When we **know about the future**, we normally use the **present tense**.

1. We use the [**present simple**](https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/node/1400) for something **scheduled**:

*We* ***have*** *a lesson next Monday.  
The train* ***arrives*** *at 6.30 in the morning.  
The holidays* ***start*** *next week.  
It****'s*** *my birthday tomorrow.*

2. We can use the [**present continuous**](https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/node/1401) for **plans or arrangements**:

*I****'m playing*** *football tomorrow.  
They* ***are coming*** *to see us tomorrow.  
We****'re having*** *a party at Christmas.*

3. We use [***will***](https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/node/10380):

* when we express beliefs about the future:

*It* ***will be*** *a nice day tomorrow.  
I think Brazil* ***will win*** *the World Cup.  
I'm sure you* ***will enjoy*** *the film.*

* to mean ***want to*** or ***be willing to***:

*I hope you* ***will come*** *to my party.  
George says he* ***will help*** *us.*

* to **make offers and promises** :

*I****'ll*** *see you tomorrow.  
We****'ll send*** *you an email.*

* to **talk about offers and promises**:

*Tim* ***will be*** *at the meeting.  
Mary* ***will help*** *with the cooking.*

4. We use ***be going to***:

* to talk about **plans or intentions**:

*I****'m going to drive*** *to work today.  
They* ***are going to move*** *to Manchester.*

* to make **predictions** based on **evidence** we can see:

*Be careful!* ***You are going to fall****.*(= I can see that you might fall.)  
*Look at those black clouds. I think* ***it's going to rain****.*(= I can see that it will rain.)

5. We use [***will be* with an *-ing* form**](https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/node/1384) for something happening before and after **a specific time in the future**:

*I****'ll be working******at eight o'clock****. Can you come later?  
They****'ll be waiting*** *for you* ***when you arrive****.*

6. We can use ***will be* with an *-ing* form** instead of the present continuous or ***be going to*** when we are talking about **plans, arrangements and intentions**:

*They****'ll be coming*** *to see us next week.  
I****'ll be driving*** *to work tomorrow.*

7. We often use **verbs like** ***would like, plan, want, mean, hope, expect*** to talk about the future:

*What are you going to do next year? I****'d like to go*** *to university.  
We* ***plan to go*** *to France for our holidays.  
George* ***wants to buy*** *a new car.*

8. We use [**modals**](https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/node/1441) ***may***, ***might*** and ***could*** when we are **not sure** about the future:

*I* ***might stay*** *at home tonight or I* ***might go*** *to the cinema.  
We* ***could see*** *Mary at the meeting. She sometimes goes.*

9. We can use ***should*** if we think there's a **good chance** of something happening:

*We* ***should be*** *home in time for tea.  
The game* ***should be*** *over by eight o'clock.*

[Talking about the future 1](https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/english-grammar-reference/talking-about-future)

[Talking about the future 2](https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/english-grammar-reference/talking-about-future)

**The future in** [**time clauses and *if-*clauses**](https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/node/1439)

In time clauses with words like *when, after, until* we often use **present tense forms** to talk about the future:

*I'll come home* ***when I finish*** *work.  
You must wait here* ***until your father comes****.  
They are coming* ***after they have had*** *dinner.*

In clauses with *if* we often use **present tense forms** to talk about the future:

*We won't be able to go out* ***if it is raining****.****If Barcelona lose*** *tomorrow, they will be champions.*

| **Be careful!** |
| --- |
| We do **not** normally use *will* in time clauses and *if-*clauses:  *I'll come home when I* ***finish work****.* (NOT ~~will finish work~~) *We won’t be able to go out if it****rains****.*(NOT ~~will rain~~)  but we can use *will* if it means *want to* or *be willing to*:  *I will be very happy if you* ***will come*** *to my party. We should finish the job early if George* ***will help*** *us.*  ***PRONOUNCIATION OF THE FINAL S***  To learn how to pronounce the final s, we have to understand what voiced and voiceless consonants are.  **Voiced consonants** are consonant sounds that are made by vibrating the vocal cords. These are the voiced consonants: B, D, G, J, L, M, N, Ng, R, Sz, V, W, Y, Z, and Th ( as in “then”)  **Voiceless consonants** do not use the vocal cords to produce their hard, percussive sounds. These are the voiceless consonants: Ch, F, K, P, S, Sh, T, and Th (as in “thing”). |

