

► Future forms

Will/Shall

predictions, offers, promises, requests, suggestions

e.g. **Will you help** me with the dishes? / **Shall I** get you some coffee?

on-the-spot decisions
e.g. "Your clothes are dirty." "Are they?" **I'll** wash them."

when it is not certain whether sth will happen (prediction)
e.g. *If they come, I'll* **buy** a bottle of wine.

opinions, hopes, fears esp, with *think, expect, suppose*, etc. e.g. *I think he'll* **pass** his test.

be going to

intention
e.g. *She's* **going to** take her driving test in a month.

planned actions
e.g. *I know my clothes are dirty. I'm* **going to** wash them tomorrow.

when there is evidence that sth will definitely happen
e.g. *She's* **going to** have a baby.

action seen as a result of sth else in the future
e.g. *He doesn't know how to light a fire. He's* **going to** burn himself.

Future Cont.

action in progress
at a certain time in
the future

e.g. *I'll be flying to
Paris this time
tomorrow.*

logical assumption
about the present

e.g. *He will be
sleeping now.
(It's midnight.)*

already planned
action (instead of
Present Cont.)

e.g. *I'll be seeing
Sam tonight.
Would you like me
to tell him the news?*

Future Perfect

action finished before
a certain future time

e.g. *By the end of July
he will have been in
Athens for two months.*

logical assumption in
the past e.g. *It's mid-*

*night. She will have
gone to sleep by now.*

Future Perfect Con.

duration of an action up
to a certain time in the
future e.g. *By next*

*Sunday, they will have
been painting that
house for two weeks.*

Note:

by/before are used with Future Perfect in
positive sentences; **until** is used in negative
sentences.

e.g. *She will have cleaned the house by 6 o'clock.
She won't have cleaned the house
until 6 o'clock.*

Other ways of expressing the future

be + infinitive

future plans

e.g. *The meeting is to take place on Wednesday.*

be about + infinitive

immediate future

e.g. *They are about to leave.*

be on the point of + gerund

They are on the point of leaving.