

A We use **I'll ... (= I will)** when we've just decided to do something. When we say '**I'll** do something', we announce our decision:

- ☐ Oh, I left the door open. **I'll go** and shut it.
- ☐ 'What would you like to drink?' '**I'll have** orange juice, please.'
- ☐ 'Did you call Max?' 'Oh no, I forgot. **I'll call** him now.'

We do not use the *present simple* (**I do / I go** etc.) in these sentences:

- ☐ **I'll phone** him now. (*not* I phone him now)

We often use **I think I'll ... / I don't think I'll ...**:

- ☐ I'm a little hungry. **I think I'll have** something to eat.
- ☐ **I don't think I'll go** out tonight. I'm too tired.

In spoken English **will not** is usually **won't**:

- ☐ I can see you're busy, so **I won't stay** long. (= I will not stay long)

B We often use **I'll** in these situations:

Offering to do something

- ☐ That bag looks heavy. **I'll help** you with it. (*not* I help)

Agreeing to do something

- ☐ A: Can you give Tom this book?
B: Sure, **I'll give** it to him when I see him this afternoon.

Promising to do something

- ☐ Thanks for lending me the money. **I'll pay** you back on Friday.
- ☐ **I won't tell** anyone what happened. I promise.



We use **won't** to say that somebody refuses to do something:

- ☐ I've tried to give her advice, but she **won't listen**.
- ☐ The car **won't start**. (= the car 'refuses' to start)

Will you (do something)? = please do it:

- ☐ **Will you** please turn the music down? It's too loud.

The car **won't start**.



C We do *not* use **will** to talk about what has been decided or arranged before:

- ☐ **I'm going** on holiday next Saturday. (*not* I'll go)

Compare:

- ☐ **I'm meeting** Kate tomorrow morning. (decided before)
- ☐ A: **I'll meet** you at half past ten, OK?
B: Fine. See you then. (decided now)

D We use **shall** mostly in the questions **shall I ... ? / shall we ... ?**

We use **shall I ... ? / shall we ... ?** to ask if it's OK to do something or to ask for a suggestion:

- ☐ **Shall I** open the window? (= do you want me to open it?)
- ☐ I've got no money. What **shall I** do? (= what do you suggest?)
- ☐ '**Shall we** go?' 'Just a minute. I'm not ready yet.'
- ☐ 'Where **shall we** have lunch?' 'Let's go to Marino's.'

Compare **shall I ... ?** and **will you ... ?**:

- ☐ **Shall I** shut the door? (= do you want me to shut it?)
- ☐ **Will you** shut the door? (= I want you to shut it)

Exercises

21.1 Complete the sentences with I'll + a suitable verb.

- 1 'How are you going to get home?' 'I think I'll take a taxi.'
- 2 'It's cold in this room.' 'Is it? on the heating then.'
- 3 'Are you free next Friday?' 'Let me see. my diary.'
- 4 'Shall I do the washing-up?' 'No, it's all right. it later.'
- 5 'I don't know how to use this phone.' 'OK, you.'
- 6 'Would you like tea or coffee?' '..... coffee, please.'
- 7 'Are you coming with us?' 'No, I think here.'
- 8 'Can you finish this report today?' 'Well,, but I can't promise.'

21.2 Read the situations and write sentences with I think I'll ... or I don't think I'll ...

- 1 It's a bit cold. The window is open and you decide to close it. You say:
It's cold with the window open. I think I'll close it.
- 2 You are feeling tired and it's getting late. You decide to go to bed. You say:
I'm tired, so Goodnight!
- 3 The weather is nice and you need some exercise. You decide to go for a walk. You say:
It's a lovely morning. Do you want to come too?
- 4 You were going to have lunch. Now you decide you don't want to eat anything. You say:
I don't feel hungry any more. lunch.
- 5 You planned to go swimming today. Now you decide not to go. You say:
I've got a lot to do, so today.

21.3 Which is correct?

- 1 'Did you call Max?' 'Oh no, I forgot. +call / I'll call him now.' (I'll call is correct)
- 2 I can't meet you tomorrow morning. I'm playing / I'll play tennis. (I'm playing is correct)
- 3 'I meet / I'll meet you outside the hotel at 10.30, OK?' 'Yes, that's fine.'
- 4 'Please don't go yet.' 'OK, I'm staying / I'll stay a little longer, but I have to go soon.'
- 5 I'm having / I'll have a party next Saturday. I hope you can come.
- 6 'Remember to lock the door when you go out.' 'OK. I don't forget / I won't forget.'
- 7 'Do you have any plans for the weekend?' 'Yes, we're going / we'll go to a wedding.'
- 8 'Are you doing / Will you do anything tomorrow evening?' 'No, I'm free. Why?'
- 9 'Do you do / Will you do something for me?' 'It depends. What do you want me to do?'
- 10 'Do you go / Will you go to work by car?' 'Not usually. I prefer to walk.'
- 11 I asked Sue what happened, but she doesn't tell / won't tell me.
- 12 I don't know if I can win the race tomorrow, but I'm doing / I'll do my best.

21.4 What do you say in these situations? Write sentences with shall I ... ? or shall we ... ?

- 1 You and a friend want to do something this evening, but you don't know what.
You say: What shall we do this evening? Do you want to go somewhere?
- 2 You and a friend are going on holiday together, but you have to decide where.
You ask your friend:?
- 3 You try on a jacket in a shop. You are not sure whether to buy it or not.
You ask a friend for advice:? What do you think?
- 4 You and a friend are going out. You have to decide whether to get a taxi or to walk.
You ask your friend: or?
- 5 It's Helen's birthday soon. You want to give her a present, but what?
You ask a friend: What? Any ideas?
- 6 You're meeting a friend tomorrow, but you have to decide what time.
You say:? Is 10.30 OK for you?