

Will be doing and will have done

A Study this example situation:

Kevin loves football and this evening there is a big football match on television. The match begins at 7.30 and ends at 9.15. Paul wants to see Kevin the same evening and wants to know what time to come to his house.

PAUL: Is it all right if I come at about 8.30?

KEVIN: No, I'll **be watching** the football then.

PAUL: Well, what about 9.30?

KEVIN: Fine. The match **will have finished** by then.

B 'I **will be doing** something' (*future continuous*) = I will be in the middle of doing something. The football match begins at 7.30 and ends at 9.15. So during this time, for example at 8.30, Kevin **will be watching** the match. Another example:

- I'm going on holiday on Saturday. This time next week I'll **be lying** on a beach or **swimming** in the sea.

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

- Don't phone me between 7 and 8. We'll **be having** dinner then.
- Let's wait for Mary to arrive and then we'll **have** dinner.

Compare **will be -ing** with other continuous forms:

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

C We also use **will be doing** in a different way: to talk about *complete* actions in the future:

- A: If you see Sally, can you ask her to phone me?
B: Sure. I'll **be seeing** her this evening, so I'll tell her then.
- What time **will** your friends **be arriving** tomorrow?

In these examples **will be -ing** is similar to the present continuous for the future. (See Unit 19A.)

You can use **Will you be -ing...?** to ask about somebody's plans, especially if you want something or want them to do something. For example:

- A: **Will you be passing** the post office when you're out?
B: Probably. Why?
A: I need some stamps. Could you get me some?
- A: **Will you be using** your bicycle this evening?
B: No. Do you want to borrow it?

D We use **will have (done)** (*future perfect*) to say that something will already be complete. Kevin's football match ends at 9.15. So after this time, for example at 9.30, the match **will have finished**. Some more examples:

- Sally always leaves for work at 8.30 in the morning, so 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 **will have (done)** with other perfect forms:


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

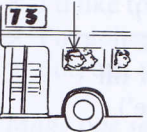
EXERCISES


24.1 Read about Colin. Then you have to tick (✓) the sentences which are true. In each group of sentences at least one is true.


Colin 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.

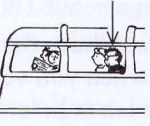
1  At 7.45
 a he'll be leaving the house
 b he'll have left the house
 c he'll be at home ✓
 d he'll be having breakfast ✓

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

- 1 Don't phone me between 7 and 8.We'll be having... (we/have) dinner then.
- 2 Phone me after 8 o'clock. (we/finish) dinner by then.
- 3 Tomorrow afternoon we're going to play tennis from 3 o'clock until 4.30. So at 4 o'clock, (we/play) tennis.
- 4 A: Can we meet tomorrow afternoon?
 B: Not in the afternoon. (I/work).
- 5 B has to go to a meeting which begins at 10 o'clock. It will last about an hour.
 A: Will you be free at 11.30?
 B: Yes, (the meeting/finish) by that time.
- 6 Tom is on holiday and he is spending his money very quickly. If he continues like this, (he/spend) all his money before the end of his holiday.
- 7 Chuck came to Britain from the USA nearly three years ago. Next Monday it will be exactly three years. So on Monday, (he/be) in Britain for exactly three years.
- 8 Do you think (you/still/do) the same job in ten years' time?
- 9 Jane is from New Zealand. She is travelling around Europe at the moment. So far she has travelled about 1,000 miles. By the end of the trip, (she/travel) more than 3,000 miles.
- 10 If you need to contact me, (I/stay) at the Lion Hotel until Friday.
- 11 A: (you/see) Laura tomorrow?
 B: Yes, probably. Why?
 A: I borrowed this book from her. Can you give it back to her?

UNIT 24

24.1

- 2 b is true
- 3 a and c are true
- 4 b and d are true
- 5 c and d are true
- 6 c is true

24.2

- 2 We'll have finished
- 3 we'll be playing
- 4 I'll be working
- 5 the meeting will have finished
- 6 he'll have spent
- 7 he'll have been
- 8 you'll still be doing
- 9 she'll have travelled
- 10 I'll be staying
- 11 Will you be seeing