# **Past time**

# **Describing events in the past**

#### • Main events

The past simple is used to describe finished actions and events in the past. Susan went into the station and bought a ticket.

# • Background description

The past continuous is used to describe actions in progress in the past. It gives information about the background situation.

There were a lot of people waiting in the station. Some were sleeping on the benches, and others were walking up and down. Susan was looking for Graham, so she didn't sit down.



# Past perfect

The past perfect is used to make it clear that one past event happens before another past event. We use the past perfect for the earlier event.

By the time the train arrived, Susan **had managed** to push her way to the front of the crowd.

It is not always necessary to use the past perfect if a time expression makes the order of events clear.

Before the train arrived, Susan managed to push her way to the front of the crowd.

# • Past continuous used with past simple

We often use the past continuous first to set the scene, and then the past simple for the separate, completed actions that happen.

Susan was looking for Graham, so she didn't sit down. Instead, she tried calling him on her mobile phone.

We often contrast an action in progress with a sudden event which interrupts it.

While Susan was trying to get onto the platform, a man grabbed her handbag.

# • Participle clauses

Participle clauses are introduced by the time expressions *before*, *after* and *while*. They have the same subject as the following clause.

After struggling with him, Susan pulled the bag from his hands.

# Habits in the past

# Past simple

The past simple is used to describe past habits or states. A time expression is usually necessary.

I always **got up** at six in those days.

(habit)

I **lived** in Austria for several years.

(state)

#### Used to

*Used to* is used to describe past habits or states. A time expression is not necessary.

I used to get up at six, but now I get up at eight.

I used to own a horse. (I owned a horse once.)

With negatives and questions used to becomes did + use to.

I didn't use to like beer,

Did you use to swim every day?

When we use *used to* we suggest that the action is no longer true and so make a strong contrast with the present.

#### Would

Would is used to describe a person's typical activities in the past.

It can only be used to describe repeated actions, not states. It is mainly used in writing, and in personal reminiscences.

Every evening was the same. Jack **would turn on** the radio, light his pipe and fall asleep.

#### • Past continuous

The past continuous can be used to describe a repeated action in the past, often an annoying habit. A frequency adverb is necessary.

When Peter was younger, he was always getting into trouble.

# **Politeness and uncertainty**

We can use the past continuous with *think*, *hope* and *wonder* to give a polite or uncertain meaning.

I was thinking of having a party next week.

I was hoping you would join us at the café tonight.

I was wondering if you could help me.

## 1 Choose the best answer.

1	A was returning	B returns	C returned	D returning
2	A had put	<i>B</i> would put	C was putting	D puts
3	A had left	B leaves	C was leaving	D leaving
4	A was having to	B has had to	C had to	D would have to
5	A packed	B packing	C had packed	D packs
6	A was realizing	B realizes	C realized	D realizing
7	A hadn't made	B didn't make	C wouldn't make	D wasn't making
8	A was booked	B books	C booking	D had booked
9	A was checking in	B had checked in	C checked in	$\boldsymbol{D}$ used to check in
10	A forgetting	B forgotten	C had forgotten	D was forgetting
11	A was phoning	B had phoned	C phoning	D phones
12	A rung	B ring	C was ringing	D rang
13	A arriving	B arrive	C was arriving	D had arrived
14	A was noting	<i>B</i> used to note	C noted	D noting
15	A picked up	B was picking up	C had picked up	D picking up
16	A ran	Brunning	C was running	D run
17	A looked	B was looking	C looking	D had looked
18	A had thought	B thinking	C was thinking	D would think
19	A remembered	B remembers	C was remembering	D remembering
20	A leaving	B had left	C was leaving	D was left

# 2 <u>Underline</u> the most suitable verb form in each sentence. The first one is done for you.

- 1 I suddenly remembered that *I forgot / <u>had forgotten</u>* my keys.
- 2 While Diana *watched / was watching* her favourite television programme, there was a power cut.
- 3 Tom *used to live / would live* in the house at the end of the street.
- 4 Who was driving / drove the car at the time of the accident?
- 5 By the time Sheila got back, Chris went / had gone.
- **6** David *ate / had eaten* Japanese food before, so he knew what to order.
- 7 I did / was doing some shopping yesterday, when I saw that Dutch friend of yours.
- 8 I used to like / was liking sweets much more than I do now.
- 9 What exactly were you doing / did you do when I came into your office yesterday?
- 10 Laura missed the party because no-one was telling / had told her about it.
- 11 Tanya would / used to be a doctor.

