

# UNIT 29

## Future with *Be going to*: Statements

### SPORTS

#### OUTCOMES

- Use statements with *be going to* to talk about the future
- Identify true and false sentences about a reading and a conversation
- Talk about sports
- Discuss the future of sports
- Write a paragraph about an event you are going to attend or watch

### STEP 1 GRAMMAR IN CONTEXT

#### BEFORE YOU READ

**A VOCABULARY** Study the words. Then rank the four sports in the order you like them. Your favorite is number one.



soccer



basketball



football



baseball

**B** Work in a small group. Discuss your rankings in A.

EXAMPLE: **A:** My number one sport is football.

**B:** Really? Football is my number three. My number one is basketball.





Read this article about sports.



## Future Changes in the Sports World

**SPORTS ARE VERY IMPORTANT** for many people around the world. That is not going to change in the future. But many changes are going to happen in the sports world in the next twenty or thirty years.

Today, soccer ("football" outside North America) is the number one sport in the world. It's safer than many other sports. In the future, soccer is probably going to be even more popular than it is now. More and more people are going to play it.

The game of soccer is probably not going to change much, but American football is. It has a big problem: concussions.<sup>1</sup> They can be very dangerous to players. Officials want to protect players, so they are going to change the game in some ways.

Other sports, like baseball and basketball, are probably going to change, too. Athletes are going to be stronger. Doctors are going to change their bodies. They aren't going to have many injuries. There are also going to be new kinds of athletes. Players of video and computer games are going to become famous athletes. People are going to pay to see them.

Finally, sports fans are going to see a lot of improvements.<sup>2</sup> For example, it's going to be easy to attend games with self-parking cars. At games, fans are going to watch their own videos with their favorite players.

One thing is sure: Sports in the future are going to be different from the sports we watch and play today.

<sup>1</sup> *concussions*: injuries to the head and brain

<sup>2</sup> *improvements*: things that are better than in the past

## AFTER YOU READ

**A COMPREHENSION** Look at the article again. For each statement, check (✓) *True* or *False*. Correct the false statements.

	True	False
1. Sports are not going to change in the future.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Baseball is the most popular sport in the world today.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. American football officials are going to make the game safer.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Doctors are not going to change the bodies of athletes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Athletes aren't going to have many injuries in the future.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. It's going to be hard to get to stadiums in the future.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**B** Work with a partner. Compare your answers in A.

Go to [MyEnglishLab](#) for more grammar in context practice.

## STEP 2 GRAMMAR PRESENTATION

### FUTURE WITH *BE GOING TO*: STATEMENTS

#### Affirmative Statements

<i>Am going to</i>	<i>Is going to</i>	<i>Are going to</i>
I <b>am going to play</b> volleyball this weekend. I <b>am going to have</b> a party next weekend.	He <b>is going to graduate</b> in June. She <b>is going to be</b> an Olympic athlete. It <b>is going to rain</b> today.	We <b>are going to see</b> a movie tonight. You <b>are going to enjoy</b> this party. There <b>are going to be</b> improvements in the future.

#### Negative Statements

<i>Am not going to</i>	<i>Is not going to</i>	<i>Are not going to</i>
I <b>am not going to drive</b> fast. I'm <b>not going to drive</b> fast.	He <b>is not going to graduate</b> in June. It <b>is not going to rain</b> today. It's <b>not going to rain</b> today. It <b>isn't going to rain</b> today.	We <b>are not going to be</b> late. We're <b>not going to be</b> late. We <b>aren't going to be</b> late.



## GRAMMAR NOTES

### 1 *Be going to*: Uses

You can use *be going to* to talk about the future.

We're **going to be** late.  
It's **going to** rain.

### 2 *Be going to*: Affirmative Statements

To make **affirmative** future statements with *be going to*, use *am*, *is*, or *are* + *going to* + the **base form** of the verb.

I **am going to play** soccer.  
We **are going to** win.

**USAGE NOTE** We often use **contractions** in conversation and informal writing.

We're **going to** win.  
The game's **going to** start soon.

### 3 *Be going to*: Negative Statements

To make **negative** future statements with *be going to*, place **not** before *going to*. We often use contractions with negative statements.

They **are not going to** lose.  
It **is not going to** snow.  
They **aren't going to** lose.  
It **isn't going to** snow.

### 4 Time Expressions with *Be going to*

To talk about the future, we can use expressions such as *this/next* + period of time, *tonight*, and *tomorrow*. We can also use prepositions of time such as *in*.

- *this/next* + period of time
- *tonight*
- *tomorrow*
- *in* + period of time

He's going to study **this afternoon**.  
They're going to play soccer **next weekend**.  
We're going to watch TV **tonight**.  
It's going to rain **tomorrow**.  
They're going to arrive **in a few minutes**.  
He is going to graduate **in June**.  
Spain is going to win the World Cup **in 2018**.



