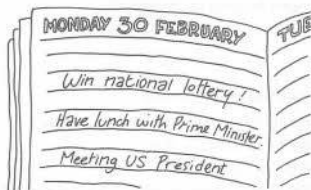


1 When you are talking about something in the future, which is arranged for a definite time, you use the present simple. There is usually a time adverbial in these sentences: は、明日、

The next train arrives at 11.30. The meeting starts straight after lunch.
We have a holiday tomorrow. We leave at two o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

2 In statements about fixed dates in the future you normally use the present simple:

Tomorrow is Tuesday.



Monday is the thirtieth of February.

It's my birthday next month.



Friday is my birthday.

3 When you talk about people's plans or arrangements for the future, you often use the present continuous tense:



I'm seeing Jill next week.



They're getting married before Christmas.

We're having a party next week. I'm doing my homework this evening.

4 When you are not sure about arrangements, you talk about the future using the present tense of verbs like *hope*, *expect*, *intend*, *want* with a *to-infinitive* clause:

We *hope* to see you soon. He *wants* to catch the last bus home.
Henry *expects* to be at the station to meet us tomorrow.

5 After the verb *hope* you often use the present simple to refer to the future:

I *hope* you enjoy your holiday. June *hopes* she passes her exam all right.

6 Present tenses are often used to refer to the future in clauses with *if* and with time words like *when* and *before*:

You won't get lost if you *have* a good map. *Have* a drink *before* you go.

* There is a deliberate mistake on this page. Can you find it?

A Look at the letter below. Underline all the verbs in the present tenses. Put a bracket round those which refer to the future:

Dear Monica,

Many thanks for your letter. I am pleased you are enjoying your holiday. When (do you come) home? It will be great to see you again.

We are going to Greece this year - next Friday in fact. I am trying to get everything ready in time, but it is very difficult with three small children. Our plane (leaves) at six o'clock on Friday morning, so we are taking a taxi to the airport at four o'clock in the morning - I hope the children behave themselves and get ready quickly without too much trouble. Peter has three weeks holiday this year so when we get back from Greece we are staying with his mother in Brighton for a week. She has a big flat in a block right next to the sea. The children love it.

Lydia is starting school this September. I hope she likes it. Jimmy hates going to school. He shouts and screams every morning. Perhaps he will be better when Lydia (starts) Thank you for your news. I am very pleased to hear that Isobel has done so well at University. What is she doing next year? Has she decided yet? What about the twins? When do they leave school?

Give my love to Norman. I am sorry about his accident. I hope he gets better soon.

Much love,

Teresa.



I hope he gets better soon.



We are taking a taxi to the airport at four o'clock.

B Answer these questions using the present simple or the present continuous:

- 1 What day of the week is your birthday on? My next birthday is on a Friday.
- 2 What time does this lesson finish? _____
- 3 What are you doing tomorrow morning? _____
- 4 How many English lessons do you have next week? _____
- 5 What day is it the day after tomorrow? _____
- 6 What is the date next Thursday? _____
- 7 What are you having for supper tonight? _____
- 8 What are you doing after your lesson? _____
- 9 When is the next national holiday? _____
- 10 How old are you on your next birthday? _____