

Unit 37: BE GOING TO

Going to is a way to talk about future time. We use the auxiliary verb **be** (Unit 16) before it and the base form (Unit 14) after it.

1 Formation

		be	going to	+	BASE FORM
STATEMENTS	She	is	going to		have a baby.
		I'm really	going to		try hard.
	We	are not	going to		have time to finish.
QUESTIONS	He	wasn't	going to		tell me.
	When	are you	going to		see him?
	What	were you	going to		say ?
		Is he	going to		be at home tonight?

2 Use

- a future intention**
- John says he's **going to be** an engineer when he grows up.
(This is what he wants to be.)
Are you going to watch the movie this evening?
NOT *will you*
I'm going to speak to him about it.
(I have already decided to do this.)
BUT **I'll speak** to him about it. (I am deciding now.)
- b prediction of the near future**
- He's going to have** an accident if he's not careful.
(He's driving very dangerously now.)
Oh dear! I think **I'm going to be** sick.
(I feel a little ill already.)
- c future in the past**
- I didn't know that you **were going to become** a policeman.
(I am surprised that you are a policeman.)
I was going to tell you the news, but I forgot.
(It was my intention to tell you.)

NOTICE: **Be going to, or will, or present simple, or present continuous? (Unit 41.)**