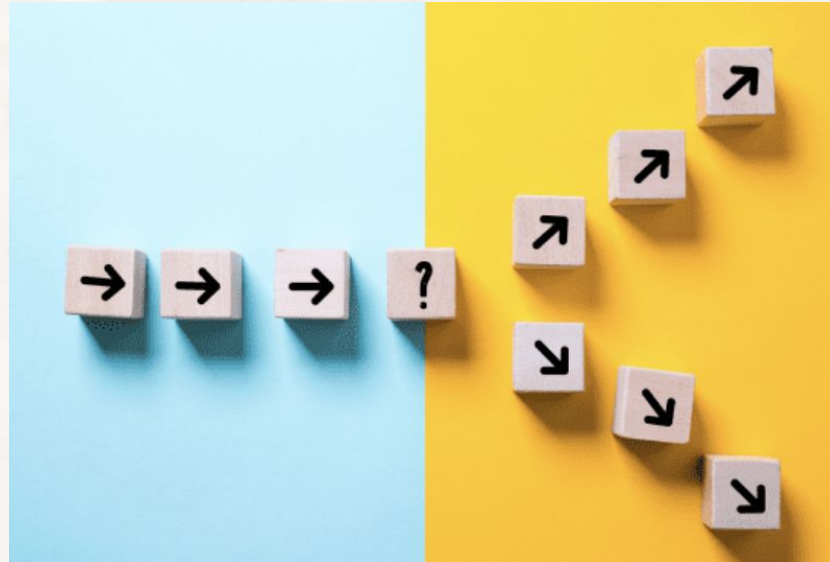


# Unit 3: Questions

## Lesson B: Decisions



# **Today's Class:**



**Learning Objective: Read an article about decision making and learn vocabulary related to decisions. / Talk about future plans and intentions.**

**We will cover:**

## **Reading:**

An article about decision making.

## **Vocabulary:**

Decisions

## **Grammar:**

Future Plans and Intentions

## **Speaking:**

Talking about Future Plans and Intentions

# This or That



# This or That



# This or That



# This or That



# This or That



## Reading:

### 1. Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

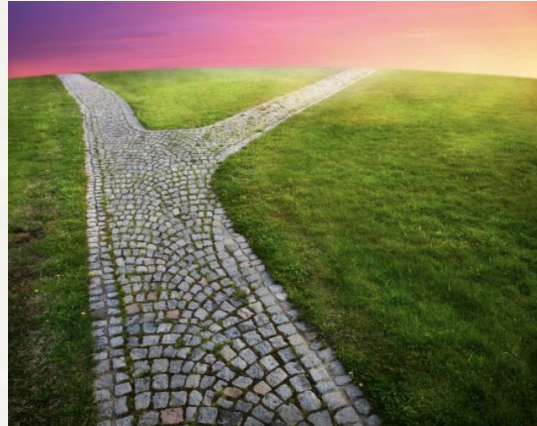
1. Are you good at making decisions? What kind of decisions do you find easy and difficult?
2. When you have an important decision to make, who do you discuss it with? Why?



## **Reading:**

**2A. You are going to read an article about making decisions. Read the title and the paragraph headings. What is the main message of the article.**

- a.** Life is full of decisions - either you are good at making them or you are not.
- b.** There are different ways to arrive at the best decision.
- c.** It is always a good idea to sleep before you make a big decision.



## Reading:

**2B. Read the article. Then work in pairs and answer the questions.**

1. What two types of decisions does the article talk about?
2. Why is it important to reduce the number of decisions you make in a day?
3. What did Barack Obama do to help him make important decisions?
4. What is the problem with only choosing the easy option?
5. Is it always a good idea to consider the advantages and disadvantages?  
Why/ Why not?
6. How does sleep help you make a decision?



## The art of making decisions

Our lives are full of **decisions**. There are small, day-to-day decisions like what clothes to wear or what to have for dinner, and bigger life-changing decisions that will affect our future, like where you **choose** to live, or what career you decide to have. If you find it hard to **make up your mind**, there are a few things that can help.

