

## English B1 · Future forms review

Intermediate English for Chinese speakers; classroom examples, not official exam items.

# The time gates

when, if, after, before and as soon as are time gates: will cannot pass through; the present simple walks through.

## The four doors, reviewed

| Door               | Use                                   | Example                                     |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| will               | instant decision,<br>promise, opinion | It's hot. I'll buy water.                   |
| going to           | earlier plan; evidence<br>prediction  | It's going to rain —<br>look at the clouds. |
| present continuous | fixed arrangement                     | I'm meeting Li at five.                     |
| present simple     | timetable                             | The train leaves at<br>nine.                |

### Use the evidence

shall survives in offers: Shall we go? Shall I open the window?

## Your turn: which door

### Your turn

We agreed on Monday: "I \_\_\_\_ (meet) Li at five tomorrow."

- A. will meet
- B. am meeting
- C. meet
- D. am going to meeting

## The time-gate rule

| Gate       | Inside the gate —<br>present simple | Outside — will   |
|------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| when       | When I arrive,                      | I'll call you.   |
| if         | If it rains,                        | we'll stay home. |
| as soon as | As soon as the film<br>ends,        | I'll text you.   |
| until      | Wait here until I come<br>back.     | —                |

### Use the evidence

The main clause already carries will, so the time clause doesn't need to.

## Your turn: at the gate

### Your turn

If it \_\_\_\_ tomorrow, we'll stay home.

- A. will rain
- B. rains
- C. is raining
- D. rained

## Four futures for one evening

### decided now or earlier

I'll cook tonight. — just decided; the fridge won.

I'm going to cook tonight. — planned since morning.

### fixed or printed

I'm cooking tonight. — friends already promised to come.

The class starts at seven. — the school printed it.

## Your turn: the double will

### Your turn

Which is correct?

- A. When I will arrive, I will call you.
- B. When I arrive, I will call you.
- C. When I arrive, I call you.
- D. When I will arrive, I call you.

## One will per future

Míngtiān once, then relax

Chinese says the time word once and relaxes.

Tomorrow I will go to Beijing and eat hotpot. — one will carries both.

## Say it aloud

Decide now: I'll go to Chengdu.



Plan: I'm going to eat hotpot every day.



Arrange: I'm meeting my cousin at the station. The train leaves at nine.



Gate it: When I arrive, I'll call you. If the queue is long, I'll wait.

## Check yourself

- When I arrive, I'll call you — the gate takes the present simple.
- I'll get it! — an instant decision.
- It's going to rain — visible evidence.
- If it rains, we'll stay home — if is a gate too.