

UNIT 6 Will (1)

a) We use **will** ('ll) when we decide to do something at the time of speaking:

- Oh, I've left the door open. I'll go and shut it.
- 'What would you like to drink?' 'I'll have a lemonade, please.'
- 'Did you phone Ann?' 'Oh no, I forgot. I'll do it now.'
- I'm too tired to walk home. I think I'll get a taxi.

You cannot use the present simple (I do) in these sentences.

- I'll go and shut it. (*not* 'I go and shut it.')

Do not use **will** to say what someone has already decided to do or arranged to do:

- I can't meet you tomorrow because my parents **are coming** to see me.
(*not* 'my parents will come')

The negative of **will** is **won't** (or **will not**):

- Receptionist: I'm afraid Mr Wood can't see you until 4 o'clock.
You: Oh, in that case I **won't** wait.

We often use **I think I'll ...** or **I don't think I'll ...** when we decide to do something:

- I **think I'll stay** at home this evening.
- I **don't think I'll go out** tonight. I'm too tired.

b) We often use **will** in these situations:

Offering to do something:

- That bag looks heavy. I'll **help** you with it. (*not* 'I help')
- 'I need some money'. 'Don't worry. I'll **lend** you some.'

Agreeing or refusing to do something:

- A: You know that book I lent you? Can I have it back?
B: Of course. I'll **bring** it back this afternoon. (*not* 'I bring')
- I've asked John to **help** me but he **won't**.
- The car **won't** start. (= the car 'refuses' to start)

Promising to do something:

- Thank you for lending me the money. I'll **pay** you back on Friday.
(*not* 'I pay')
- I **won't tell** Tom what you said. I promise.
- I promise I'll **phone** you as soon as I arrive.

Asking someone to do something (**Will you ...?**):

- **Will you shut** the door, please?
- **Will you please be quiet?** I'm trying to concentrate.

For **will** see also Unit 7. For **will** and **going to** see Unit 8.

UNIT 6 Exercises

6.1 In this exercise you have to complete the sentences with I'll + a suitable verb.

Example: I'm too tired to walk home. I think I'll get a taxi.

- 1 I feel a bit hungry. I think something to eat.
 - 2 It's too late to telephone Tom now. him in the morning.
 - 3 'It's a bit cold in this room.' 'Is it? on the heating then.'
 - 4 'We haven't got any cigarettes.' 'Oh, haven't we? and get some.'
 - 5 'Did you write that letter to Jack?' 'Oh, I forgot. Thanks for reminding me. it this evening.'
 - 6 'Would you like tea or coffee?' '..... coffee, please.'
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6.2 Now you have to use I think I'll ... or I don't think I'll Read the situation and then write your sentence.

Examples: It's cold. You decide to close the window. I think I'll close the window.
It's raining. You decide not to go out. I don't think I'll go out.

- 1 You feel tired. You decide to go to bed. I
 - 2 A friend of yours offers you a lift in his car but you decide to walk.
Thank you but
 - 3 You arranged to play tennis. Now you decide that you don't want to play.
.....
 - 4 You were going to go swimming. Now you decide that you don't want to go.
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6.3 Now you have to offer to do things. Tom has a lot of things to do and in each case you offer to do them for him.

Example: Tom: Oh, I must do the washing-up. You: No, it's all right. I'll do the washing-up.

- 1 Tom: Oh, I must get the dinner ready. You: No, it's all right. I
 - 2 Tom: Oh, I must do the shopping. You: No,
 - 3 Tom: Oh, I must water the plants. You:
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6.4 This time you have to agree and promise to do things.

Example: A: Can you clean the windows? B: Sure, I'll clean them this afternoon.

A: Do you promise? B: Yes, I promise I'll clean them this afternoon.

- 1 A: Can you phone me later? B: Sure, tonight.
A: Do you promise? B: Yes,
- 2 A: Can you repair the clock? B: Okay, tomorrow.
A: Do ? B:
- 3 A: Please don't tell anyone. B: All right, I won't tell anyone.
A: ? B:
- 4 A: Please don't hurt me. B: Don't worry,
A: ? B: