

## The simple future tense

We use the **simple future tense** to show action that *is planned to take place in the future*. When we write in the simple future tense we add an auxiliary verb to the main verb.

**Examples:** It will rain tomorrow. The auxiliary verb *will* is added to the main verb *rain* to form the simple future tense.

I may go to the party. The auxiliary verb *may* is added to the main verb *go* to form the simple future tense.

We can also use the words *going to* to form a sentence in the simple future tense and show an action that will take place in the future.

**Example:** I am going to finish my homework before supper.

We use *am + going to + finish* to form this sentence in the simple future tense.

Take note of how the verb *to be* changes when you use *going to* in the simple future tense.

**Examples:** I am going to read tonight.

You are going to bake tomorrow.

He is going to do well in the test.

We are going to visit our grandparents this afternoon.

They are going to run around the school field.



Turn to page  
46 for more  
about  
*auxiliary  
verbs*.

1. Underline the simple future tense verbs in these sentences. The first one has been done for you.
  - a) He may come along to the shops.
  - b) I am going to do my homework next.
  - c) The athletes may train next week.
  - d) The visitors are going to arrive soon.
  - e) They will stay with us.
  - f) We will wave the flag at the match.
2. Choose the correct verb in brackets to put the sentences on the next page into the simple future tense. Rewrite the sentences on the blank lines.

a) I (wash/am going to wash) my hair today.

\_\_\_\_\_

b) Bobby (will read/reads) a poem to the class.

\_\_\_\_\_

c) Zanele (catches/will catch) the train to work.

\_\_\_\_\_

d) He (is playing/is going to play) soccer.

\_\_\_\_\_

e) I (call/may call) you if I need your help.

\_\_\_\_\_

f) Our cousins (will visit/visit) us on Sunday.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Use *going to* to put these sentences into the simple future tense.

a) The puppy runs after the ball.

\_\_\_\_\_

b) The animals lie in the shade.

\_\_\_\_\_

c) Lira drives me to school.

\_\_\_\_\_

d) Father reads me a story at bedtime.

\_\_\_\_\_

e) I watched television on the couch.

\_\_\_\_\_

f) The nanny washes the baby.

\_\_\_\_\_

g) We meet in the playground.

\_\_\_\_\_

h) They screamed during the scary movie.

\_\_\_\_\_



## Remember

Sometimes the main verb needs to change in the simple future tense.

**Example:** Tessa plays netball. → Tessa will play netball.

