

4

Talking about the future

Boss, you're **having** a meeting with A&B company on Monday morning. The luncheon on Tuesday **starts** at 1 pm. On Wednesday, you're **going to attend** a workshop. On Thursday, you're **meeting** Mr Smith at the Airport Cafe after lunch. His flight **arrives** at 2 pm...



Thanks for the arrangements, but when **will be** my holiday?



Usage

We learnt about the simple future tense and *be going to* in *Grammar Revolution S.1*. We can use the **simple present tense** and the **present continuous tense** to talk about the future.

We can talk about the future with:

1. the simple present tense for events in a **timetable**, **calendar** or **schedule** where the exact dates or time is given.

e.g. The bullet train **leaves** at 8 am tomorrow. (Train timetable)

e.g. The summer holidays **start** on 15th July this year. (School calendar)

e.g. The football match **is** on TV at 11 pm tonight. (TV programme schedule)



2. the present continuous tense for **plans** and **fixed arrangements**. We use it with time expressions such as *tomorrow*, *next Monday* and *tonight* to show a future time.

e.g. Jade and Minnie have already bought the air-tickets online. They **are travelling** to London in December. (= They have already planned their trip to London.)

e.g. My brother has a toothache. He **is seeing** the dentist tonight. (= My brother has made an appointment with the dentist already.)





Part 1 Revision: The Simple Future & Be going to

We learnt about the simple future tense and *be going to* in *Grammar Revolution S.1*. Their differences are as follows:

	Situation	Example
Will + infinitive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Something that is likely to happen (but we are not very sure) A decision that we make at the time of speaking or writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I think Mum will like the surprise birthday party. I won't go ice skating with you tomorrow. Enjoy yourself!
Be going to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Something that will surely happen A plan that we have already made 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at the dark clouds in the sky! It's going to rain! My parents are going to spend their Christmas holidays in France.



Educator's Tips



We use the simple future tense or *be going to* with time markers such as *at 9 am tomorrow*, *next Monday*, *in the coming Easter*, *in December* and *next week* to indicate a future time.

e.g. *Tim thinks his mother **will not dine** with him tonight as she is **going to have** an important meeting.*

Exercise 1

Christopher is talking with Billy. Complete their conversation with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Christopher: Hey, this Saturday is Christmas and I want to watch a film.

(1) _____ you _____ (join) me?

Billy: It sounds good but I need to check my schedule first. I (2) _____
_____ (reply) you tonight.

Christopher: Fine. By the way, I (3) _____ (dine) with Grace and Carson at Eagle Restaurant tonight. We (4) _____ (try) the set dinners at a special price as we've bought some coupons of this restaurant online. I think we (5) _____ (not get) disappointed by this famous restaurant!

Billy: Oh really? I hope that you (6) _____ (have) a decent dining experience there!



Part 2 The Simple Present

We form the positive and negative statements, questions and short answers in the simple present tense in the following ways:

Statement	
The flights	leave / don't leave at 8:30 am tomorrow.
The training class	begins / doesn't begin at 8:30 am tomorrow.

Question			Short answer		
Do	the flights	leave at 8:30 am tomorrow?	Yes, they	do.	
			No, they	do not / don't.	
Does	the training class	begin at 8:30 am tomorrow?	Yes, it	does.	
			No, it	does not / doesn't.	

Exercise 2

Chris is talking with John about the activities of the school Career Week in the first week of December. Form questions using the correct form of the words in brackets.

DECEMBER — 20XX						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Career Expo (1:00 pm)	2	3 Career Talk (4:00 pm)	4 Career Fair (4:30 pm)	5	6

Chris: Does the **(1)** _____ on _____ ?
(Career Expo / start at 1 pm / 1st December)

John: Yes, it does.

Chris: **(2)** _____ ?
(Career Talk / start at 5 pm / 2nd December)

John: No, it doesn't.

Chris: **(3)** _____ ?
(Career Fair / start at 4:30 pm / 4th December)

John: Yes, it does. I'm looking forward to these activities!



