

Will (2)

A

We do not use **will** to say what somebody has already arranged or decided to do in the future:

- Ann is working next week. (*not* Ann will work)
- Are you going to watch TV this evening? (*not* Will you watch)

For **I'm working . . .** and **Are you going to . . . ?** see Units 18–19.

But often, when we talk about the future, we are *not* talking about what somebody has decided to do. For example:

This is a very long line! Don't worry. We'll get in.

We'll get in does not mean *we have decided to get in*. Joe is saying what he knows or thinks will happen. He is predicting the future. When we predict a future happening or situation, we use **will/won't**.

JOE

Here are some more examples:

- Jill has lived abroad a long time. When she comes back, she'll find a lot of changes.
- "Where will you be this time next year?" "I'll be in Japan."
- That plate is very hot. If you touch it, you'll burn yourself.
- Tom won't pass the exam. He hasn't studied hard enough.
- When will you find out how you did on the exam?

B

We often use **will ('ll)** with:

probably	■ I'll probably be home late tonight.
(I'm) sure	■ Don't worry about the exam. I'm sure you'll pass.
(I) think	■ Do you think Sarah will like the present we bought her?
(I) don't think	■ I don't think the exam will be very difficult.
(I) guess	■ I guess your parents will be tired after their trip.
(I) suppose	■ When do you suppose Jan and Mark will get married?
(I) doubt	■ I doubt you'll need a heavy coat in Las Vegas.
I wonder	■ I wonder what will happen.

After (I) **hope**, we generally use the present:

- I hope Carol calls tonight.
- I hope it doesn't rain tomorrow.

Exercises

21.1 Which is correct (or more natural) in these sentences?

1. Ann isn't free on Saturday. She'll work / She's working. (*She's working* is correct.)
2. I'll go / I'm going to a party tomorrow night. Would you like to come, too?
3. I think Amy will get / is getting the job. She has a lot of experience.
4. I can't meet you this evening. A friend of mine will come / is coming to see me.
5. A: Have you decided where to go on vacation?
B: Yes, we will go / we are going to Italy.
6. You don't have to be afraid of the dog. It won't hurt / It isn't hurting you.

21.2 Complete the sentences with *will ('ll)* + one of these verbs:

be be come get like look meet pass

1. Don't worry about your exam. I'm sure you 'll pass .
2. Why don't you try on this jacket? It _____ nice on you.
3. I want you to meet Brandon sometime. I think you _____ him.
4. It's raining. Don't go out. You _____ wet.
5. They've invited me to their house. They _____ offended if I don't go.
6. I've invited Sue to the party, but I don't think she _____ .
7. I wonder where I _____ 20 years from now.
8. Good-bye. I'm sure we _____ again soon.

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

1. Can you wait for me? I won't be very long.
2. You don't need to take an umbrella with you. It _____ rain.
3. If you don't eat anything now, you _____ be hungry later.
4. I'm sorry about what happened yesterday. It _____ happen again.
5. I've got some incredible news! You _____ never believe what happened.
6. Don't ask Amanda for advice. She _____ know what to do.
7. There's no more bread. I guess we _____ have to go to the store before we eat.
8. Jack doesn't like crowds. I don't think he _____ come to our party.

21.4 Where do you think you will be at these times? Write true sentences using one of these:

I'll be ... I'll probably be ... I don't know where I'll be ... I guess I'll be ...

1. (next Monday night at 7:45) I'll probably be at home. OR I don't know where I'll be.
2. (at 5:00 tomorrow morning) _____
3. (at 10:30 tomorrow morning) _____
4. (next Saturday afternoon at 4:15) _____
5. (this time next year) _____

21.5 Write questions using *Do you think ... will ... ?* with one of these verbs:

be back cost get married happen like rain

1. I bought Rosa a present. Do you think she'll like it?
2. The weather doesn't look very good. Do you _____ ?
3. My car needs to be fixed. How much _____ ?
4. Sarah and David are in love. Do _____ ?
5. "I'm going out now." "OK. What time _____ ?"
6. The future is uncertain. What _____ ?