

Beginner

The Use of I will and I'm going to

RULES AND EXAMPLES

We use **will ('ll)** and **(be) going to** in future actions.

Will ('ll): We use **will** when we decide to do something at the time of speaking.

Example: A conversation between Ryo and Ota.

Ryo: Let's have a party.

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(Be) going to: We use **(be) going to** when we have already decided to do something. Helen had already decided to invite lots of people before she spoke to Dave.

More Examples: Try to compare the following sentences:

1. 'Mori phoned while you were out.' 'OK, **I'll call** him back.'
'Mori phoned while you were out.' 'Yes, I know. I'm going to call him back.'
2. 'Tago is in hospital.' 'Oh, really? I didn't know. I'll go and visit her.'
'Tago is in hospital.' 'Yes, I know. I'm going to visit her this evening.'

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Future happenings and situations (predicting the future).

Sometimes there is not much difference between **will** and **going to**. You can say,

I think that the weather **will** be nice this afternoon. Or,
I think that the weather **is going to** be nice this afternoon.

When we say something **is going to** happen, we think this is because of the situation **now**.

Examples:

Look at those black clouds. **It's going to rain.** (*not* it will rain)

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These shoes are very well-made. They'**ll last** a long time.