Lecture Seven

Future Expressions

Fourth Year-English Language



Future forms express various purposes:

1. An intention Example: I’m going to be a race driver when I grow up.
2. A prediction Example: Tomorrow’s weather will be warm and sunny.
3. A future fact based on a timetable Example: the flight to Doha leaves at ten past ten.
4. An arrangement between people Example: We’re seeing Sue for lunch on Thursday.
5. A spontaneous decision Example: I’ll make some coffee.
6. A suggestion Example: Shall we have a break now?

Note: The tense of the verb(leaves) in example three is the present simple tense but it describes a future event based on a timetable(a future scheduled event).

Note: The tense of the verb in example four is the present continuous tense but it expresses a near future action or event.

Note: The tense of the verb (am going to+infinitive) expresses strong determination to do the action in the future.

I feel drowsy therefore, I’ll make some coffee.

She feels sick, that’s why she’ll take a medicine.

Note: The verb in the second sentence(will be) expresses a prediction that may take place in the near future.

More examples:

Intention:I’m going to join the army when I reach 18 years old.

Prediction: There will be prosperity in the oil-exporting states.

Future fact based on a timetable: The grocery shop opens at 8:00 A.M..
School starts in Autumn.
The cinema theatre closes at 11:00 P.M.
Arrangement between people: Ahmed is giving his birthday party next week.
Spontaneous decision: The family members feel bored, so they will watch a movie.
Suggestion: Shall we order a meal now?
Shall we wind up the lecture now?
Shall we have a cold drink at the moment?