# 3 Put each verb in brackets into a suitable past verb form. Only use the past perfect where this is absolutely necessary.

1	While I (try) was trying to get my car started, a passing car (stop)
	and the driver (offer) to help me.
2	The police (pay) no attention to Jo's complaint because she
	(phone) them so many times before.
3	Mary (not wear) her glasses at the time, so she (not notice)
	what kind of car the man (drive)
4	Nick (lie) down on the grass for a while, next to some tourists
	who (feed) the ducks.
5	Tony (admit) that he (hit) the other car,
	but said that he (not damage) it.
6	Sorry, I (not listen) to you. I (think)
	about something else.
7	Helen (feel) very tired, and when she (finish)
	her work, she (fall) asleep.
8	The police (get) to Tom's house as fast as they could, but the
	burglars (disappear)
9	I (phone) you last night but you (not answer)
	What (you do)?
0 <	We (not go) out yesterday because it (rain)
	\ \ \ ~ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \



Л	Decide whether	4 h a a h & a	. : . : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	بم مامامهانیم	
4	Decide whether	tne verb torm	i in italics is	i suitable oi	r unsultable.

- 1 While I had a bath, someone knocked on the door. unsuitable.
- 2 Sally *didn't go* to a boxing match before. ......
- 3 Harry tried to repair the car, but he didn't really know what he was doing.
- 4 What *did you wear* to the end-of-term party? .....
- 5 Were you eating spaghetti every day when you lived in Italy? .....
- 6 I didn't know you had bought a new car. .....
- 8 As Peggy walked home, she tried to remember what happened, ......
- 9 'What a terrible day!' thought Lucy. Everything had gone wrong!.....
- 10 Although it rained a lot, I was enjoying my holiday last year. .....

# 5 Put each verb in brackets into a suitable past verb form.

# The Search for the Lost City

When Professor Mallory, the famous archaeologist,
(1) .iwxited (invite) me to take part in his expedition to find the
Lost City of the Himalayas, I (2) (not hesitate) to accept
his invitation. Mallory (3)(discover) an ancient map
showing the position of the city, although no European (4)
(ever go) to the area before. In fact, most of Mallory's colleagues
either (5)(believe) that the city
(6)(feel) that it
(8) (vanjsh) long ago and (9)
(become) simply a legend. According to the Professor, the builders of the city
(10)(hide) it among the mountains in order to protect its
immense riches. He (11) (believe) that the descendants of
these ancient people (12) (still keep) themselves apart
from the rest of mankind for the very same reasons. So when we
(13)(set off) on a cool May morning towards the distant
mountains, each of us (14)(look forward) to exciting
discoveries. For a week or more we (15)(climb) higher
and higher, following the map, which Mallory (16)
(study) from time to time. Then one afternoon, while we (17)
(rest) at the top of a valley, we (18) (notice) that a rider
on a horse (19) (wave) at us from the other side of the
valley. A rider whose clothes (20) (shine) like gold!

# 6 Rewrite each sentence beginning as shown. Use a participle clause.

- 1 Norman collected the parcel, but then he realized it was the wrong one.

  After collecting the parcel. Norman realized it was the wrong one.
- 2 Sue left the house but first she checked that she had her keys.

  Before ......
- 3 Mark was parking his car when he noticed the wing-mirror was broken.
  While ......
- 4 Julia cleaned the house, but then she fell asleep on the sofa.

  After
- 5 Brian bought a new television, but first he checked all the prices.

  Before
- 6 Alan was skiing in Switzerland and met his old friend, Ken.
  While ......
- 7 Kate took two aspirins, and then she felt a lot better.
  After
- 8 Sheila went out for the evening, but first she washed her hair.
  Before

# **Key points**

- 1 The past simple describes completed events in the past, such as the main events in a narrative. It can also describe habits and routines in the past.
- 2 The past continuous is used for:
  - a) background description.
  - b) actions in progress, often contrasted with a sudden event.
  - The past continuous cannot be used to describe past routines and habits.
- 3 Participle clauses can introduce a clause giving the main event. The subjects of both clauses must be the same.
- 4 The past perfect describes a past event which took place before another past event. If *before* or *after* is used, the past perfect is optional.

  The past perfect is not used for an event that happened a long time ago in the past.
- 5 *Used to* only refers to past time, and has no present form.
- **6** *Would* can be used to describe habitual actions in the past, usually in writing. It does not make such a strong contrast with the present as *used to*. Compare:

Jim would always make his mother a cup of tea after lunch.

