

58 Future with *will*

In the future people *will* live and work in space.



1 Form

POSITIVE	I/He/She/It/We/You/They <i>will</i> ('ll) <i>win</i> .
NEGATIVE	I/He/She/It/We/You/They <i>will not</i> (won't) <i>win</i> .
QUESTIONS	<i>Will</i> I/he/she/it/we/you/they <i>win</i> ?
SHORT ANSWERS	Yes, I/he/she/it/we/you/they <i>will</i> . No, I/he/she/it/we/you/they <i>will not</i> (won't).

2 Certain/possible future

We use *will* to talk about things that are certain to happen in the future:

*My mother **will be** fifty in May.*

*There **will be** elections next year.*

*China **will soon be** the world's richest country.*

We also use *will* to say what we think will happen in the future:

*In the future people **will live** and work in space.*

*Clare **won't be** late, she's always on time.*

We can use *probably* and *definitely* to say how sure we are:

*I'll **definitely pass** the test. (I'm sure this will happen.)*

*We'll **probably go** to Spain next summer. (I think this will happen, but I'm not sure.)*

We usually put these adverbs after *will* but before *won't*:

*We'll **probably go** to Spain. We **definitely won't go** to Portugal.*

3 Decisions, offers, promises and warnings

We use *will* when we decide to do something while we are speaking – something that we didn't plan:

*'Mr Baxter isn't here at the moment. Can I take a message?' 'No thanks. I'll **call** again later.'*

*'Do you want to watch the midnight movie?' 'No, I'm tired. I think I'll **go** to bed now.'*

NATURAL ENGLISH We often use *I (don't) think + will*:

*I'm tired. I **think I'll go** to bed now.*

*It's quite early. I **don't think I'll go** to bed yet.*

We also use *will* to make offers, promises and warnings:

*We'll **take** you to the hospital. I'll **work** harder next year. Don't eat so much – you'll **get fat!***

*Leave now or you'll **miss** the train.*

 Pronunciation ► 1.23

4 *shall*

It is possible to use *shall* to mean *will* after *I* and *we*. But in everyday English we only use *shall* to offer or suggest something:

*It's hot in here. **Shall I open** a window? **Shall we get** the earlier train?*