

## Future Plans

### 9:30-9:40 Ice Breaker

- What was the best part of your week?
- What was the worst part of your week?

### 9:40-10:00 Vocabulary and Conversation



Young people often talk about their future plans. These plans usually involve their family and their job. Many want to meet a **spouse** who they can become **engaged** to and then marry. They want to start a family and have children and then grand-children. They also want to find a job so they can pay their **bills**, pay off their student **debt**, and eventually become **independent**. If they get a job **promotion**, they might stop **renting** an apartment and decide to make a **down-payment** on a house. After working for a long time some

people decide to **retire** and go on vacations or spend more time with their families.

### Vocabulary

- **Spouse:** person you are married to
- **Engaged:** to plan on getting married but not yet have the wedding
- **independent:** to be able to support yourself
- **bills:** payments that need to be made to others
- **debt:** money that is owed to someone
- **renting:** to live somewhere temporarily but not own it
- **down-payment:** money that is paid right away when buying something
- **promotion:** getting a better job in your company
- **retire:** when you become older and no longer work

### Conversation – practice this conversation

Joanna: Hello Melissa! How are you today?

Melissa: Hello Joanna! I am wonderful. I just finished college and I'm very excited!

Joanna: Great! What are your future plans?

Melissa: Well you might've heard that I got engaged a few months ago. His name is Steve and we'll be married in December.

Joanna: That is fantastic news! Are you going to rent an apartment together?

Melissa: Yes, we're going to rent an apartment until we have enough money to make a down-payment on a house.

Joanna: That's a great idea because houses are very expensive.

Melissa: Yes, they are. And we still need to pay off our student debts. But I'm excited that we are independent enough now to be able to pay our own bills! And Steve might get a promotion soon which would be great. What are some of your future plans?

Joanna: Well my husband Bill and I have both retired from our jobs. Bill thought about starting his own business, but we decided that would be too much work. We want to instead take more vacations and enjoy our family.

Melissa: Those sound like great future plans. Well take care Joanna!

Joanna: Okay good-bye Melissa!

### **10:00-10:20 Discuss**

- When you were a child what job did you want to have when you grew up?
- When you were a child was there a famous person you wanted to marry?
- What was your first job?
- How many kids and grand-kids would you like to have?
- Is it more fun to be a parent or a grand-parent?
- Where are some places you would like to vacation in the future?
- Where would you like to live in the future?
- Is it best to live in the city, the suburbs, or in the countryside?
- At what age would you and/or your spouse like to retire?
- What would you and your spouse like to do when you retire?
- What are things coming up in the next year that you and your family are excited about?
- What are things coming up in the next five years that you and your family are excited about?

**Work together. Below are four imaginary people representing different stages of life. Underneath them are four descriptions of future plans. Can you match each person with their expected future plans? Write the letter of the correct person next to each plan.**



1. Betsy (22 years old, just finished college)
2. Nancy (35 years old, mother of two)
3. Jim (28 years old, working hard to become a stock broker)
4. Larry (62 years old, 10 grand-kids)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ My spouse and I plan to make a down payment on a bigger house for our family. After our children get older, I hope to be an entrepreneur and start my own business.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ I want to retire and spend more time with my family. My wife and I plan on vacationing to go and see the Grand Canyon.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ I plan on getting a promotion so that my wife and I do not have to worry about paying the bills.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ I plan on finding a job so that I can pay off my student debt. I also plan on marrying my fiancé. We became engaged this spring.

## 10:20-10:40 Grammar: *Future Tense*

***There are a few important things to note about future verbs:***

1. “going to” and “will” are often needed to express future
  - The phrases “going to” and “will” are often added to the simple present verb in order to form the future.
  - Examples:
    - I am **going to** play soccer.
    - I **will** be a teacher
2. “going to” and “will” are not needed when expressing the future using time clauses or “if” clauses.
  - Time clauses begin with words such as “before, after, when, as soon as, until, or while”
  - “If” clauses begin with the word “if”
  - Examples:
    - “Before I run a race...” (**correct**)
    - “Before I am going to run a race...” (**incorrect**, the phrase “am going to” is not needed)
    - “As soon as I sleep...” (**correct**)
    - “As soon as I am going to sleep...” (**incorrect**, the phrase “am going to” is not needed)
    - “If you do your homework...” (**correct**)
    - “If you will do your homework...” (**incorrect**, the word “will” is not needed)
3. “probably” says something is expected to happen
  - This word is added to a future verb in order to say that something is expected to happen but not certain
  - Examples:
    - It is **probably** going to rain.
    - We **probably** will win the game.
4. “may” and “maybe” say something might possibly happen
  - These words are added to a future verb to describe something that might happen, but might not happen.
  - Examples:
    - He **maybe** is going to laugh
    - She **may** watch the movie.
5. “about to” says something is going to happen soon
  - This phrase is added to the simple present verb to describe something that is going to happen in the immediate future.
  - Examples:
    - The phone is **about to** ring.
    - The alarm is **about to** sound.

**Below is Ted’s schedule for Saturday. Mark the statements that follow as true or false. Then practice using future verbs on your own to describe Ted’s schedule:**



6:00am Wake up  
6:30am Eat breakfast with wife  
7:00am Train for marathon  
8:00am Read the newspaper  
9:00am Clean the house  
12:00pm Lunch with best friend  
1:00pm Take kids to the museum  
3:00pm Play basketball with the kids  
5:00pm Shower and get cleaned up.  
5:15pm Take wife out to dinner for her birthday  
9:00pm Put the kids to bed.  
10:00pm Go to sleep

1. Ted is going to want to eat a very big breakfast.
2. Ted will have lots of energy at 8:00am.
3. Ted's wife is going to be very happy with how he spends his morning.
4. After Ted cleans the house he will have lunch.
5. Ted is probably not going to spend a lot of time with his kids.
6. Ted may not have enough time to get ready for dinner.
7. At 9:45pm Ted is about to fall asleep.
8. Ted is going to have a very relaxing day.

**Practice more with the future tense by having each person in the group ask another person in the group one of the following questions:**

- After the class ends today what are you going to do?
- What time will you probably go to sleep tonight?
- If you go out to eat for dinner tonight what restaurant will you go to?
- If you cook dinner tonight what food will you cook?
- When is the next time you are going to exercise?