

Going to- Future



1. Read the text message conversation between two housemates and answer the questions on the next page.

Hi Kevin, I am going to invite some friends to our house for dinner on the weekend, will you be at home? You're welcome to join us for dinner if you'd like.

Hi Ruby, that sounds nice, but I'm afraid I can't come, I'm going to visit my brother this weekend, so I won't be at home.

No problem, have fun! One little thing, are you going to clean the bathroom before you go? It's really dirty, and it's your turn to clean it.

Oh, is it my turn? Well, I can't clean the bathroom before the weekend, but I'm going to do it next week, I promise!

Sorry but I really need you to do it *before* this weekend. As I said, my friends are going to be here on Saturday, and I don't want the bathroom to be dirty when they get here!

Oh come on, your friends are not going to care how our bathroom looks, relax Ruby!

Kevin, you need to start doing your chores, our house is always so messy because you never clean! I'm going to clean the bathroom this time, but this is the last time I am going to do your chores!

- a) Why does Ruby want Kevin to clean the bathroom?
- b) Why can't Kevin come to Ruby's dinner?
- c) Why is Ruby frustrated with Kevin?
- d) Have you ever lived with someone who was really messy and didn't clean?

'Going to' for the Future

We use *'the verb be (am, is, are) + going to + base verb'* to talk about the future.

For example: *"We are going to have lunch at a restaurant tomorrow."*

'Going to' is similar to 'will', but going to is often used when we have already planned something. 'Will' is more often used when we make the decision in the moment.

For example: *"I am tired, I think I will go to bed now."* (decided in the moment)

"I am going to buy a house next year." (planned in the future)

However, there are many times when both *'going to'* and *'will'* are correct.

For example: *"He is going to walk the dog tomorrow."* ✓

"He will walk the dog tomorrow" ✓

The negative structure for 'going to' future is *'the verb be + not + going to + base verb'*

For example: *"They are not going to go on holiday this month, they are too busy."*



2. Complete the sentences below using "going to" and any verb that makes sense. More than one answer is possible.

- a) I e.g. *"am going to eat/have"* lunch with my friends today.
- b) She a new car tomorrow.
- c) I football this weekend.
- d) We to the beach on Thursday
- e) My dad our kitchen because it's really dirty.
- f) I (negative) my homework tonight, I am too tired!
- g) My friends a party on Friday, do you want to come?
- h) He (negative) the house, he's too lazy!

'Going to' Questions

We use *'verb be + subject + going to + base verb'* for closed questions with going to.

For example: *"Are you going to wash the dishes?"* or *"Is he going to move to Italy?"*

For open questions with going to we use *'question word + verb be + subject + going to + base verb.'*

For example: *"When are you going to wash the dishes?"* or *"Where are we going to go for our next holiday?"*



3. Complete the questions using 'going to' and any verb that makes sense. More than one correct answer is possible

- a) What you tomorrow?
- b) What you for dinner tonight?
- c) you sports this week?
- d) Where you for your next holiday?
- e) you TV tonight?
- d) What you next year?



4. Pairwork: ask your partner the questions above and write down their answers in the 'going to' form.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.



5. Match the chores in the box to the pictures below

feed the dog

vacuum

wash the dishes

mow the lawn

take out the garbage/trash

walk the dog

water the plants

grocery shopping



'Going to' and 'Gonna'

When we are speaking quickly, 'going to' is often shortened to 'gonna.'


For example: *"I'm gonna take out the garbage tomorrow morning."*

Note: while it is very common to say 'gonna', it is almost never written that way.



6. Ask and answer the questions below with a partner. Try to use 'gonna' in your answers.

- When are you gonna go to sleep tonight?
- Are you gonna go grocery shopping this week?
- What are you gonna do for your next birthday?
- Are you gonna be at our next English lesson?

 7. Look at the weekly chore plan for Kevin and Ruby's apartment and make 5 'going to' sentences. Read your sentences to the class with the 'gonna' pronunciation.



Chores, Don't Forget!!!

<u>Day</u>	<u>Ruby</u>	<u>Kevin</u>
<u>Mon</u>	Take out the trash	Walk the dog
<u>Tues</u>	Clean the bathroom	Water the plants
<u>Wed</u>	Vacuum, walk the dog	Mow the lawn
<u>Thurs</u>	Do the grocery shopping	Take out the trash
<u>Fri</u>	Water the plants	
<u>Sat</u>	Walk the dog	Vacuum
<u>Sun</u>	Walk the dog	do the grocery shopping

For example: "On Monday Kevin's gonna walk the dog."

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)



8. Listen to the discussion¹ between Ruby and Kevin and answer the questions.

- a) How does Ruby get Kevin to pause his game?
- b) When is Kevin going to vacuum?
- c) What type of business is Kevin going to start, and what is he going to do with the money he makes?
- d) When is Kevin going to walk the dog, and why does he think he doesn't need to do it every day?
- e) What is Ruby going to make for lunch?
- f) Why didn't Kevin do the grocery shopping?
- g) How would you describe Kevin as a housemate?



Was/Were Going to

If we want to say that we had a plan in the past, but the plan changed or did not happen for some reason, we use 'was going to + base verb'

For example: *"I was going to do the grocery shopping, but I played video games instead."*

When the subject of the sentence is 'we', 'they', or 'you', the word 'was' becomes 'were.'

For example: *"We were going to paint our house green, but then we decided blue looked better."*

Note: Just like 'going to' is often shortened to 'gonna', 'was/were going to' is often shortened (in spoken English, not in written English) to 'was/were gonna.'

For example: *"I was gonna come to your party, but I got really sick the day before."*

¹ <https://quick-and-easy-english.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/1.-Going-to.mp3>



9. Read the sentences and express the same thing using 'was/were going to' sentences.

a) I wanted to study art, but I decided to study medicine instead.

For example: *"I was going to study art, but I studied medicine instead."*

b) John was on his way to being a professional soccer player, but then he broke his leg.

c) Our plan was to drive to the beach, but our car broke down, so we just went for a walk.

d) We wanted to get a cat, but my mum is allergic, so we got a dog.

e) I know I said I would call you last night, but I was so tired I fell asleep as soon as I got home.

f) They had planned to buy a house, but then the housing market got really expensive.



10. Think about some plans in your life (or someone else's life) that changed. Express them with 'was/were going to' sentences. Say your sentences to the class with the 'gonna' pronunciation.

For example: *"My friend was going to visit me last weekend, but he was too busy."*

1)

2)

3)

4)

11. Listen to the discussion² between Ruby and Kevin and answer the questions.

- a) Why didn't Ruby come straight home after lunch?
- b) Why didn't Kevin message Ruby about the groceries?
- c) Why doesn't Kevin want a banana?
- d) Why was Ruby not happy with Kevin's groceries last week?
- e) Why didn't Kevin clean the kitchen?
- f) What did Ruby have planned for the cake in the fridge, and why does she say that she is going to kill Kevin?



² <https://quick-and-easy-english.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/2.-Was-going-to.mp3>