Grammar Reference

1. Grammar Reference - Talking about the Future

When we know about **the future**, we normally use the present tense.

1. We use the ***present simple*** for something ***scheduled***:

Examples:
1. We ***have*** a lesson next Monday.
2. The train ***arrives*** at 6.30 in the morning.
3. The holidays ***start*** next week.
4. It'***s*** my birthday tomorrow.

2. We can use the ***present continuous*** for ***plans or arrangements***:

Examples:
1. I'***m playing*** football tomorrow.
2. They ***are coming*** to see us tomorrow.
3. We'***re having*** a party at Christmas.

3. We use ***will***:
- when we express beliefs about the future:

Examples:

1. It ***will be*** a nice day tomorrow.
2. I think Brazil ***will win*** the World Cup.
3. I'm sure you ***will enjoy*** the film.

4. We use ***be going to***:

- to talk about ***plans*** or ***intentions***:

Examples:
1. I'***m going to drive*** to work today.
2. They ***are going to move*** to Manchester.

- to make ***predictions based on evidence*** we can see:

Examples:

1. Be careful! You *are going to fall*. (= I can see that you might fall.)
2. Look at those black clouds. I think it'*s going to rain*. (= I can see that it will rain.)

2. Grammar Reference – Future Possibility

We use **will / won't + adverb** to say how likely something is in the future. **Will** comes before the adverb. **Won't** comes after the adverb in negative sentences.

Examples: They *will definitely go* to your birthday party. (They are certain)

He *certainly won't accept* your apology. (He is certain)

I *will probably have* an annual trip with my family in Bali. (very certain)

We *won't probably take* a final next week. (very certain)

We use **may / might / could** when we are not certain. Do not use **could not** in a negative sentence.

Examples: His girlfriend *may arrive* late for lunch.

The temperature is rising. It **may not snow** tonight after all. **Not**: ~~The temperature is rising. It could not snow tonight after all~~.

Note: With modal verbs (*will, may, might, could*) use in the base form of the verb.