

FUTURE WITH “BE GOING TO” – A2

Main theme addressed	In this lesson, you will learn about the use of the phrase “to be going to” to talk about the future.
Key Goals	Here is an outline of what you will learn today: 1. How to use “be going to” to talk about the future? 2. How to form “be going to”

1. How to use “be going to” to talk about the future?

We use “going to” in two situations:

- a) to talk about events in the future we have **already thought about and intend to do, but have not arranged yet,**
- b) to make **predictions when there is present evidence.**

For advanced learners:

Avoid using “going to” with the verb “go”: use the present continuous in this case.

Examples:

- a) to talk about events in the future we have **already thought about and intend to do, but have not arranged yet:**

“I **am going to visit** a friend in London next year.”

In this case, you can use “be going to” as you intend to go to London, but as it is still far away, you probably haven’t made any arrangements to go yet.

“I am going to become a doctor when I grow up!”

In this sentence, “be going to” is appropriate as you have decided to become a doctor, but it is still in a long time and you probably haven’t started studying in medical school yet.

b) to make **predictions when there is present evidence.**

“It’s cloudy and dark: it’s going to rain soon...”

Based on the state of the sky, you predict rain.

“My cat has a big belly now, she is going to deliver soon”.

Based on the size of your pregnant cat’s belly, you highly suspect she is going to deliver soon. Meow!

Exercise:

Put the following sentences into affirmative (+), interrogative (?) or negative (-) forms in the Future with Going to.

1. They (tell) us the secret. (+)

_____.

2. He (travel) alone. (-)

_____.

3. Your friend (visit) you tomorrow. (?)

_____?

Answers:

1. They are going to tell us the secret.
2. He isn't going to travel alone.
3. Is your friend going to visit you tomorrow?

4. How to conjugate “be going to”

a) In Positive Form

Full form	Contracted form	+ going to
I am	I'm	going to
You are	You're	
He is / she is / it is	He's / she's / it's	
We are	We're	
They are	They're	

In spoken English, “**going to**” often sounds like “gonna”. In informal speech, you might see it written as such. **Avoid using “gonna” in your tests though!**

b) In Negative Form

Full form	Contracted form 1	Contracted form 2	+ going to
I am not	I'm not		going to
You are not	You're not	You aren't	
He is / she is / it is not	He's / she's / it's not	He / she / it isn't	
We are not	We're not	We aren't	
They are not	They're not	They aren't	

c) In Questions

Auxiliary	Subject	+ going to
Am	I	going to
Are	you	
Is	he / she / it	
Are	we	
Are	they	

Exercise:

**Mark each sentence as correct or incorrect by highlighting one or the other.
Then, if it is incorrect, write the correction on the lines below.**

1. Is you going to start any new activities this year?

CORRECT or INCORRECT?

2. Laura and Logan is going to start learning martial arts next semester.

CORRECT or INCORRECT?

3. Simba is going to be a great lion king someday.

CORRECT or INCORRECT?

4. Pumbaa are going to be his loyal assistant.

CORRECT or INCORRECT?

5. I see the Delorean is repaired. Marty is going to travel to the future soon.

CORRECT or INCORRECT?

6. My father not going to come home until 9.

CORRECT or INCORRECT?

7. Chidi and Tahani are going study philosophy tomorrow.

CORRECT or INCORRECT?

8. Do you think MJ is going to date Spiderman someday?

CORRECT or INCORRECT?

9. I'm going to eat any desert after dinner.

CORRECT or INCORRECT?

10. After I get dressed, I am going to build a snowman in the garden.

CORRECT or INCORRECT?

Answers:

1. INCORRECT. Correct sentence: **Are** you going to start any new activities next year?
2. INCORRECT. Correct sentence: Laura and Logan **are** going to start learning martial arts next semester.
3. CORRECT.
4. INCORRECT. Correct sentence: Pumbaa **is** going to be his loyal assistant.
5. CORRECT.
6. INCORRECT. Correct answer: My father **is** not going to come home until 9.
7. INCORRECT. Correct answer: Chidi and Tahani are going **to** study philosophy tomorrow.
8. CORRECT.
9. INCORRECT. Correct answer: I'm **not** going to eat any desert after dinner.
10. CORRECT.

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<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/grammar/british-grammar/future-be-going-to-i-am-going-to-work>

<https://www.gymglish.com/en/gymglish/english-grammar/the-future-tense-with-be-going-to>

<https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/simple-future-use.html>