move** to Spain next year!

**Sally:** Really? I didn't know that! I think she will love it there.

James: Yeah! She told me she is leaving in July.

**Sally:** That's exciting! I will call her later to ask more about it. **James:** Good idea! Maybe we can meet her before she goes.

Sally: Yes! Let's plan something soon. I am going to text her right now.

James: Perfect! I will ask Mark if he wants to join us too.

**Sally:** Great! I'm sure it will be a lot of fun.

**James:** Yes, it will be a great way to say goodbye!

#### **Explanation of "Will" vs. "Be Going To" in the Conversation**

Sentence	Original Tense	Why Was "Will" Kept or Could Be Replaced?
"What are you doing this weekend?"	Present Continuous	Used for planned future arrangements. <b>Not "will"</b> because it's something already scheduled.
"I am visiting my grandparents on Saturday."	Present Continuous	Same reason as above – a future plan. "Will" wouldn't fit because it's not a spontaneous decision.
"I am going to a football match with my dad."	Present Continuous	A definite plan—"will" would sound unnatural here.
"It starts at 3 p.m."	Present Simple	<b>Fixed schedule or timetable</b> —"will" is not used for timetables.
"I am going to buy a new laptop tomorrow."	Be Going To	<b>Planned action</b> —"will" could work, but "be going to" is better because it's already decided.
"My brother is going to help me."	Be Going To	<b>Planned action</b> —"will" could be used, but "be going to" is stronger for pre-decided actions.
"Anna is going to move to Spain next year!"	Be Going To	<b>Planned future action</b> —"will" would not sound as natural here.



Sentence	Original Tense	Why Was "Will" Kept or Could Be Replaced?
"I think she will love it there."	Will	<b>Prediction with opinion</b> —both "will" and "be going to" could work, but "will" is more common for subjective predictions.
"She is leaving in July."	Present Continuous	<b>Fixed arrangement</b> —"will" wouldn't fit because the plan is already made.
"I will call her later to ask more about it."	Will	<b>Spontaneous decision</b> —"be going to" would sound unnatural.
"Maybe we can meet her before she goes."	Can / Will	"Can" is more natural, but "will" could work if it's a decision.
"I am going to text her right now."	Be Going To	Immediate intention—"will" could be possible but sounds less natural.
"I will ask Mark if he wants to join us too."	Will	Spontaneous decision—"be going to" wouldn't fit.
"I'm sure it will be a lot of fun."	Will	<b>Prediction with opinion</b> —"will" is the correct choice here.
"Yes, it will be a great way to say goodbye!"	Will	Prediction based on opinion—"will" fits best.

#### Summary of When "Will" Was Used vs. "Be Going To"

- "Will" is used for:
  - o Spontaneous decisions (e.g., "I will call her later.")
  - o **Predictions based on opinions or beliefs** (e.g., "I think she will love it there.")
  - o **Promises or certainty** (e.g., "It will be a great way to say goodbye.")
- "Be Going To" is used for:
  - o **Planned future actions** (e.g., "I am going to buy a new laptop.")
  - o **Predictions based on evidence** (e.g., "Look at those clouds! It is going to rain.")
- Present Continuous is used for:
  - Fixed arrangements in the near future (e.g., "I am visiting my grandparents on Saturday.")
- Present Simple is used for:
  - o Schedules and timetables (e.g., "The train arrives at 6:30 p.m.")



# 2. Your Turn! Fill the gaps and explain why - Answers & Explanations – Future Tenses

1. Look at the sky! It is going to rain soon.

**Explanation:** I use "be going to" because there is **strong evidence** (dark clouds in the sky) that the rain will happen soon.

2. The train leaves at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow.

**Explanation:** I use the **present simple** because this is a **fixed timetable** or **schedule**, and we use the **present simple** for public transportation and planned events.

3. I think she will pass her driving test next week.

**Explanation:** I use "will" because this is a **prediction** based on my opinion, not on clear evidence.

- 4. We are going to Italy in July. We have already booked the tickets. Explanation: I use "be going to" because this is a planned action with prior arrangements (tickets are booked).
- 5. I promise I will help you with your homework after dinner.

  Explanation: I use "will" because this is a promise made at the moment of speaking.
- 6. Oh no! That child is going to fall off the chair! Explanation: I use "be going to" because there is clear evidence (the child is about to fall).
- 7. She is starting her new job on Monday; she signed the contract last week. Explanation: I use the present continuous because this is a future arrangement that has been officially planned (contract signed).
- 8. I will call you later when I have some free time.

**Explanation:** I use **"will"** because this is a **spontaneous decision** made at the moment of speaking.

9. School begins at 8 a.m. every day.

**Explanation:** I use the **present simple** because this is a **fixed schedule/timetable** (school always starts at the same time).

10. We are watching a movie together on Friday night. It's already planned. Explanation: I use the present continuous because this is a future arrangement that has been decided in advance.



### **Why These Answers Matter**

- "Be going to" is used for planned actions or predictions with strong evidence.
- "Will" is used for spontaneous decisions, predictions based on opinion, and promises.
- Present simple is used for schedules and timetables.
- Present continuous is used for definite personal arrangements with a fixed plan.