

FUTURE

Present simple:

Timetables/schedules:

- The bus **arrives** at 9:15.
- Our flight's at 14:15.
- What time **does** the programme start?
- What day **is** it today?
- The meeting **starts** at 9am.

Present continuous:

For something in progress and continuing into the future:

- **They're** out **shopping** at the moment.
- It's almost finished. **I'm working** on it right now!

For something which is already decided and arranged, but not yet in progress:

- **I am doing** the house cleaning tomorrow.
- What **are you doing** later?
- **I'm planning** a barbeque for Saturday.
- **She's not working** tomorrow. She's got the day off.

For an action just before you begin to do it:

- I'm tired. **I'm going** home.
- 'Are you ready yet?' 'Yes, **I'm just coming.**'

Going to:

A future action already decided, but not arranged:

- I'm not going to the party tonight. I've got a headache.
- He's going to buy a new car just as soon as he arranges the bank loan.
- Are you going to tell him the truth?
- I'm going to look for a new job.

An action that is going to happen (based on current feeling or observation):

- He's going to make a mess of his presentation. He hasn't prepared for it.

- It looks like it's going to snow any minute now.
- Things are going to get worse before they get better.
- I think I'm going to be sick.

Will:

Now:

- Don't call her. **She'll** be really busy (now).

Future:

- I'll be in London at 5pm.
- **She won't** (will not) be attending the meeting.
- **We'll** get there eventually.

Offering something:

- Let me help! **I'll** do that for you.

Agreeing:

- OK. **I'll** tell him when I see him.

Promising:

- I'll pay you back at the weekend.
- **I won't** tell her anything.

Asking:

- **Will you** help me for a minute?

Predicting:

- **They'll** be just fine on their own. **They won't** need our help.

Spontaneous decisions:

- Put your wallet away. **I'll** pay for that.
- **He'll** get this round (of beers).

I think I'll:

- I think I'll have another beer.
- I don't think I'll pass the exam.

ENGLISH 4 PROFESSIONALS
— NEVER STOP LEARNING —

English 4 Professionals Englischunterricht GmbH., Firmensitz: Ratschkygasse 22/2/23, 1120 Wien
Office: Europaplatz 2, 1150 Westbahnhof, Wien + 43 699 121 500 75 info@e4p.at www.e4p.at
FN. 407742 x UID: ATU68334545, Handelsgericht: Wien, Sitz: Wien
Bank Austria, Schönbrunner Straße 263, BIC: BKAUATWW IBAN: AT06 1200 0100 0546 3541



Probably:

- I'll probably get nervous and forget what I want to say during the interview.

I'm sure:

- I'm sure you'll be OK.

I wonder:

- I wonder what she'll do when she finds out.

Will/Shall:

- I will/I shall be working late tonight.
- It'll be fine. We will/shall manage it.

Note:

Shall is only used for I and we (not he, she, it, they)

American English doesn't use *shall*, (they use *will*)

Making a suggestion:

- Shall I make us both a coffee? (Yes/No)
- I'm hungry. Shall we go for lunch? (Yes/No)

Note:

Americans would use *Should I...?* and *Should we...?*

A question:

- Where shall we meet them?
- What time shall we leave?

But:

- Shall I open the window? = Do you want me to?
- Will you open the window? = I want you to.

Negative:

- I shall not/shan't be held responsible for his actions.

ENGLISH 4 PROFESSIONALS
— NEVER STOP LEARNING —

English 4 Professionals Englischunterricht GmbH., Firmensitz: Ratschkygasse 22/2/23, 1120 Wien
Office: Europaplatz 2, 1150 Westbahnhof, Wien + 43 699 121 500 75 info@e4p.at www.e4p.at
FN. 407742 x UID: ATU68334545, Handelsgericht: Wien, Sitz: Wien
Bank Austria, Schönbrunner Straße 263, BIC: BKAUATWW IBAN: AT06 1200 0100 0546 3541



Future perfect = will be complete before a time in the future:

- The world **will have stopped** spinning before I fully understand Russian grammar.
- The party **will have finished** and everyone **will have left** by the time we get there.

Will be doing = in the middle of doing:

- This time tomorrow **I'll be flying** to London.
- Don't come before 12pm because **we'll be out doing** the shopping.

Extracts from: **English Grammar in Use**, Raymond Murphy, 2012, Cambridge/Klett, **Eats, shoots & leaves**, Lynne Truss, 2003. Profile books ltd and **Correct English**, J.E. Metcalfe and C. Astel, Clarion books.

