



Lesson 15

The Use of Will and Shall

I. RULES AND EXAMPLES

1. We use **I'll (I will)** when we decide to do something at the time of speaking:

Examples:

1. Oh, I've left the door open. **I'll go** and shut it.
2. 'What would you like to drink?' '**I'll have** an orange juice, please.'
3. 'Did you phone Lucy?' 'Oh no, I forgot. **I'll phone** her now.'

Note: You cannot use the present simple (I do / I go etc) in these sentences.

Example: **I'll go** and shut the door. (not I go and shut the door.)

We often use **I think I'll ...** and **I don't think I'll ...**:

1. I feel a bit hungry. I think **I'll have** something to eat.
2. **I don't think I'll go** out tonight. I'm too tired.

In spoken English, the negative of will is usually won't (or will not):
Example: I can see you're busy, so **I won't stay** long.

2. Do not use **will** to talk about what you have already decided or arranged to do.

Examples:

1. **I'm going** on holiday next Saturday. (*not* I'll go).
2. **Are you working** tomorrow? (*not* Will you work...)

3. We often use **will** in these situations:

a) Offering to do something

Example: That bag looks heavy. **I'll help** you with it. (*not* I help)

b) Agreeing to do something

Example: A: Can you give Tim this book?

B: Sure, **I'll give** it to him when I see him this afternoon.

c) Promising to do something

Example: Thanks for lending me the money. I'll pay you back on Friday.
I won't tell anyone what happened. I promise.

d) Asking somebody to do something (**Will you...?**)

Example: **Will you** please turn the stereo down? I'm trying to concentrate.

You can use won't to say that somebody refuses to do something:

Example: I've tried to give her advice, but she **won't listen**.
The car **won't start**. (= the car 'refuses' to start)

e) We use **will** for the future (**tomorrow** / **next week** etc.)

Example: Sue travels a lot. Today she is in Madrid. Tomorrow she'll be in Rome. Next week, she'll be in Tokyo.

4. **Shall** is used mostly in the question **shall I ...? / shall we ...?**

5. We use **shall I ...? / shall we ...?** To ask somebody's opinion (especially in offers or suggestions):

Examples: **Shall I** open the window? (= Do you want me to open the window?)

I've got no money. What **shall I** do? (= What do you suggest?)
'**Shall we** go?' 'Just a minute. I'm not ready yet.'
Where **shall we** go this evening?

Compare **shall I ...? and will you ...?:**

Examples: **Shall I** shut the door? (= Do you want me to shut it?)

Will you shut the door? (= I want you to shut it?)

II. EXERCISES

Helen is traveling in Europe. Complete the sentences with **she was, she's** or **she'll be**.

Example: Yesterday _____ in Paris.

Answer : Yesterday she was in Paris.

Start here:

1. Tomorrow _____ in Amsterdam.
2. Last week _____ in Barcelona.
3. Next week _____ in London.
4. At the moment _____ in Brussels.
5. Three days ago _____ in Munich.
6. At the end of her trip _____ very tired.

Put in **will ('ll)** or **won't**.

Example: Don't drink coffee before you go to bed. You _____ sleep.

Answer : Don't drink coffee before you go to bed. You won't sleep.

Start here:

1. 'Are you ready yet?' 'Not yet. I _____ be ready in five minutes.'
2. I'm going away for a few days. I'm leaving tonight, so I _____ be at home tomorrow.
3. It _____ rain, so you don't need to take an umbrella.
4. A: I don't feel very well this evening.
B: Well, go to bed early and you _____ feel better in the morning.
5. It's Bill's birthday next Monday. He _____ be 25.
6. I'm sorry I was late this morning. It _____ happen again.

Write sentences beginning **I think...** or **I don't think...**

Example:

(Diana will pass the exam) Answer: I don't think Diana will pass the exam.

(Diana won't pass the exam) Answer: I don't think Diana will pass the exam.

1. (We'll win the game) Answer: _____.
2. (I won't be here tomorrow) Answer: _____.
3. (Sue will like her present) Answer: _____.

4. (They won't get married) Answer: _____.
5. (You won't enjoy the film) Answer: _____.

III. WRITING

Where will you be? Write sentences about yourself. Use:

I'll be... or **I'll probably be...** or **I don't know where I'll be...**

Example: (at 10 o'clock tomorrow)

Answers: **I'll probably be** on the beach at 10 o'clock tomorrow.

I'll be at work at 10 o'clock tomorrow.

I don't know where I'll be at 10 o'clock tomorrow.

Start here:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. (one hour from now) | Answer: _____. |
| 2. (at midnight tonight) | Answer: _____. |
| 3. (at 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon) | Answer: _____. |
| 4. (two years from now) | Answer: _____. |
| 5. (next month) | Answer: _____. |
| 6. (tomorrow morning) | Answer: _____. |
| 7. (next year) | Answer: _____. |
| 8. (this weekend) | Answer: _____. |
| 9. (this evening) | Answer: _____. |
| 10. (tomorrow evening) | Answer: _____. |

IV. FREE TALKING

Let's talk health!

Pretend that your teacher is a doctor. And pretend that you are ill or sick. Try to ask each other how do you feel and give some advice how to live a healthy life.



English Teachers On Call