The Future Tense

Definition

The future tense is used to describe an action or state that will occur in the future.

There are four forms of the future tense:

- 1. Simple Future Tense
- 2. Future Continuous Tense

Simple Future Tense

Formation

 Positive: Subject + will/shall + base verb

Example: I shall jump.

 Question: Will/Shall + subject + base verb?

Example: Will he jump?

 Negative: Subject + will/shall not + base verb

Example: He will not jump.

Usage of "will"

- **Certainty:** The metro will remain closed tomorrow.
- **Speaker's opinion:** I don't think I'll go out.
- Offering help: I'll cook dinner for you.
- **Promise:** I'll be there for you.
- Prediction: I think our school will be off in December.

- 3. Future Perfect Tense
- 4. Future Perfect Continuous Tense
- Requests: Will you please get me some sugar?

"Going to" Form

Usage

- Planned actions: We are going to have dinner tomorrow.
- **Prediction with evidence:** It is going to rain.

Will vs Going to

- "Will" = decision made at the moment of speaking.
- "Going to" = decision or intention made earlier.
- Example: He is going to buy a car. (pre-decided)
- Example: He will buy a car. (decided now)

Present Continuous for Future Meaning

Usage

Used when a future action is already arranged or decided.

Examples:

- What are you doing on Sunday evening?
- o We are going shopping later this afternoon.

Future Continuous Tense

Formation

Positive: Subject + will/shall be + verb-ing

Example: I shall be walking.

 Question: Will/Shall + subject + be + verb-ing?

Example: Will they be walking?

 Negative: Subject + will/shall not be + verb-ing

Example: They will not be walking.

Usage _

 To describe an action in progress at a future time

Example: At 10 a.m., my father will be leaving.

 To describe an action certain to happen

Example: Neha will be joining her job.

Future Perfect Tense

Formation

 Positive: Subject + will/shall have + past participle

Example: I shall have eaten.

 Question: Will/Shall + subject + have + past participle?

Example: Will they have eaten?

 Negative: Subject + will/shall not have + past participle

Example: They will not have eaten.

Usage

 To describe an action that will be completed in the future

Example: I shall have finished my project by 9 o'clock.

Future Perfect Continuous Tense

Formation

• **Positive:** Subject + will/shall have been + verb-ing

Example: I shall have been playing.

• **Question:** Will/Shall + subject + have been + verb-ing?

Example: Will they have been playing?

 Negative: Subject + will/shall not have been + verb-ing **Example:** I shall not have been playing.

Usage

 Action that will start before, continue up to, and possibly go beyond a point in future

Example: She will have been waiting by the time we get there.

Important Points to Remember

- Future Tense talks about future actions or states.
- It includes four forms:
 - Simple Future
 - Future Continuous
 - o Future Perfect
 - Future Perfect Continuous