

Will/shall 2

A

We do *not* use will to say what somebody has already arranged or decided to do:

- Diane is working next week. (*not* Diane will work)
- Are you going to watch television this evening? (*not* Will you watch)

For 'is working' and 'Are you going to ...?', see Units 19–20.

But often, when we talk about the future, we are *not* talking about what somebody has decided to do. For example:

Kate is doing an exam next week. Chris and Joe are talking about it.



She'll pass does *not* mean 'she has decided to pass'. Joe is saying what he knows or thinks will happen. He is *predicting* the future.

When we predict a future happening or situation, we use *will/won't*.

Some more examples:

- Jill has been away a long time. When she returns, she'll **find** a lot of changes here.
- 'Where **will** you be this time next year?' 'I'll **be** in Japan.'
- That plate is hot. If you touch it, you'll **burn** yourself.
- Tom **won't** pass the exam. He hasn't studied hard enough.
- When **will** you get your exam results?

B

We often use will ('ll) with:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| probably | <input type="checkbox"/> I'll probably be home late tonight. |
| I expect | <input type="checkbox"/> I haven't seen Carol today. I expect she'll phone this evening. |
| (I'm) sure | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't worry about the exam. I'm sure you'll pass. |
| (I) think | <input type="checkbox"/> Do you think Sarah will like the present we bought her? |
| (I) don't think | <input type="checkbox"/> I don't think the exam will be very difficult. |
| I wonder | <input type="checkbox"/> I wonder what will happen. |

After I hope, we generally use the present (will is also possible):

- I hope Kate passes the exam. (*or* I hope Kate will pass ...)
- I hope it doesn't rain tomorrow.

C

Generally we use will to talk about the future, but sometimes we use will to talk about *now*. For example:

- Don't phone Ann now. She'll be busy. (= she'll be busy *now*)

D

I shall ... / we shall ...

Normally we use shall only with I and we. You can say:

- I shall *or* I will (I'll) we shall *or* we will (we'll)
- I shall be late this evening. (*or* I will be)
- We shall probably go to Scotland in the summer. (*or* We will probably go)

In spoken English we normally use I'll and we'll:

- We'll probably go to Scotland.

The negative of shall is shall not or shan't:

- I shan't be here tomorrow. (*or* I won't be)

Do not use shall with he/she/it/you/they:

- She will be very angry. (*not* She shall be)

Will/shall 1 → Unit 21 I will and I'm going to → Unit 23 Will be doing and will have done → Unit 24
The future → Appendix 3 American English → Appendix 7

- 22.1 Which form of the verb is correct (or more natural) in these sentences? The verbs are underlined.
- 1 Diane isn't free on Saturday. She'll work / She's working. (She's working is correct)
 - 2 I'll go / I'm going to a party tomorrow night. Would you like to come too?
 - 3 I think Jenny will get / is getting the job. She has a lot of experience.
 - 4 I can't meet you this evening. A friend of mine will come / is coming to see me.
 - 5 A: Have you decided where to go for your holidays?
B: Yes, we'll go / we're going to Italy.
 - 6 There's no need to be afraid of the dog. It won't hurt / It isn't hurting you.
- 22.2 Complete the sentences with will ('ll) + the following verbs:
- be come get like live look meet ~~pass~~
- 1 Don't worry about the exam. I'm sure you 'll pass.
 - 2 Why don't you try on this jacket? It nice on you.
 - 3 You must meet George sometime. I think you him.
 - 4 It's raining. Don't go out. You wet.
 - 5 Do you think people longer in the future?
 - 6 Goodbye. I expect we again before long.
 - 7 I've invited Sue to the party, but I don't think she
 - 8 When the new road is finished, my journey to work much shorter.
- 22.3 Put in will ('ll) or won't.
- 1 Can you wait for me? I won't be very long.
 - 2 There's no need to take an umbrella with you. It rain.
 - 3 If you don't eat anything now, you be hungry later.
 - 4 I'm sorry about what happened yesterday. It happen again.
 - 5 I've got some incredible news! You never believe what happened.
 - 6 Don't ask Amanda for advice. She know what to do.
- 22.4 Where do you think you will be at these times? Write true sentences about yourself. Use:
I'll be ... or I'll probably be ... or I don't know where I'll be
- 1 (next Monday evening at 7.45) I'll be at home.
or I'll probably be at home.
or I don't know where I'll be.
 - 2 (at 5 o'clock tomorrow morning)
 - 3 (at 10.30 tomorrow morning)
 - 4 (next Saturday afternoon at 4.15)
 - 5 (this time next year)
- 22.5 Write questions using do you think ... will ... ? + the following:
- be back cost end get married happen ~~like~~ rain
- 1 I've bought Rosa this picture. Do you think she'll like it ?
 - 2 The weather doesn't look very good. Do you ?
 - 3 The meeting is still going on. When do you ?
 - 4 My car needs to be repaired. How much ?
 - 5 Sally and David are in love. Do ?
 - 6 'I'm going out now.' 'OK. What time ?'
 - 7 The future situation is uncertain. What ?