

4

The simple future

When I have a six-month holiday, I **will visit** different shopping centres. I **will browse** in different shops. I **will also explore** their famous products.

Will you really have one?



Usage

We use the simple future tense to talk about:

1. something that will **likely** happen in the future (though we are not absolutely sure that it will happen).

e.g. I am not free now. I **will call** you back later.

e.g. The Leung family **will move** to Australia a few years later.



2. a **promise** or **decision** we make at the time of speaking or writing (without planning it).

e.g. Henry: Mum, I'll **tidy** my room soon.

Mum: You'd better do it. If not, I **won't allow** you to play computer games.



We usually use the simple future tense with the following time expressions:

tomorrow	soon	later	next month
in the (near) future		in an hour	after 10 years

e.g. Belinda will study in London **next year**.

e.g. Dad is coming home. We will have dinner **in an hour**.



Part 1 Statements

We form statements in the simple future tense in the following ways:

Positive statement		
I / He / She / It	will / 'll	be upset.
You / We / They		go to the park.

Negative statement		
I / He / She / It	will not / won't	be upset.
You / We / They		go to the park.

Exercise 1

Fill in the blanks with the correct simple future forms of the verbs given. Each verb can be used ONCE only. Underline the time expressions.

wake finish not board buy not launch overcome

- Don't lose hope. You _____ the difficulties later.
- Oh! I forgot about the birthday cake. I _____ it tomorrow.
- Due to the delay, the passengers _____ the plane in a few minutes.
- I promise I _____ the homework next Monday, Miss Kwok.
- Our country _____ the rocket in the near future.
- Shh! **Keep** your voice **down** or the baby _____ up soon.



Part 2 Yes / No-questions

We form *yes / no*-questions and short answers in the simple future tense in the following ways:

Question		
Will	I / he / she / it	be glad?
	you / we / they	join the party?

Short answer		
Yes,	I / he / she / it	will.
	you / we / they	
No,	I / he / she / it	will not / won't.
	you / we / they	



Vocabulary:

launch (v.): to send something into space

keep down (ph.): to make something stay at a low level

Exercise 2

Form questions using the simple future tense and the words in brackets.

1. I have no time to return my overdue book.
_____ by the library tonight? (you / pass)
2. The horse is lagging behind at the moment.
_____ the horse race? (it / win)
3. Tracy burned the midnight oil last night.
_____ too tired today? (she / be)
4. The traffic congestion is so serious.
_____ at the office on time? (we / arrive)



Educator's Tips

We can use *shall* with *I* and *we* in questions to:

1. make offers e.g. **Shall I close the windows?**
2. give suggestions e.g. **Shall we dine out tomorrow?**

Unit Recap

Emma is writing a play. Complete the play with the correct form of the words in brackets.

Dave is proposing to Ella in a romantic restaurant.

Dave: I (1) _____ (give) the best to you. I (2) _____ (not lie) to you. (3) _____ (you / marry) me, dear?

Ella: Yes, I (4) _____ (will), but you have to promise me you (5) _____ (not gamble) on horses again.

Dave: Sure. Horses (6) _____ (not interest) me.

Dave's phone rings. He finds that it's John who calls him.

Dave: Sorry, dear. I (7) _____ (have) to take this call. It's important.

John: The horse we bet on won! The money (8) _____ (be) ours!
(9) _____ (we / celebrate) our victory?

Dave: Sure, and we (10) _____ (bet) on the same horse next time!