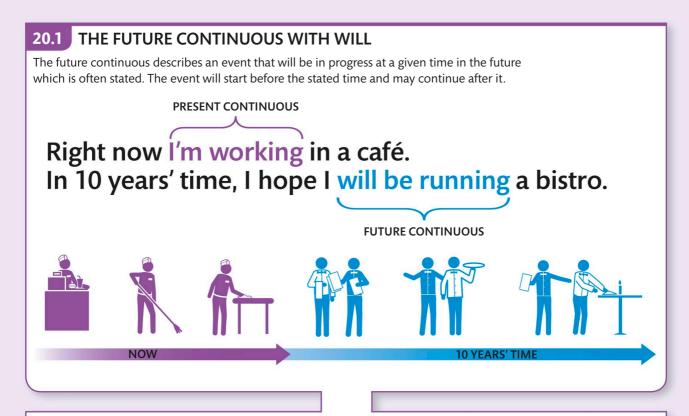
### 20 The future continuous

The future continuous can be formed using "will" or "going to." It describes an event or situation that will be in progress at some point in the future.

#### See also:

Present continuous 4 "Will" 18 Infinitives and participles 51



### **HOW TO FORM**

I will be running a bistro.

### **FURTHER EXAMPLES**

This time next week, we will be walking in the Andes.



Emma will be starting school in September.



### 20.2 THE FUTURE CONTINUOUS WITH "ANYWAY"

The future continuous can also be used to talk about events that are going to happen as a matter of course or "anyway."

Oh no, I've run out of milk.

I can get some for you later.



No, please don't worry!

It's okay, I'll be driving past the store anyway.

### **FURTHER EXAMPLES**



You can send the parcel here.

I'll be waiting in the house anyway.



I can give that to Freda for you. I'll be seeing her for lunch.

"Anyway" is implied here. .

### 20.3 NEUTRAL QUESTIONS

The future continuous is also used to ask neutral questions: questions asked for information, not to make a request.

### **NEUTRAL QUESTION**

Future continuous.

Will you be coming into work tomorrow?

Yes, I will.

OK, let's talk about the report then.



# Future simple. Will you come into work tomorrow please? Sure, no problem

### **FURTHER EXAMPLES**

Will you be driving past the post office later?



Will you be attending the meeting this afternoon?



### 20.4 THE FUTURE CONTINUOUS TO TALK ABOUT THE PRESENT

You can also use the future continuous to speculate about what is happening at the present moment.

Have you noticed that Andrew isn't at work today?

It's more likely that he'll be watching the golf on TV!

He'll be working on his presentation at home.

### **FURTHER EXAMPLES**

Why isn't Xavier here today?



He'll be finishing off his report for the annual meeting.

Why is Nev late?



He'll be taking his children to school.

Where is Sarah?



She'll be studying in the library probably.

Is Phoebe at home?



No, she's not here. She'll be playing with Ciara at the park, probably.

Have you seen Roberta?



No, but she's going out later, so I think she'll be getting ready.

### 20.5 THE FUTURE CONTINUOUS WITH "GOING TO"

The future continuous can sometimes be formed with "going to" instead of "will," but this is less common. It can be used in most future continuous constructions except to speculate about the present.

## I can't come out this evening. I'm going to be studying all night.



### **HOW TO FORM**

I going to be studying all night.

### **FURTHER EXAMPLES**

I want to go away on Saturday, but I'm going to be working all weekend.



I'd love to go out on Thursday, but I'm going to be finishing this essay.



Shall we have lunch next week? I'm going to be visiting your city.



I'm going to be staying with my husband's family for the holidays this year.



Do you want to go to a concert tonight? My wife is going to be performing.



At the lecture this evening, two politicians are going to be talking about crime.

