

Future Tense Looking Forward

Reading and Discussion

Do you remember the different parts of speech? The main ones are nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. Verbs are action or doing words. Unlike other parts of speech, verbs change their form depending upon when the action takes place. We call this the **tense** of the verb.

- When the action is taking place now, we use the **present tense**;
- When the action took place earlier, we use the **past tense**;
- When the action is still going to happen, we use the **future tense**.

Today we will talk about the **simple future tense**. Read the last two sentences again. The verbs *happen* and *talk* have been used in the simple future tense. What did we use to change the tense?

In the first sentence we used *going to happen*, and in the second sentence we used *will talk*. Did you notice?

Going to and *will* both refer to something in the future, and we can often use them **interchangeably**. For example, we could have said *will happen* and *going to talk*, but they can have slightly different meanings. We usually use *going to* when we are planning to do something. We use *will* more often to offer or promise to do something. We use either form when we **predict** or expect that something is going to happen. Here are some examples:

I am going to travel after I leave school.

I will tidy my room when I have finished playing.

The weather report says it will or it is going to storm.

For the negative form of the verb we add *not* after **will**: I *will not* tidy my room.

But we add *not* before **going to**: I am *not going to* travel.


Name _____


Date _____

Activities

A: Changing tenses

Some of the actions in the following sentences take place in the present, and others took place in the past. Can you change them all into the simple future tense by completing the sentence on the right side of the arrow?

Yesterday I played football in the park.  Tomorrow

Now the boy runs down the road.  Later

I do not talk to strangers.  In future

Last Monday it rained all day.  Next Monday

Before school I walked home.  After school

She did not do her homework.  Tomorrow afternoon

This morning she drinks juice.  This afternoon

Right now I feel happy.  Tonight

B: My Future.

Write a paragraph of at least 5 sentences about your plans for the future. Starting with:

When I grow up I am going to

Name _____

Date _____

Answer Sheet

Activity A

Tomorrow I will (am going to) play football in the park.

Later the boy will (is going to) run down the road.

In future I will not (am not going to) talk to strangers.

Next Monday it will (is going to) rain all day.

After school I will (am going to) walk home.

Tomorrow afternoon she will not (is not going to) do her homework.

This afternoon she will (is going to) drink juice.

Tonight I will (am going to) feel happy.

Activity B

The paragraph should consist of at least five sentences written in the simple future tense.