## PRONUNCIATION NOTE

### *Going to* and *Gonna*

In conversation, we often pronounce *going to* as *gonna*. Don't use *gonna* in writing.

- *Going to* (standard pronunciation)
- *Gonna*

We **are going to see** a movie tonight.  
We're **gonna see** a movie tonight.

## REFERENCE NOTES

For **definitions of grammar terms**, see the Glossary on page 375.

For information on **questions with *be going to***, see Unit 30 on page 351.

Go to [MyEnglishLab](#) to watch the grammar presentation.





## STEP 3 FOCUSED PRACTICE

### EXERCISE 1 DISCOVER THE GRAMMAR

**A GRAMMAR NOTES 1-4** Read the conversation. Underline the examples of *be going to* + the base form of the verb.

LAURA: Ken, hurry up! We're going to be late!

KEN: What's the hurry? It's just a silly little soccer game!  
I think it's going to be boring.

LAURA: It's not silly, and it's not little. And it's not boring.  
Sam is on the team! It's a big game. I think they're  
going to win.

KEN: I know. That's what you told me. Is your brother a  
good player?

LAURA: He's really good.

KEN: Do I need an umbrella?

LAURA: No. It's not going to rain. . . . Come on.

(Later)

LAURA: Can you drive any faster?

KEN: No. I'm not going to drive faster than the speed limit.

LAURA: Oh, no! A traffic jam! The game is going to start in a  
few minutes.

KEN: Laura, relax! We're going to make it on time.



**B** Look at the conversation in A again. Complete the sentences. Circle the correct answers.

- Ken knows / doesn't know a lot about soccer.
- Laura thinks they are / aren't going to be late to the game.
- Ken thinks the game is / isn't going to be boring.
- Laura says it is / isn't going to rain.
- Ken says he is / isn't going to drive faster than the speed limit.
- Laura is afraid they are / aren't going to make it to the soccer game on time.
- Ken says that they are / aren't going to be late.



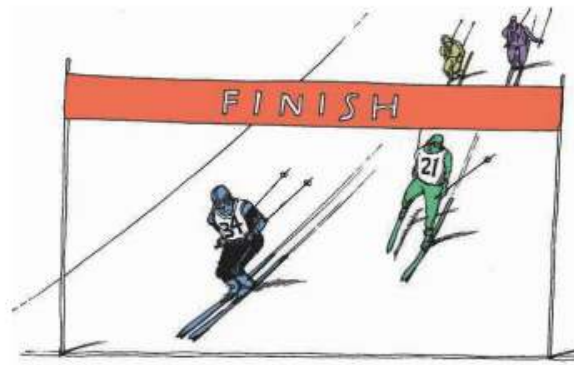
### EXERCISE 2 BE GOING TO: AFFIRMATIVE STATEMENTS

**GRAMMAR NOTES 1-2** Complete the sentences. Use the correct forms of *be going to* and the words in parentheses. Use contractions with pronoun subjects.

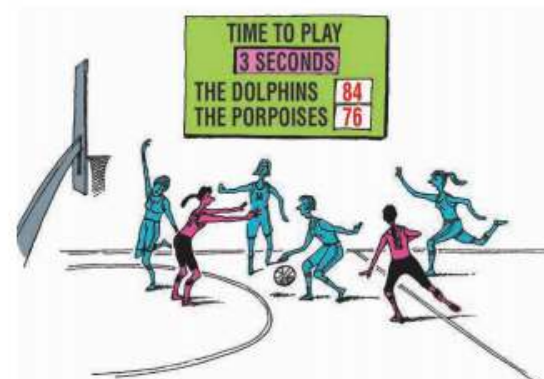
It's Saturday. Annie Olson is on a soccer team. \_\_\_\_\_ *They're going to play* \_\_\_\_\_  
1. (They / play)  
 this afternoon. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. (It / be) warm. Everybody in the family  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 3. (attend) . Ben \_\_\_\_\_ 4. (invite)  
 four friends, and Jeremy \_\_\_\_\_ 5. (take) his girlfriend. Tim and  
 Jessica \_\_\_\_\_ 6. (film) the game. Mary and Bill Beck  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 7. (ask) a few of their friends to go. Everyone thinks  
 Annie's team \_\_\_\_\_ 8. (win) — everyone but Annie. She says,  
 "I'm not sure \_\_\_\_\_ 9. (I / play) very well."

### EXERCISE 3 BE GOING TO: AFFIRMATIVE AND NEGATIVE STATEMENTS

**GRAMMAR NOTES 1-3** Look at the pictures. Complete the sentences. Use the correct forms of *be going to* and the verbs in parentheses. Use the affirmative or negative.



1. Skier 34 *is going to win* \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(win)
2. Skier 21 \_\_\_\_\_ second.  
(finish)



3. The Porpoises \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(win)
4. The Dolphins \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(win)



5. Runner 81 \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(lose)
6. Runner 6 \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(win)



7. Magic Dancer \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(win)
8. Petunia \_\_\_\_\_ last.  
(finish)