

THE FUTURE TENSE

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We only use the future tense to talk about the future. There are two forms - **The Future Tense** and **The Future Simple** the latter being one way of using the Present Tense to refer to the future. Usage of all forms corresponds closely to English equivalents.

Forming the Future Tense

As with some other tenses in French we form the future tense by adding endings to a stem. Finding the stem for regular verbs is very straightforward:

For 'ER' and 'IR' verbs use the infinitive e.g.

regarder écouter finir sortir

For 'RE' verbs simply remove the 'e' from the end of the infinitive e.g.

prendr(e) descendr(e)

It is to this stem that we must add the appropriate ending. Here is one example of a regular verb and a list of verbs with irregular stems.

TRAVAILLER	IRREGULAR VERB	STEM
je travaillerai tu travailleras il/elle travaillera nous travailler ons vous travaillerez ils/elles travailler ont	être avoir aller faire vouloir pouvoir devoir acheter venir	ser aur ir fer voudr pourr devr achèter viendr

THE SIMPLE FUTURE

In French (and indeed in English) we can happily use the present tense to refer to the future in two ways. The first of these two ways is the **Future Simple**. Here in English as in French we use the present tense of the verb 'to go' (aller) followed by the infinitive. This is very common.

Secondly we can simply use the present tense **as long as there is a reference elsewhere in the sentence to a future point in time.**

English for translation into French.

1. He will take a decision
2. They will finish quite soon
3. I will listen to the news
4. We will choose the team next week
5. My sister will stay in Birmingham
6. I will not return.
7. You will meet a man with a grey beard
8. Will you earn any money?
9. Peter and his brother will take the train
10. I will arrive at 5 o'clock as arranged
11. Tomorrow I will go to the cinema.
12. He will do the ironing
13. They will buy the wine
14. Next year she will be 16.
15. I will be very happy.
16. We won't go sailing if the weather is bad.
17. He will come at three o'clock.
18. Tomorrow I go to Paris.
19. She is going to do the ironing.
20. I am in Madrid from the 20th to the 26th April.
21. I don't know if I'm going to be there.
22. It's going to be sunny tomorrow.
23. My boss is in the US next week.
24. That's going to be difficult.
25. They are going to arrive at 10 o'clock.

English for translation into French.

1. Il prendra une décision.
2. Elles termineront assez bientôt.
3. J'écouterai les informations
4. Nous choisirons l'équipe la semaine prochaine.
5. Ma sœur restera à Birmingham.
6. Je ne retournerai pas.
7. Vous rencontrerez un homme avec une barbe grise.
8. Vous gagnerez de l'argent?
9. Peter et son frère prendront le train.
10. J'arriverai à 5 heures somme prévu.
11. Demain j'irai au cinéma.
12. Il fera le repassage.
13. Elles achèteront le vin.
14. L'année prochaine elle aura 16 ans.
15. Je serai très heureux/se.
16. Nous ne ferons pas la voile s'il fait mauvais temps.
17. Il viendra à trois heures.
18. Demain je vais à Paris.
19. Elle va faire le repassage.
20. Je suis à Madrid du 20 au 26 avril.
21. Je ne sais pas si je vais y être.
22. Il va faire du soleil demain.
23. Mon patron est aux Etats-Unis la semaine prochaine.
24. Ça va être difficile.
25. Elles vont arriver à 10 heures.