Jim **used to** drink tea, **but now** he prefers coffee.

Would cannot be used to describe states.

Sally **used to** be a dancer.

#### → SEE ALSO

**Grammar 2:** Present perfect **Consolidation 1:** Units 1–4

Grammar 6 and 7: Conditionals, Wishes and related forms

**Grammar 12:** Time expressions

# **Present perfect**

#### **Recent events**

# • Present perfect simple

The present perfect simple is used to describe recent events.

I've left my shopping bag behind.

The event happened in the past, but there is a result in the present.

I've broken my arm, as you can see.

No definite time is given for the event, but to emphasize the idea of recentness we can use *just*.

I've just broken my watch.

We can also describe events that have not happened.

I haven't found her phone number yet.

## **Indefinite events**

# • Present perfect simple

No definite time is given for the events. They are a series of actions in our life up to now.

I've been to France three times.

After *It's / This is the first / second time* we use the present perfect. It also refers to our life up to now.

This is the first time I have eaten Japanese food.

# • Compared with past simple

Events described using the past simple have definite times.

I went to France last year.

I ate at a Japanese restaurant on Saturday.

If we think of a definite place for an event, this may suggest a definite time.

I left my shopping bag on the train.

# **Extended or repeated events**

### • Present perfect simple

The present perfect simple describes a state which lasts up to the present.

Tve lived in this house for five years.

The present perfect simple can describe a habitual action in a period of time up to the present.

I've always left my bike here, and nobody has complained before!

### • Present perfect continuous

The present perfect continuous can also describe a state which lasts up to the present moment.

I've been living in this house for five years.

There is little difference in meaning between simple and continuous in this case or in *How long* questions.

How long have you **lived** / **been living** in this house?

The verbs wait, sit, lie, stay prefer the present perfect continuous.

I've been waiting for ages.

# For, since, ago

See Grammar 12 for contrast between these time expressions.

# Present perfect simple or continuous?

# Completed action

The present perfect simple can show that an action is complete.

I've finished my homework!

If we say *how many* or *how much* we use the present perfect simple form. A certain amount has been completed.

I've written ten pages of my homework!

# Not completed

The present perfect continuous can show that an action is not completed, or that it has finished recently.

We've been walking for hours! Let's have a rest.

I've been fixing my scooter. That's why I'm so dirty!

# Present result or action in progress

We use the present perfect simple if our attention is on the present result.

I've done my homework. Now I can watch the television.

We use the present perfect continuous if our attention is on the action in progress.

I've been doing my homework all evening! I didn't know it would take so long.



### **GRAMMAR 2 PRESENT PERFECT**

## 1 Choose the best answer.



- (a) Did you enjoy the match?
- b) Have you enjoyed the match?



- a) What have you been doing?
- b) What have you done?



- a) He was married six times.
- b) He has been married six times.



- a) How long have you been here?
- b) How long are you here for?



- a) I've been waiting for an hour.
- b) I waited for an hour.



- a) Where did Wendy go?
- b) Where has Wendy been?

#### **2** <u>Underline</u> the most suitable verb form in each sentence.

- 1 Did you see / Have you seen my bag anywhere? I can't find it.
- 2 Larry *is writing* / *has been writing* / *has written* his novel for the last two years.
- 3 From the minute he got up this morning Gary asked / has asked / has been asking silly questions!
  - 4 Have you given / Did you give Helen my message when you have seen / saw her?
  - 5 Sorry, could you say that again? I *didn't listen / haven't listened / haven't been listening* to you.
  - **6** The police think that they *found / have found* your wallet, so call this number.
  - 7 Did you two meet / Have you two met before? Eric, this is Amanda.
  - 8 Did you meet / Have you met anyone interesting at the party?

