

Tenses

Future tenses (future 1)

Biggi **will meet** her friends at the weekend.

Andrea **is going to meet** her friends at the weekend.

Elvira **is meeting** his friends at 6 o'clock.

Ellen's party **starts** at 6 o'clock.

Future tenses (future 2)

Soon-Hae will be back for dinner after she **will have finished** her homework.

Tenses

Future 1

Note: Though a bit old-fashioned the use of **shall** for the 1st person singular and plural is still in use:

*I **shall** be happy.*
*We **shall** see.*

The **will future** is used to talk about hopes, fears, expectations, promises, and the like. It is also used to talk about future actions that we are not in control of, and with phrases beginning *I think*.

I will be happy to help you.

Heide says she will think about it.

I think it will snow tomorrow.

The **going to future** is used to talk about things you intend, decide or arrange to do. It is also used to describe events you know will happen for sure.

Biggi is going to invite Ellen to her birthday party.

We are going to visit our parents tomorrow.

The **present progressive** is used to describe things that are planned or definitely decided.

What are you doing next week?

I'm seeing my boss tomorrow.

The **present simple** is used for arrival and departure times and the times of future events.

My flight leaves at 6 o'clock

The concert starts at 8.

Tenses

Future 1

Note: The differences between the **will/shall** future, **going to** future and **present progressive/continuous** are marginal.
The decision which of the three versions to use is mainly dependent on the speaker's personal assessment of the future situation.