

Activity Type

Reading, writing and speaking activity, individual and pairwork

Language Focus

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

Aim

To learn how to use 'will' for predictions, spontaneous decisions, offers and promises.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two worksheets for each student.

Level

Elementary

Time

35 minutes

Introduction

Here is a useful two-page worksheet activity to help teach students how to use the future form 'will' for predictions, spontaneous decisions, offers and promises.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the two worksheets.

Read through the grammar explanation and examples with the students.

Students then make decisions, promises and offers for the eight situations on their worksheet using the stated verbs. Afterwards, go through the answers with the class.

Exercise A (Possible answers)

1. I will answer it. (decision)
2. I will have chicken. (decision)
3. I will carry one of those bags for you. (offer)
4. I will post the letter for you. (offer)
5. I will ask someone for directions. (decision)
6. I will name the puppy... (decision)
7. I won't tell anyone. (promise)
8. I will turn on the light. (decision)

Students then complete two matching activities to practice the functions of 'will'. When the students have finished, check the answers with the class.

Exercise B

1. b
2. d
3. a
4. c
5. d
6. a
7. b
8. a
9. a
10. c

Exercise C.

1. f
2. g
3. d
4. e
5. b
6. h
7. a
8. c

Next, divide the students into pairs and have them discuss the ten predictions using the useful language in the box. Afterwards, have a class feedback session and ask the students which predictions they think will come true.

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The modal verb 'will' can be used to:

1. **make a spontaneous decision:** I'll pay for the tickets by credit card.
2. **predict a future event:** It will rain tomorrow.
3. **make an offer:** I'll carry your bag for you.
4. **make a promise:** I will call you tomorrow.

The structure looks like this: **Subject + will + infinitive**

A. Make a decision, promise or offer for each situation below. Use these verbs: not tell, carry, answer, have, turn on, ask, post, name

Example:

Your friend has come to your house. The window is open and it's cold.

I'll shut the window.

1. The phone is ringing. You are the nearest person to it.

2. The choice on the menu is fish or chicken. You hate fish.

3. You just met your friend at the train station. He has two large bags.

4. Your roommate has written a letter. You are going to walk past the post office later today.

5. You are lost in a city. You want to get back to your hotel.

6. You've just bought a female puppy, but it doesn't have a name yet.

7. Your friend just told you a really big secret.

8. You want to read a book, but the room is quite dark.

B. Match each sentence with a function of 'will' (a to d).

a. a promise

b. a prediction

c. a decision

d. an offer

1. There will be a thunderstorm tonight.

6. I won't tell anyone your secret.

2. I will help you with your homework.

7. The year 2222 will be a very interesting year.

3. I'll send you a postcard from Florida.

8. I will send you the information when I get it.

4. I'll have a cup of coffee, please.

9. Don't worry, I'll be careful.

5. I'll get your magazine from the shop.

10. I think I'll leave soon.

C. Match the statements with offers (a to h).

1. It's hot in here.

a. I'll get you a glass of water.

2. I'm hungry.

b. I'll get you some aspirin.

3. I need a copy of that report.

c. I'll lend you some of mine.

4. These bags are so heavy.

d. I'll email it to you now.

5. I have a headache.

e. I'll carry one for you.

6. I don't understand my homework.

f. I'll turn on the fan.

7. I'm thirsty.

g. I'll make you some food.

8. I left my money at home.

h. I'll help you with it.

D. Discuss these predictions with a partner.

1. It will rain tomorrow.

2. You will become famous.

3. Time travel will become possible.

4. You will live to be 100.

5. Aliens will visit the Earth.

6. You will become rich.

7. A large meteor will hit the Earth.

8. People will use driverless cars in the future.

9. You will live in a foreign country.

10. You will travel around the world.

Useful language:

I (don't) think so.

I hope so /not.

I don't know.

Why do you think that?

What do you think will happen then?

Why?