

# Will and Might

Talking about what will and might happen in the future.

## 1. Warm up

Discuss the following with a partner.

1. Which languages are popular to learn in your country?
2. What technology or smart devices do you use at home every day?
3. What technology or smart devices do you use in your classroom?



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## 2. Reading

### A. Read the article about technology in the classroom.

What will your English classroom be like in thirty years time? Technology is becoming more and more important in how students learn languages. Many teachers think that traditional textbooks might be a thing of the past in the near future. They also think that streaming media will replace CDs and DVDs very soon. Will students use tablets or smart devices instead of traditional pen and paper? Maybe a computer will replace your English teacher.

Some people think that English might not be as popular as it is now. Will Chinese replace English as the number one international language in the future? We can't be sure, but we do know that technology will be important in the English classroom of the future.

### B. Find evidence in the article to complete the sentences with will, might, might not, and won't.

1. Traditional textbooks \_\_\_\_\_ be a thing of the past in the near future.
2. Classrooms \_\_\_\_\_ have CDs or DVDs very soon.
3. English \_\_\_\_\_ be as popular as it is now.
4. Technology \_\_\_\_\_ be important in the English classroom of the future.

## 3. Will and Might

### A. Read the model statements and questions. Can you see a pattern?

Statements				
Subject	Modal	Infinitive without to	Object	Prepositional phrase
1. Students	will	to use	computers	in the classroom.
2. Chinese	might	replace	English	in the future.
Questions				
Question word(s)		Subject		
3. What	will	students	use	in the classroom.
4. What language	might		replace	English in the future?

**B. Complete the rules by circling the correct modal verb.**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. When you are sure something is going to happen, use:                     | <b>will / won't / might / might not</b> |
| 2. When you think that it's possible something is going to happen, use:     | <b>will / won't / might / might not</b> |
| 3. When you are sure the something is not going to happen, use:             | <b>will / won't / might / might not</b> |
| 4. When you think that it's possible something is not going to happen, use: | <b>will / won't / might / might not</b> |

**C. Complete the sentences with will, might, might not, and won't.**

1. I'm exhausted! I ..... go to bed early tonight.
2. If I drink anymore coffee, I ..... be able to sleep tonight.
3. If you stay in youth hostels and get a cheap train pass, you ..... need a lot of money for your holiday.
4. I ..... move to a new apartment, but I'm not sure yet.
5. I ..... move to a new apartment, but I haven't found a good one yet.
6. The weather is terrible, so the flight ..... arrive on time.
7. There isn't a cloud in the sky! It ..... be a lovely day.
8. I might visit a museum tomorrow. I ..... see how I feel in the morning.

**D. Rewrite the sentences with will or might. Check the model sentences in Part 3A for help.**

1. There is definitely a party at my house tonight.  
.....
2. I am thinking about studying Japanese this year.  
.....
3. My friend promised to help me with my project this weekend.  
.....
4. I don't know where your phone is. It's probably in the car.  
.....
5. There is a fifty-fifty chance that she will be late for her English class tomorrow.  
.....
6. I checked the arrival times on the website. Their flight is due to arrive at 3 p.m. this afternoon.  
.....

## 4. Conversation

A. On your own, complete the sentences to make them true for you. Use will, might, might not, and won't.

1. Tomorrow, I will .....
2. This weekend, I might .....
3. Next month, I might .....
4. This year, I won't .....
5. Next year, I might .....
6. Next summer, I .....
7. In the next two years, I .....
8. In five years time, I .....
9. One day, I will .....

B. Ask your partner questions about their future plans in Part 4A.

- A      What will you do tonight?
- B      I will cook dinner for my family.
- A      Really? What will you cook?
- B      Well... I might cook Italian food, but I won't make pizza.

# Will and Might



Level: Elementary: A2  
Pre-Intermediate: A2+

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Language: Function: Making predictions. Talking about the future.  
Forms: Future forms. Modal and auxiliary verbs.

Teaching time: 90 minutes.

Overview: Students review language used to talk about possibility and certainty and to make future predictions. Students will be able to speak about possibilities in their future using the modal verbs will and might.

## 1. DISCUSS

A warm up activity helps set the mood for the topic/lesson and is a good opportunity to assess students' ability to generate language as well as elicit target vocabulary used in the lesson. If students struggle to engage with their partners, ask questions to encourage participation. Allow a few minutes for students to complete the activity and continue the conversation if interesting.

## 2. READING

- A. Individually or in pairs, students read the article about technology in the classroom. Discuss any new vocabulary.
- B. Students complete the sentences with will, won't, might, and might not. Students can check their answers by reviewing the article. Check answers with the class.
1. Traditional textbooks **might** be a thing of the past in the near future.
  2. Classrooms **won't** have CDs or DVDs very soon.
  3. English **might not** be as popular as it is now.
  4. Technology **will** be important in the English classroom of the future.

## 3. WILL AND MIGHT

- A. In pairs or as a class, review the construction of sentences and questions using the modal verbs will and might. Remind students that the verb after a modal verb is an infinitive without to (to go). You might choose to write a sentence and a question on the board and discuss modal verbs of possibility and certainty.
- B. Individually or in pairs, students circle the correct alternative to complete the rules. Students can compare their answers with a partner or check as a class.
1. When you are sure something is going to happen, use: **will**
  2. When you think that it's possible something is going to happen, use: **might**
  3. When you are sure the something is not going to happen, use: **won't**
  4. When you think that it's possible something is not going to happen, use: **might not**
- C. Individually or in pairs, students complete the sentences with modal verbs will, won't, might, or might not. Students should check for context clues to help choose the best modal verb. Students can compare their answers and discuss any differences or check answers with the class. Students should be able to explain why they choose their answer.

1. I'm exhausted! I **will** go to bed early tonight.
  2. If I drink anymore coffee, I **won't / might not** be able to sleep tonight.
  3. If you stay in youth hostels and get a cheap train pass, you **won't / might not** need a lot of money for your holiday.
  4. I **might** move to a new apartment, but I'm not sure yet.
  5. I **will** move to a new apartment soon, but I haven't found a good one yet.
  6. The weather is terrible, so the flight **might not / won't** arrive on time.
  7. There isn't a cloud in the sky! It **will** be a lovely day.
  8. I might visit a museum tomorrow. I **will** see how I feel in the morning.
- D. Individually, students rewrite the sentences with different ways to talk about possibility/certainty with 'will' and 'might'. Remind students that they might need to change the form of the verb used in the sentences. Students can check the model sentences in Part 3A or the board for help. Monitor and assist if necessary. Students can compare their sentences with a partner or elicit answers from students.
1. There **will be/will definitely be** a party at my house tonight.
  2. I **might study** Japanese this year.
  3. My friend **will** help me with my project this weekend.
  4. I don't know where your phone is. It **might be** in the car.
  5. She **might** be late for her English class tomorrow.
  6. I checked the arrival times on the website. Their flight **will** arrive at 3 p.m. this afternoon.

## 4. CONVERSATION

- A. Individually, students complete the sentences using will, might, might not, and won't so they are true for them. Numbers 1-5 have the modal verb specified. Encourage students to be creative if they are unsure of what to write.
- B. Model the conversation with a student. In pairs, students take turns asking their partner about their future plans or predictions in Part 4A. Encourage students to ask follow-up questions to continue the conversation if interesting. As an extension to this activity, have students present interesting information about their partner's responses.