Simple future with will

1. Affirmative form

Will + infinitive is used to express the *simple future*. This tense speaks of actions in the future which are either *certain* or are *intended* or are reliant upon a *condition*.

- **Certainty** : I **will be** in bed at midnight.
- **Intention** : She **will finish** her homework later.
- **Condition** : We **will eat** in the garden if it doesn't rain.

The **future auxiliary** *will* is the same for all persons and the main verb is always an *infinitive*.

<u>Note</u> : The auxiliary **will** can be contracted to '**ll**.

- I **will do** it // I'**ll do** it
- You **will do** it // you'**ll do** it
- He / she / it **will do** it // he / she / it'**ll do** it
- We **will do** it // we'**ll do** it
- You **will do** it // you'**ll do** it
- They **will do** it // they'**ll do** it

2. Negative and interrogative forms

These are the same as with other structures. It is the auxiliary which takes the negative form using *not* or which is *inverted* to form the interrogative structure.

Negative : The contracted form of *will not* is *won't*.

- **We won't know until tomorrow.**
- **I won't have time to see you today.**

Interrogative

- **Will you help me with this exercise ?** Yes, I **will**. / No, I **won't**.
- **What will happen if I press this button?**

Won't is also used to indicate that something or someone *refuses* to do something.

- My car **won't start**.
- The baby **won't eat**.
- Your dog **won't listen** to me.

3. Using shall

Shall is often used to replace *will* on the first persons singular and plural and is followed by an *infinitive*. **Shall** is only used with **I** and **we**.

- I **shall be** a little late this evening.
- We **shall have** to prepare the spare room before they arrive.

This in no way changes the meaning and, in the examples given above, *will* can also be used. However, **shall** is used to make a *suggestion* or to ask for another person's opinion.

- **Shall** we **go** out this evening?
- **Shall** I **call** an ambulance?
- **Shall** I stop now? > This **asks** the other person if they think **I** should stop.
- **Will** you stop now? > This **tells** the other person that you want **them** to stop.