

Here are some ways to talk about your future:

1. You can use **be going to**:

I ’m going to have a party.

2. Or the **present progressive** tense:

It’s taking place next week.

3. You can sometimes use **will**:

I think I ’ll invite my neighbors.

4. And even the **simple present** tense:

It starts at 8:00 p.m. on Friday.



These all have slightly different meanings—crazy English!

Use these forms to make predictions or guesses

- *will*

The party **will be** fun.

- *be going to*

It's **going to be** a big success.

- Use *be going to* when there is something in the present that leads to the prediction.

Look at those cars! They're **going to crash!**

Special uses of *will*

- Use *will* when you decide something at the moment of speaking.

There's a concert tonight. I think I'll go.

- Use *will* to express willingness. You are volunteering to do something.

A: The phone's ringing.

B: I'll get it.



Use these forms to express a prior plan or scheduled event

- ***be going to*** (prior plan)
A: Why did you buy this paint?
B: I *'m going to* paint my bedroom tomorrow.
- **present progressive** (planned event/definite intention)
I *'m seeing* Dr. Wallaby next Tuesday.
- **simple present** (fixed schedule/timetable)
The plane for Chicago *leaves* at 6:05.

be going to OR *will*

1. A: Are you busy this evening?

B: Yes. I _____ meet Anne at the library. We _____ study English together.

(hint: The plans are already made.)

2. A: Are you busy this evening?

B: Well, I really haven't made any plans. I _____ eat dinner, I guess. And then probably I _____ watch TV for a while.

(hint: The speaker is deciding while speaking.)