

Activity Type

Reading and writing activity

Language Focus

'will' for offers, promises, unplanned decisions, and predictions

'going to' for future plans

Aim

To complete sentences with 'will' or 'going to' and to decide on the function of the future form in each sentence.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student.

Level

Elementary

Time

20 minutes

Introduction

This worksheet activity helps to teach students how we use 'going to' for future plans and 'will' for offers, promises, unplanned decisions and predictions.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the worksheet.

Tell the students to first decide what is happening in each sentence, i.e. a future plan, an unplanned decision, an offer, a promise or a prediction.

Students then complete the sentences with 'will' or 'be going to', plus the verb in brackets.

Afterwards, go through the answers with the class and elicit the function of the future form in each sentence.

Answer key

1. A: Have you decided what you **are going to do** on Saturday night? (future plan)
B: after that we **are going to have** dinner at that new Italian restaurant. (future plan)
2. B: Sit down, I **will make** you a cup of tea. (offer)
3. A: Who do you think **will win** the World Cup? (prediction)
B: I don't know, but England **won't win**. (prediction)
A: I think Germany **will win** it again. (prediction)
4. B: Don't worry, I **won't forget**. (promise)
5. A: When **are you going to meet** your friend? (future plan)
B: I'm leaving now. I **will be** home in time to cook dinner. (promise)
6. B: I **will have** a cup of coffee, please. (unplanned decision)
7. B: She **is going to stay** with a friend in Thailand, and then she **is going to go** to Vietnam. (future plans)
8. B: I **will get** you a glass of water. (offer)
9. A: Fine. I **will take** it. (unplanned decision)
10. A: What **are you going to do** tonight? (future plan)
B: I haven't thought about it. I think I **will go** to the gym. (unplanned decision)

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Decide what is happening in each sentence, i.e. a future plan, an unplanned decision, an offer, a promise or a prediction.

Then complete the gaps with 'be going to' or 'will', plus the verb in brackets.

- A: Have you decided what you _____ (do) on Saturday night?
B: Yes, we've got tickets for the cinema and after that we _____ (have) dinner at that new Italian restaurant.
- A: I've had a terrible day today.
B: Sit down, I _____ (make) you a cup of tea.
- A: Who do you think _____ (win) the World Cup?
B: I don't know, but England _____ (not win).
A: I think Germany _____ (win) it again.
- A: Please remember to turn off the lights before you leave.
B: Don't worry, I _____ (not forget).
- A: When _____ you _____ (meet) your friend?
B: I'm leaving now. I _____ (be) home in time to cook dinner.
- A: Would you like a cup of tea or coffee?
B: I _____ (have) a cup of coffee, please.
- A: What are Kate's plans for the summer?
B: Well, first she _____ (stay) with a friend in Thailand, and then she _____ (go) to Vietnam.
- A: I'm really thirsty.
B: I _____ (get) you a glass of water.
- A: How much is this shirt?
B: \$14.99.
A: Fine. I _____ (take) it.
- A: What _____ (do) tonight?
B: I haven't thought about it. I think I _____ (go) to the gym.

