

The 17 Basic Future Forms In English

Form	Example	Function
Present Simple	The train <i>leaves</i> at 6h30.	Schedules / Habits / Appointments
Present Continuous	I <i>'m seeing</i> John tomorrow.	Arrangements
Will	I think she <i>'ll</i> be here soon.	Prediction with no evidence
Will	That's the phone. I <i>'ll</i> get it.	Instant decision
Will	You <i>will</i> start work at 9h00 sharp!	Orders
Shall	We <i>shall</i> need money soon.	Prediction or polite suggestion
Going to	We <i>'re going</i> to buy a car.	Plans
Going to	Look at the clouds, it <i>'s going</i> to rain.	Prediction with evidence.
Future Continuous	Don't call them now. They <i>'ll be having</i> dinner.	Present prediction.
Future Continuous	This time next week, I <i>'ll be lying</i> on a beach in Bali.	Future events in progress.
Be about to	The train <i>'s about to</i> leave.	Near future event
Future Perfect	We <i>'ll have been</i> here for 10 years next year.	Will be completed by a certain time in the future.
Future Perfect	Don't call him. He <i>'ll have forgotten</i> .	Past prediction
Past Future	I knew something <i>was going to</i> happen.	Something in the future at a past time.
Past Future	I <i>wanted</i> to know what time the plane <i>took</i> off tomorrow.	Polite past referring to a future event.
Past Future	I knew she <i>would</i> arrive before long.	Past prediction affecting present.
Conditional Future	Perhaps I <i>could</i> come on Friday if I have time.	Future with condition or possibility.