3	Put	each verb in brackets into a suitable verb form.
		I'm sorry about not coming last week. I (have)had
	•	so I (stay) at home.
	2	Wait a minute! I (have)
	_	last time we (see)
	3	It's nice to be back. This is the second time I (visit) this
		country.
	4	I'm phoning about your bicycle for sale, which I (see) in the
		local paper. (you sell) it? Or is it still available?
	5	This place is in a terrible mess! What on earth (you do)?
		And now for an item of local news. Hampshire police (find)
		the dangerous snake which (go)missing earlier in the week.
	7	1 1 1/0/7/01
		an appointment with the dentist for next Tuesday.
	8	I can't give you the report I (promise) for today because I
		(not finish)it.
4	<u>Un</u>	derline the most suitable time expression.
	1	I haven't seen Gerry <u>for</u> / since a long time. How is he?
	2	It's ages ago / since I last went to a football match.
	3	I've written to Deborah <i>last week / recently.</i>
	4	What have you been doing today / yesterday?
	5	Have you eaten Italian food before / already?
	6	I've been living here <i>in / since</i> the end of last year.
	7	Actually I had dinner with Sue last night / lately.
	8	I've been trying to get in touch with David for ages / for the last time.
	9	Terry hasn't been to Edinburgh <i>since / when</i> we went there together.
	10	I can't remember <i>how long / when</i> I've had this watch.
_	_	
5		mplete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first
		tence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use
		ween two and five words, including the word given.
	1	Steve started learning the violin a month ago.
		learning
	•	Stevehas been learning the violin for a month.
	2	I haven't been to an Indian restaurant for ages.
,	7	since
		It's ages an Indian restaurant.
	_3_	When she heard the results, Mary began to feel more confident.
		become
7/	\	Since hearing the results
$\langle / \rangle$		confident. The last time Nancy came here was in 1086
/	4	The last time Nancy came here was in 1986.
,		Nancy hasn't
		1900.

# **GRAMMAR 2 PRESENT PERFECT**

		This is the first to Japan,
	6	How long have Helen and Robert been married?
		get
		When married?
	7	Jack bought those trousers last month, and has been wearing them ever since.
		for
		Jack hasa month.
	Q	It's a long time since our last conversation.
	0	spoken
		•
	0	We
	9	Thanks, but I had something to eat earlier.
		already
		Thanks, but I'veeat.
	10	This is my first game of water-polo.
		played
		I before.
		$\wedge$
6	Put	each verb in brackets into either the past simple, the present perfect simple,
	or t	ne present perfect continuous.
	T	was announced in London this morning that the British Oil Corporation
	_	
		(1)has.discavered
	1	(1)has.discovered
	(3).	(1)has discovered
	(3) . then	(1)kas.discovered
	(3). there year	(1)
	(3). there year (6).	(1)
	(3). there year (6).	(1)
	(3) . there year (6) . other	(1)
	(3). there year (6). other	(1)MAS. ALSCOVERED
	(3). there years (6). other The Local	(1)
	(3). ther year (6). other The Loca oil i	(1)
	(3). ther year (6). other The Loca oil i	(1)
	(3) . ther year (6) . other Local in the control of	(1)
	(3). ther year (6). other Loca oil is the contact the	(1)MAS. ALSCAVERED
	(3). there year (6). other The Local oil is the control of the con	(1)
	(3). ther year (6). other The Local in the said (10) in S	(1)
	(3). ther year (6). other Loca oil i the call (10) in S the	(1)
	(3). there year (6). other The Local oil is the said (10) in State is go	(1)
	(3). ther year (6). other Local in the call is go (reference).	(1)
	(3). ther year (6). other Local in the call is go (reference).	(1)

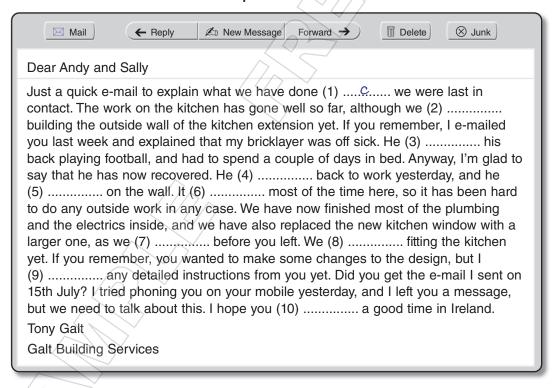
5 This is my first visit to Japan.

time

# 7 Put each verb in brackets into either the present perfect simple or the present perfect continuous.

- 1 Someone (eat) .....has.eaten...... all the cakes. I'll have to buy some more.
- 2 What (you buy) ...... your sister for her birthday?
- 3 My throat is really sore. I (sing) ...... all evening.
- 5 How many people (you invite) ...... to your party?
- 6 Those two cats (sit) ...... on that branch for the last hour.
- 7 It (rain) ...... all day! Why can't it stop?
- 8 Susan (wear) ...... twelve different dresses in the past week!
- 9 I (do) ..... everything you asked. What should I do now?
- 10 Graham and Pauline (try) ......to find a house for ages, but they can't find one they can afford.

