

will be doing and will have done

A Study this example situation:

These people are standing in a queue to get into the cinema.



now

Half an hour from now, the cinema will be full. Everyone **will be watching** the film.



half an hour from now

Three hours from now, the cinema will be empty. The film **will have finished**. Everyone **will have gone** home.



three hours from now

B I **will be doing** something (*future continuous*) = I will be in the middle of doing it:

- ☐ This time next week I'll be on holiday. I'll **be lying** on the beach or **swimming** in the sea.
- ☐ You have no chance of getting the job. You'll **be wasting** your time if you apply.

Compare **will be (do)ing** and **will (do)**:

- ☐ Don't phone between 7 and 8. We'll **be eating**.
- ☐ Let's wait for Liz to arrive and then we'll **eat**.

Compare:

- ☐ At 10 o'clock yesterday, Tina **was** in her office. She **was working**. (*past continuous*)
- It's 10 o'clock now. She **is** in her office. She **is working**. (*present continuous*)
- At 10 o'clock tomorrow, she **will be** in her office. She **will be working**. (*future continuous*)

C We also use **will be -ing** to talk about complete actions in the future. For example:

- ☐ The government **will be making** a statement about the crisis later today.
- ☐ Later in the programme, I'll **be talking** to the Minister of Education.
- ☐ The team's star player is injured and **won't be playing** in the game on Saturday.

When we use it in this way, **will be (doing)** is similar to **will (do)** and **going to (do)**.

Later in the programme,
I'll **be talking** to ...

D I **will have done** something (*future perfect*) = it will be complete before a time in the future. For example:

- ☐ Sally always leaves for work at 8.30 in the morning. She won't be at home at 9 o'clock – she'll **have gone** to work.
- ☐ We're late. The film **will already have started** by the time we get to the cinema.

Compare:

- ☐ Ted and Amy **have been** married for 24 years. (*present perfect*)
- Next year they **will have been** married for 25 years. (*future perfect*)
- When their son was born, they **had been** married for three years. (*past perfect*)

Exercises

- 24.1** Read about Andy. Then tick (✓) the sentences which are true. In each group of sentences at least one is true.

Andy goes to work every day. He leaves home at 8 o'clock and arrives at work at about 8.45. He starts work immediately and continues until 12.30 when he has lunch (which takes about half an hour). He starts work again at 1.15 and goes home at exactly 4.30. Every day he follows the same routine and tomorrow will be no exception.

1



At 7.45

- a he'll be leaving the house
b he'll have left the house
c he'll be at home ✓
d he'll be having breakfast ✓

4



At 12.45

- a he'll have lunch
b he'll be having lunch
c he'll have finished his lunch
d he'll have started his lunch

2



At 8.15

- a he'll be leaving the house
b he'll have left the house
c he'll have arrived at work
d he'll be arriving at work

5



At 4 o'clock

- a he'll have finished work
b he'll finish work
c he'll be working
d he won't have finished work

3



At 9.15

- a he'll be working
b he'll start work
c he'll have started work
d he'll be arriving at work

6



At 4.45

- a he'll leave work
b he'll be leaving work
c he'll have left work
d he'll have arrived home

- 24.2** Complete the sentences. Choose from the box.

- There's an election next week. Who will you be voting for?
- I'll shopping later. Can I get you anything?
- Emily is not well, so she volleyball tomorrow.
- Little Emma school soon. She's growing up fast.
- The match is on TV tonight. Will you it?
- What in your new job? The same as before?
- I to the wedding. I'll be away on holiday.
- Please fasten your seat belts. The plane in ten minutes.

be watching
will be landing
won't be playing
will be starting
~~will you be voting~~
won't be going
be going
will you be doing

- 24.3** Put the verb into the correct form, **will be (do)ing** or **will have (done)**.

- Don't phone between 7 and 8. We'll be eating then. (we / eat)
- Tomorrow afternoon we're going to play tennis from 3 o'clock until 4.30. So at 4 o'clock, tennis. (we / play)
- Sarah will meet you at the station. for you when you arrive. (she / wait)
- The meeting starts at 9.30 and won't last longer than an hour. You can be sure that by 11 o'clock. (it / finish)
- Do you think in the same place in ten years' time? (you / still / live)
- Lisa is travelling in Europe and so far she has travelled about 1,000 miles. By the end of the trip, more than 3,000 miles. (she / travel)
- If you need to contact me, at the Lion Hotel until Friday. (I / stay)
- Ben is on holiday and is spending his money very quickly. If he continues like this, all his money before the end of his holiday. (he / spend)
- I'm fed up with my job. I hope it much longer. (I / not / do)