

Lesson Four: FUTURE FORMS: GOING TO vs WILL

1. 'Going to' FORM AND USE

- **"Going to" Future:** we use 'Going to' when we make plans and intentions or things decided BEFORE speaking.

Example: Susan: There's no milk

Mary: I know I am going to go and get some when this TV show finishes. (Mary previously made the plan to get milk)

- **Form: To be + Going to+ base verb**

| Subject | Verb "to be" | going to | Base verb |
|-------------|--------------|----------|-----------|
| I | am | going to | study |
| You/We/They | are | going to | travel |
| He/She/It | is | going to | eat |

⇒ **Examples:**

- I am going to study tonight.
- She is going to visit her friend.
- They are going to travel next week

2. "Will" Future (form and use): We also use ' Will' to talk about

- a decision made at the moment of speaking.

Example: Susan: there is no milk.

Mary: Really? In this case, I will go and get some.

- a prediction based on opinion. Example: I think the conservatives will win the next elections)
- A Future fact. For example: The sun will rise tomorrow
- For Promises/ Requests/offers. For example: I will help you tomorrow if you want

Form:

| Subject | will | Base verb |
|-----------|------|-----------|
| I | will | go |
| You | will | study |
| He/She/It | will | eat |
| We/They | will | travel |

⇒ **Examples:**

- ⇒ I will call you later.
- ⇒ She will help you.
- ⇒ They will arrive soon.

3. COMPARISON AND PRACTICE: "Going to" vs "Will"

| Use | Going to | Will |
|------------------------|----------|------|
| Plans | ✓ | ✗ |
| Instant decisions | ✗ | ✓ |
| Predictions (evidence) | ✓ | ✓ |
| Promises / offers | ✗ | ✓ |

- ⇒ Examples in Context
- ⇒ I am tired. I will rest now. (decision now)
- ⇒ I am going to rest tonight. (plan)
- ⇒ Look at the clouds! It is going to rain. (evidence)
- ⇒ I think it will rain tomorrow. (opinion)

5. Negative and Question Forms of 'Going to' and 'Will'

◇ Negative form:

| Structure | Example |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| am/is/are not going to | I am not going to go. |
| will not (won't) | I won't go. |

◇ Questions Form:

| Structure | Example |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Am/Is/Are + subject + going to...? | Are you going to study? |
| Will + subject + base verb...? | Will you come? |

6. Activity

Fill in the blanks with **going to** or **will**:

1. I _____ call you later.
2. She _____ visit her grandmother tomorrow.
3. Look! It _____ rain.
4. I forgot my bag. I _____ go back and get it.
5. We _____ travel next summer.