# 8 Choose the best answer for each space.



1	A when	<b>B</b> before	C since	<b>D</b> after
2	A didn't finish	<b>B</b> haven't finished	C have finished	<b>D</b> finished
3	A hurt	<b>B</b> has been hurting	C was hurt	<b>D</b> has hurt
<b>/-4</b> /	A has come	<b>B</b> came	C has been coming	<b>D</b> was coming
5	A has now worked	<b>B</b> has now been working	<i>C</i> is now working	<b>D</b> now works
6	A was raining	<b>B</b> has been raining	C rains	<b>D</b> rained
7	A have been	<b>B</b> discussed	C have discussed	<b>D</b> discuss
	discussing			
8	A didn't start	<b>B</b> aren't starting	C don't start	<b>D</b> haven't started
9	A haven't received	<b>B</b> am not receiving	C don't receive	<b>D</b> didn't receive
10	A have	<b>B</b> had	C been having	<b>D</b> to have

# **Key points**

1 The present perfect simple describes events without a definite time. Either these events take place in a period of time leading up to the present moment, or we can clearly see the result of the event.

The choice between the present perfect simple and the past simple can depend on how the speaker thinks. Compare:

A: What's the matter? B: I've had an accident.
A: What's the matter? B: I had an accident.

In the second example, the speaker thinks of the event as finished rather than still connected with the present.

2 Events described with the present perfect simple may be recent, or not.

Ouch! I've just cut my finger. (immediate)

They have improved this hotel a lot. (no definite time – not recent)

3 The present perfect continuous is used for an action in progress. It suggests that the action is unfinished, or recently finished. Compare:

I've read this book. (completion of the action is emphasized)
I've been reading this book. (the action itself is emphasized – it may not

be complete)

can also emphasize the length of ti

The present perfect continuous can also emphasize the length of time of the action.

4 For refers to a finished or unfinished period of time.

*I waited for three hours*.

He's been sitting there for ages.

Since refers to the point at which an unfinished period of time began.

He's been sitting there since two o'clock.

Ago refers to the time of a finished event.

Jill arrived a week ago.

#### → SEE ALSO

Grammar 1: Past time
Consolidation 1: Units 1-4
Grammar 12: Time expressions

# **Future time**

### **Prediction**

#### Will

*Will* is used to make predictions. It is often preceded by *I think* or by opinion words like *perhaps*. There is often a future time expression.

I think it'll rain tomorrow. Perhaps she'll be late.

In speech, will is contracted to 'll.

See also Grammar 15 and 16 for functional uses of will.

### Going to

*Going to* is also used for predictions. It is especially common when we can see the cause of the event.

Look out! There's a bus coming! It's going to hit us!

I can see you're going to have a baby. When is it due?

You're going to fall!

Going to is also common in impersonal statements.

Liverpool are going to win the Cup.

We can also use *will* for most impersonal statements like this, with no change of meaning.

#### • Future continuous

The future continuous is used to describe a situation in progress at a particular time in the future.

This time next week I expect I'll be living in London. And I'll probably be cycling to work.

#### • Future perfect

The future perfect looks back from a point in the future.

By the time we get there, the film will have started.

It refers to indefinite time up to that point. This means that when we get to the future point we can say:

The film has started.

#### Intention

#### Going to

*Going to* is used to describe a present intention or plan. This is something we have already decided to do.

I'm going to fix the television tomorrow.

#### Will

Will is used for instant decisions made at the time of speaking. I know, I'll get him a wallet for his birthday.

# **Fixed arrangements and timetables**

#### • Present continuous

The present continuous is used with a time expression to describe definite, fixed arrangements.

Sorry, I can't help you, I'm leaving in the morning.

The arrangements are often social arrangements or appointments and may be written in a diary.

# Present simple

The present simple is used with a time expression to describe future events which are based on a timetable, programme or calendar.

My train leaves at 11.30 tomorrow morning.

# When, until, as soon as

After the time expressions *when*, *until* and *as soon as* a present tense form is used, although this refers to future time.

I'll wait for you here **until** you **get** back.

The present perfect simple is often used in cases like this to emphasize the completion of an event.

I'll wait here until you have finished.



