

# Future: Will / Be Going To

By: Teacher Ignacio Chávez

In English, there are two common ways to express the future: "will" and "be going to." Although both are used to talk about future events, each has its own specific rules and uses. Let's see how they are formed and in which situations we use these two structures.

## 1. Future with "will":

Affirmative:

Subject	will	base verb	complement
I	will	study	for the exam tomorrow

Negative:

Subject	will	not	base verb	complement
She	will	not	attend	the party tonight

Interrogative:

Will	subject	base verb	complement
Will	they	come	to the meeting?

Uses of "will" for the Future:

Spontaneous decisions: I will call him now.

Predictions: The weather will be sunny tomorrow.

Offers and promises: I will help you with your homework.

## 2. Future with "be going to":

Affirmative:

Subject	am/is/are	going to	base verb	complement
We	are	going to	visit	our grandparents next week

Negative:

Subject	am/is/are	not	going to	base verb	complement
She	is	not	going to	buy	a new car

Interrogative:

Am/Is/Are	Subject	going to	base verb	complement
Are	they	going to	travel	to Europe?

Uses of "be going to" for the Future:

Future plans and intentions: They are going to start a new business.

Predictions based on present evidence: Look at those dark clouds! It's going to rain.

Clear intentions: He is going to take the exam seriously.

Comparison Table:

	"will"	"be going to"
<b>Affirmative</b>	Subject + will + base verb	Subject + am/is/are + going to + base verb
<b>Negative</b>	Subject + will not (won't) + base verb	Subject + am not/is not/are not (aren't) + going to + base verb
<b>Interrogative</b>	Will + subject + base verb	Am/Is/Are + subject + going to + base verb

Examples:

Affirmative:

She will travel to Paris next month.

They are going to buy a new house.

Negative:

He won't attend the party tonight.

We aren't going to move to a different city.

Interrogative:

Will you come to the concert with us?

Is she going to study abroad?

Remember: "Will" and "be going to" are different ways of expressing the future in English, and the choice between them depends on the context and the speaker's intention. Practice using both forms to improve your language skills!