

# Future Tense

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# The **Future Simple** is used in many situations such as when making promises or predictions.

- Basic form

Subject + WILL + Verb (present form) (+)

Will + Subject + verb (?)

Subject + will not+ verb (-)

When we use:

- **Use 1: Promises.** The first use of the Future Simple to make promises.

I promise I will buy you this toy.

- **Use 2: Unplanned actions.** Use this tense also to talk about unplanned (spontaneous) decisions.

Don't worry! I will help you with this problem.

- **Use 3: Predictions.** We often use the Future Simple when making a prediction based on experience or intuition.

It will rain in a moment.

- I promise our wedding will be the most fun.
- Will you marry me?
- Tomorrow everybody will be happy and joyful that the cold winter days were over.

**Future Continuous** process indicates that will last at some point in the future. Unlike Future Simple, this time in the future it should be called directly

- Subject + will+ Verb<sub>ing</sub> (+)
- Will+Subject + Verb<sub>ing</sub> (?)
- Subject + will not+ Verb<sub>ing</sub>
- Use the Future Continuous to indicate that a longer action in the future will be interrupted by a shorter action in the future. Remember this can be a real interruption or just an interruption in time.

**I will be waiting** for you when your bus *arrives*.

- When you use the Future Continuous with two actions in the same sentence, it expresses the idea that both actions will be happening at the same time. The actions are parallel.

**I am going to be studying** and he **is going to be making** dinner.

We use the **Future Perfect** tense to talk about actions that will be finished before some point in the future. We also use this tense to express situations that will last for a specified period of time at a definite moment in the future. The last use is to express certainty that an action was completed.

- Subject + Will + have + Verb (3 form) (+)
- Will + Subject + Have + Verb (3 form) (?)
- Subject + Will not + have + Verb (3 form) (+)

- **Use 1: Completion before a specified point in the future.** The first use of this tense is to talk about future actions that will be finished before some specified point in the future.

Before they come, we will have cleaned up the house.

- **Use 2: Duration in the Future.** Another use of this tense is to talk about actions that will last after a given point in the future.

By the next year, I will have known Monica for 30 years.

- **Use 3: Certainty About the Near Past.** The last use is to express conviction that something happened in the near past.

The train will have left by now. We have to look for another way to get there.  
(I'm sure the train has left)

- I guess, I **will not have received** your next letter before Christmas.
- You **will have spent** much efforts before you can run a marathon.
- **Will she have learned** enough Chinese to communicate before she *moves* to Beijing?
- You **will have perfected** your English by the time you come back from the U.S.

We use the **Future Perfect Continuous** tense to express situations that will last for a specified period of time at a definite moment in the future. We also use this tense to express certainty about the cause of some future situation.

- Subject + **WILL HAVE BEEN** + Verb (past participle form) (+)
- **WILL**+Subject + **HAVE BEEN** + Verb (past participle form) (?)
- Subject + **WILL not HAVE BEEN** + Verb (past participle form) (+)



- **USE 1: Duration.** We use this tense to express situations that will last for a specified period of time at a definite moment in the future. It is important that we expect these situations to last longer.

Before they come, we will have been cleaning the house for 5 hours.

- **USE 2: Cause.** English speakers also use this tense when they want to express certainty about the cause of some future situation.

By this time, he will have been working for 12 hours, so he will be very tired.