## 1 Underline the most suitable future form in each sentence.

- 1 Why are you going to buy / will you buy a new mountain bike?
- 2 Don't phone between 8.00 and 9.00. I'll study / I'll be studying then.
- 3 Look out! That tree will / is going to fall!
- 4 Let me know as soon as Louise will get / gets there.
- 5 Great news! Jean and Chris will come / are coming to stay with us.
- **6** According to this timetable, the bus is going to arrive / arrives at 6.00.
- 7 Can you call me this evening, because I'll leave / I'm leaving tomorrow.
- **8** If you arrive late at the sale, the best things *will go / will have gone*.

# 2 Put each verb in brackets into a suitable future form. More than one answer may be possible.

- 1 I can't see you on Thursday afternoon. I (visit) ............................. our Birmingham branch.
- 2 George (not be) ...... back until six. Can I take a message?
- 3 What (you buy) ...... with the money you won in the lottery?
- 4 I don't think you (have) ......any problems at the airport.
- 5 (you take) ...... your dog with you to Scotland?
- 6 All the hotels are full. Where (we spend) ...... the night?
- 7 You'd better not come in July. My mother (stay) ...... with me then.
- 8 What time (your plane leave) .....?

# 3 Put each verb in brackets into a suitable future form. More than one answer may be possible.

- 1 By the time we reach home, the rain (stop) ...will.have.stapped......
- 3 In ten years' time I (work) ...... for a different company.
- 4 If we don't get there by 6.00, Jack (leave) ......
- 5 In July they (be married) ...... for twenty years.
- 7 When you get to the station, I (wait) ...... for you outside.
- 8 Don't worry! The plane (land) ...... in a moment.
- **9** By the time you come home, I (finish) ...... the decorating.
- 10 Come round between eight and nine. We (watch) ...... the match on television then.

#### 4 Put each verb in brackets into a suitable future form.



be able) to make accurate predictions about the future. Professor Vincent, from Cambridge, (3) ...... (hold) a press conference next week to describe the computer which he calls 'Computafuture'. 'This computer can tell us what life (4) ...... (be) like, based on data describing past events,' explains Professor Vincent. For example, Computafuture can predict how many people (5) ...... (live) in a particular Professor Vincent also believes that by the year 2050, computers (7) ...... by the police. 'Computers are becoming more intelligent all the time,' says Professor Vincent. 'Soon our children. And telling us about the future.'

# 5 Put each verb in brackets into a suitable verb form. All sentences refer to future time.

1	When I (see)	see	you 1	tomorrow, I (tell) .		. you my news.
				there, we (phone		
3	I (go)	to the	e librar	y before I (do)	th	ie shopping.
4	We (wait)	h	ere un	til the rain (stop).		
				e hank when it (o		

- I (get) ......£50 from the bank when it (open) ......
- After you (take) ...... the medicine, you (feel) ..... better.
- 7 You have to stay until you (finish) ...... your work.
- 8 I (let) ...... you know the minute I (hear) ..... the results.
- 9 Before we (paint) ...... the wall, we (have) ...... a cup of tea.
- 10 We (climb) ...... over the wall as soon as it (get) ...... dark.

6 Look carefully at each line. Some of the lines are correct, and some have a word which should not be there. Tick each correct line. If a line has a word which should not be there, write the word in the space.

Keeping a alary		
Are you one of those people who will know		<u>will</u>
exactly what they will be doing every day next		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
week? When the different days will arrive,	1	
will you have get out your diary, or are	2	
you the kind of person who will just guess?	3	
Some people will write their appointments	4	
in a diary, but others just hope that they will	/5/	<u> </u>
remember. For example, tonight I'm be going	6	/.,/)
to the cinema, but perhaps I'll not forget all	Z	×.,/
about it. You see, I will never keep a diary.	8	, ·
I try not to forget my appointments, but I know	/9/	
that I will usually do. I just don't like planning	10	
my future. I know that one day I'm going to	11	
make a serious mistake. I'll be miss an important	12	
examination, or by the time I remember it and	13	
get there, it will have been finished. Perhaps	14	
that will be when I have finally buy a diary.	15	

# **Key points**

- 1 For functional uses of will, see Grammar 15 and 16.
- 2 The present continuous is used to describe fixed arrangements, and to ask about social arrangements.

Are you doing anything this evening?

3 The present simple and present perfect can be used to refer to future time after the words *when*, *until* and *as soon as*.

I'll tell you the news when I see you. Call me when you have finished.

### → SEE ALSO

Consolidation 1: Units 1-4
Grammar 12: Time expressions

Grammar 15 and 16: Functional uses of will