# Unit 17 · Future Plans

STUDY NOTES

## The unit in one line

- the **future**: the time that hasn't come yet
- two ways to say it: **will** + verb and **going to** + verb
- short forms (*isn't, won't*); a **message** to a friend

## Getting started

- a man thinking of a laptop, a house, a car, a phone, clothes: *He **might be planning** to buy a car.* (a guess)
- **plan** = something you have decided to do in the future
- **song:** a child's **promises**: do my best every day, color carefully, write neatly, do homework, try hard in tests
- listen for **will** (**'ll**: *I'll*) and **won't** (= *will not*)

## Reading I: Life on Mars

- an **information text**: making Mars more like Earth
- many **scientists** hope people will live and work on Mars; some are making plans
- people need three things: **water, air, food**
- **terraforming** = changing a planet to be like Earth, to make it **habitable** (*terra*, Latin = earth)
- Mars is freezing, about **−60 °C** on average: first **goal**, warm it up
- the idea, from Earth's problem: **greenhouse gases** in the **atmosphere** trap heat; factories on Mars could **release** them on purpose
- warmer air → **rain** → **plants** grow → plants add **oxygen**
- the problems: many **centuries**, a great deal of money
- **really:** Mars's air is very thin (under 1/100 of Earth's), almost all **carbon dioxide**; water only as **ice** (poles, underground)
- 2018 (Jakosky and Edwards): not possible with today's technology
- *Perseverance*: left 30 July 2020, landed 18 Feb 2021, almost **seven months**; a Mars year = **687** Earth days
- a month on Mars, the five most important: **oxygen, water, food, a space suit, a radio**

## Key words

**plan**: something you have decided to do.

**scientist**: a person who studies science.

**planet**: a large body in space that goes round a star.

**habitable**: good enough for people to live in.

**terraforming**: changing a planet to make it like Earth.

**temperature**: how hot or cold something is.

**goal**: an aim.

**atmosphere**: the layer of gases around a planet.

**release**: give off, let out.

**century**: a hundred years (*centuries*).

**oxygen**: the gas in the air we breathe.

**zoom**: move very fast.

**swoop**: dive down through the air.

**soar**: fly high up.

**coast / shore**: land next to the sea.

**float**: drift gently on water or in the air.

## Pronunciation: short forms with n't

- the **apostrophe** shows where letters are left out: *is not* → *isn't*
- most keep the verb: *isn't, aren't, don't, doesn't, didn't, hasn't, shouldn't*
- **two change:** *will not* → ***won't***; *cannot* → ***can't***
- **can't**: say the vowel fully and the **t**, or it sounds like *can*
- **couldn't, wouldn't, shouldn't**: the **l** is silent (*kud-nt*)
- **won't** rhymes with **don't**, not *want*

## Grammar I: will and going to

- **will** + **plain verb**, the same for everyone: *The plants **will add** oxygen.*
- **am / is / are going to** + plain verb: *She **is going to** buy a bike.*

| Use going to for | Use will for |
|---|---|
| a **plan made before now**: *I bought the ticket. I'm going to visit Lumbini.* | a choice made **just now**: *The phone's ringing. I'll get it!* |
| something you **see coming**: *Look at those clouds! It's going to rain.* | an **offer** or **promise**: *I'll help you. I won't tell anyone.* |
| | a **guess**: *I think robots will cook our food one day.* |

- from the text: *The gases **will help** … Rain **will fall** … The plants **will add** oxygen … The cost **will be** high.*

- table sentences: *I / She / They* + *will / won't / am-is-are going to* + action + *tomorrow* (72 in all)

## Grammar II: will in three forms

| Yes | No | Question |
|---|---|---|
| *I **will** do my work.* | *I **won't** do my work.* | ***Will** I do my work?* |
| *She **will** be fine soon.* | *She **won't** be fine soon.* | ***Will** she **be** fine soon?* |

- short answers: *Yes, he **will**. / No, he **won't**.*
- **order:** person → *will (not)* → verb → the rest → time at the end (*We will go to the cinema tomorrow.*)
- question: **Will** first (*Will they take a test at school next week?*)
- a sentence and its reason:
  - *It's a cloudy day → I think it **will rain** today*
  - *It is unhealthy → I **will not eat** junk food*

## Speaking: plans and what's coming

- pictures:
  - storm clouds: *It's **going to** rain*
  - a swimsuit: *I'm **going to** swim*
  - a teacher with a book: *They are **going to** listen to a story*
  - a wet floor: *I'll slip for sure!*
- **Yesh and Seema:** she's **going to swim** in the river and **will teach** him; he's **going to** a party, and **going to learn** dance steps first
- *What are you **doing** tomorrow?*: the -ing form with a time = a fixed plan
- *I'm going to a party*: here *going* just means traveling there

## Writing: a message

1. **date** at the top
2. **time** on the right
3. **salutation**: *Dear Raman,*
4. **message body**: why you write, the news or plan (*will, going to*), a question, *Please reply soon.*
5. **signature**: *Yours,* and your name

- model: **Alia** asks **Raman** to join her picnic on Saturday
- **project:** ask three people their plans for the next few days; report with *is going to / will*

## Reading II: Night Flight (a poem)

- **Poet: Ted Scheu**, American; six short verses; four start ***Close your eyes***; the flight is a **dream**
- **1** rise past the clouds → **2 zoom** round the **Moon** (hold on tight) → **3 swoop** low over the **swirly** sea → **4 soar** from a **pointy peak** to a slippery shore → **5** star to star → **6 float** home, from coast to coast, for **breakfast** (eggs and toast): morning, the dream is over
- uses **will** for the journey ahead: *we'll zoom, we'll float*
- one rhyming pair per verse (lines 2 and 4): *coast / toast*

## Listening: Tony's trip to New York

| Time | Tony will |
|---|---|
| 7 o'clock | **leave** here |
| 9:30 a.m. | **depart** from LAX (Los Angeles airport) |
| 4:30 p.m. | **arrive** in New York City |
| tomorrow night | **have** dinner at the hotel |
| after dinner | **walk** around the city |

- **depart** = leave on a journey; **check into** a hotel = say you have come, get your room
- telling a friend's plans: *I will play* → *He will play*

### COMMON MISTAKES

✗ She will goes to Pokhara.
✓ She will **go** to Pokhara.

✗ I am go to buy a pen.
✓ I am **going to** buy a pen.

✗ Will you to help me?
✓ Will you **help** me?

✗ Will she is fine soon?
✓ Will she **be** fine soon?

✗ "I'm cold." "I'm going to close the window."
✓ "**I'll** close the window." (an offer, just now)

✗ will not → willn't
✓ **won't**

✗ Mars has no air at all.
✓ Mars has **very thin** air, almost all carbon dioxide.