Part 3 The Present Continuous

We form the positive and negative statements, questions and short answers in the present continuous tense in the following ways:

Statement		
I	am / am not visiting	the dentist next Monday.
You / We / They	are / are not visiting	
He / She / It	is / is not visiting	



Question		
Am	I	visiting the dentist next Monday?
Are	you / we / they	
Is	he / she / it	

Short answer		
Yes, No,	I	am. am not.
Yes, No,	you / we / they you / we / they	are. are not.
Yes, No,	he / she / it he / she / it	is. is not.

Exercise 3

Katy is having a busy week. Complete the diary entry with the present continuous form of the verbs given. Each verb can be used ONCE only.

Day	Things to do
Monday	basketball team practice (pm)
Tuesday	lunch with Grandma at Dragon Restaurant (pm)
Wednesday	ice-skating practice (pm)
Thursday	take Mimi to the vet's (pm)
Friday	buffet dinner with Amy (night)



have practise play enjoy see

Dear Diary,

I'm having a busy week! On Monday, I (1) am playing basketball with my teammates. Then, I (2) _____ lunch with Grandma at Dragon Restaurant on Tuesday. On Wednesday, I (3) _____ ice-skating with my coach Leon. On Thursday, Mimi (4) _____ Dr Wong so I need to take her to the vet's. Finally, Amy and I (5) _____ a buffet dinner at K Hotel on Friday. The food there is nice!

Time for bed now. Goodnight Diary!



Don't mix up the simple present tense with the present continuous tense when talking about the future:

Simple present tense	Present continuous tense
To talk about a fixed event in a timetable, schedule or calendar with an exact time or date.	To talk about a definite plan for the future, but the exact time and date may not be given.
e.g. The plane departs from Seoul at <u>4 pm</u> today.	e.g. My team is taking part in the football match held at Mong Kok Stadium <u>next month</u> .

Unit Recap 1

Douglas is travelling to Hong Kong in January. He wrote an email to his friend but he made some mistakes. Correct the underlined mistakes by writing the correct form of the verbs in the spaces provided.

To: Brandon <brandonwong@cmail.com>
 From: Douglas Liu <douglas_liu@yohoo.com.hk>
 Subject: Travel plans in Hong Kong

Dear Brandon,

- How are you doing? I come to Hong Kong next month.
- My flight is arriving at 2 pm on 14th January at Hong Kong International Airport. I have travelled to the Disneyland Resort then. That night, I had a wonderful dinner reserved at The Peninsula. Then I stay in the hotel room for the whole night.
- I will visit the Peak the next day by Peak Tram myself.
- There will be a show at Madame Tussauds at 11 am.
- I watch it alone.
- After lunch, the rickshaw bus tour ride start at 2 pm from the Peak to Central. The tour lasted for 1.5 hours.

I look forward to seeing you in Hong Kong soon!

Best,
Douglas

- _____ *am coming* _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Unit Recap 2

Johnny is reading a letter about a study tour in the coming summer. Complete the letter by underlining the correct words in brackets.

Dear participants,

First of all, I would like to thank you for taking part in our study tour to the UK. To ensure you a great and enjoyable trip, please read the following details carefully.

- We **(1)** (are travelling / will travel) to Manchester first by Pacific Airlines. The flight **(2)** (departs / is departing) at 9 pm on 20/7 and **(3)** (arrives / will arrive) at Manchester Airport at 5 am on 21/7 (the local time). Then we **(4)** (are getting / will get) on the coach to York directly.
- You **(5)** (will take / are going to take) a short English culture and literature course at the University of York. Classes **(6)** (begin / will begin) at 9 am and **(7)** (continue / is going to continue) till 3 pm every Monday to Friday.
- Saturdays and Sundays are holidays. Your host family **(8)** (will probably take / is probably taking) you to different attractions. However, you **(9)** (are not going to pay / will not pay) any extra fees as they are included in your tour fees already.
- We **(10)** (are returning / will return) to Hong Kong in late August. The flight **(11)** (leaves / will leave) Manchester at 7:30 pm on 20/8 and **(12)** (lands / is going to land) at Hong Kong International Airport at 4 pm the following day.

I sincerely hope that all of you **(13)** (will have / are having) a nice and unforgettable trip!

Yours sincerely,

Julia Chan

Julia Chan

Manager of King's Overseas Education



Vocabulary:

depart (v.): to go away or leave

literature (n.): stories, poems and plays with a high artistic value