

Future continuous

Form

The future continuous is made up of two elements:

the simple future of the verb 'to be' + the present participle (base+ing)

Subject	simple future of the verb 'to be'	present participle
You	will be	watching
I	will be	staying

To stay, future continuous

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative	Negative Interrogative
I will be staying.	I won't be staying.	Will I be staying?	Won't I be staying?
You will be staying.	You won't be staying.	Will you be staying?	Won't you be staying?
He will be staying.	He won't be staying.	Will he be staying?	Won't he be staying?
She will be staying.	She won't be staying.	Will she be staying?	Won't she be staying?
It will be staying.	It won't be staying.	Will it be staying?	Won't it be staying?

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative	Negative Interrogative
We will be staying.	We won't be staying.	Will we be staying?	Won't we be staying?
They will be staying.	They won't be staying.	Will they be staying?	Won't they be staying?

Functions

The future continuous refers to an unfinished action or event that will be in progress at a time later than now. The future continuous is used for quite a few different purposes.

The future continuous can be used to project ourselves into the future.

Examples

- This time next week **I will be sun-bathing** in Bali.
- By Christmas **I will be skiing** like a pro.
- Just think, next Monday **you will be working** in your new job.

The future continuous can be used for predicting or guessing about future events.

Examples

- **He'll be coming** to the meeting, I expect.
- I guess **you'll be feeling** thirsty after working in the sun.
- **You'll be missing** the sunshine once you're back in England.

In the interrogative form, the future continuous can be used to ask politely for information about the future.

Examples

- **Will you be bringing** your friend to the pub tonight?
- **Will Jim be coming** with us?
- **Will she be going** to the party tonight?
- **Will I be sleeping** in this room?

The future continuous can be used to refer to continuous events that we expect to happen in the future.

Examples

- I'll be seeing Jim at the conference next week.
- When he is in Australia **he will be staying** with friends.
- **I'll be eating** with Jane this evening so I can tell her.

When combined with *still*, the future continuous refers to events that are already happening now and that we expect to continue some time into the future.

Examples

- In an hour **I'll still be ironing** my clothes.
- Tomorrow **he'll still be suffering** from his cold.
- Next year **will she still be wearing** a size six?
- **Won't stock prices still be falling** in the morning?
- Unfortunately, **sea levels will still be rising** in 20 years.