



Tikrit University

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Future Continuous Tense

The Future Continuous tense is often used in English as a way to talk about something happening at a given point in the future.

How do we make the Future Continuous tense?

The structure of the Future Continuous tense is:

subject	+	auxiliary verb <i>WILL</i>	+	auxiliary verb <i>BE</i>	+	main verb
		invariable		invariable		present participle
		will		be		base + ing

For negative sentences in the Future Continuous tense, we insert **not** between **will** and **be**. For question sentences, we exchange the **subject** and **will**. Look at these example sentences with the Future Continuous tense:

	subject	auxiliary verb		auxiliary verb	main verb	
+	I	will		be	working	at 10am.
+	You	will		be	lying	on a beach tomorrow.
-	She	will	not	be	using	the car.
-	We	will	not	be	having	dinner at home.

	subject	auxiliary verb		auxiliary verb	main verb	
?	Will	you		be	playing	football?
?	Will	they		be	watching	TV?

We sometimes use **shall** instead of **will**, especially for I and we.

Contraction with Future Continuous

When we use the Future Continuous tense in speaking, we often contract the subject and WILL:

I will	I'll
you will	you'll
he will she will it will	he'll she'll it'll
we will	we'll
they will	they'll

In negative sentences, we may contract with **won't**, like this:

I will not	I won't
you will not	you won't
he will not she will not it will not	he won't she won't it won't
we will not	we won't
they will not	they won't

How do we use the Future Continuous tense?

The Future Continuous tense expresses action at a **particular moment** in the future. The action will have started before that moment but it will not have finished at that moment. For example, tomorrow I will start work at 2pm and stop work at 6pm:

At 4pm tomorrow, I will be working .		
past	present	future
		4pm
		At 4pm, I will be in the middle of working.

When we use the Future Continuous tense, our listener usually knows or understands what time we are talking about. Look at these examples:

- I **will be playing** tennis at 10am tomorrow.
- They **won't be watching** TV at 9pm tonight.
- What **will you be doing** at 10pm tonight?
- What **will you be doing** when I arrive?
- She **will not be sleeping** when you telephone her.
- We'**ll be having** dinner when the film starts.
- Take your umbrella. It **will be raining** when you return.