### Focus on the big issues

Some scientists studying the brain have seen that all decisions – big or small – use the same amount of energy. We get tired when we make decisions all day and this makes it difficult to **focus on** the important choices we need to make, at home or at work. When you take away the smaller decisions, you allow your brain to focus on the bigger problems.

When Barack Obama was U.S. president, he chose to remove one decision from his daily life: what to wear. He always wore a blue or a grey suit with a white shirt. This 'uniform' allowed him to focus his energy on the more important decisions he needed to make. When you have a really important decision to make, don't waste energy on smaller decisions that aren't going to make a difference to your life.

### Don't fear the consequences

When trying to reach a decision, we often **select** the easiest option, rather than the one which might be difficult or involve more effort. When you make an important choice, think of the option that will help you to develop as a person, rather than choosing the easy option and missing an opportunity.

### Follow your gut instincts

For some decisions, you might **consider** all the **advantages and disadvantages**, but at other times a quick decision is best. Our brain makes quick judgements about people and situations all the time. We decide on a person's character within the first 100 milliseconds of seeing their face for the first time. After that, we don't usually change our mind. It's the same for other decisions, too. Sometimes it is more difficult to make a decision if you think too much, and following your gut instinct is the better **choice**.

### Sleep on it

Sometimes it **makes sense** to stop thinking about the decision and wait for a while. In fact, if you're making a complex decision that requires you to consider different factors, research shows that allowing the brain to work on the problem while you're asleep often helps you decide on the best course of action.

# Vocabulary: Decisions

3A. Look at the words and phrases from the article in the box below. Find:

1. two that mean to think about something. **consider** **focus on**
2. three that mean *to decide*. **make up your mind** **select** **choose**
3. two that mean something you decide on. **choice** **decisions**
4. one that means *to seem like a good idea*. **makes sense**
5. one that refers to the good and bad points something has. **Advantages and disadvantages**



advantages and disadvantages - choice - choose - consider -  
 decisions - focus on - make sense - make up your mind -  
 select

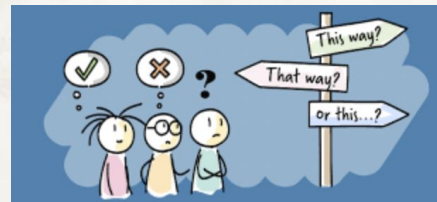
# Vocabulary: Desicions

## 3B. Choose the correct words to complete the comments on the article.

If I've got a <sup>1</sup>decision / choose to make, I list the <sup>2</sup>advantages and disadvantages / select – it helps me to make the right <sup>3</sup>focus / choice.



**Anya** Poland



In my job, people need answers quickly, so it's important to <sup>4</sup>select / make up your mind. If I need to <sup>5</sup>choose / choice between two options, I try to <sup>6</sup>focus / select the one that will benefit most people.



**Tom** USA

When I have a big decision to make, I try not to think about it too much. I wait a few days, <sup>7</sup>choose / consider all the options, and then do what I think <sup>8</sup>makes sense / makes up my mind.



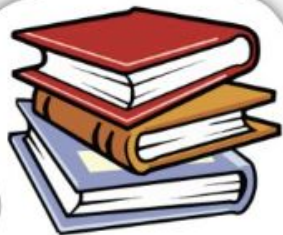
**Jasmine** UK

# Vocabulary: Descisions

## B. Choose the correct word to complete the sentences.

- 1 Why did you choose / **consider** / **focus** to get the red coat and not the blue one?
- 2 You should consider / **focus** / **select** the advantages and disadvantages of each college before you decide on the best one.
- 3 This book doesn't **allow** / make / **think** sense to me.
- 4 Let's **consider** / focus / **select** on the most difficult exercises first and then end with the easy ones.
- 5 Hurry up and make up your **choice** / mind / **advantage** before it's too late!
- 6 I need to make a decision / **disadvantage** / **sense** before the end of the day.





# STOP GRAMMAR TIME



# Grammar: Future Plans and Intentions

**4A. Listen to two conversations about making decisions. What decision does each person make?**

**Conversation 1:** A young man is deciding whether to go to University next year. He is also deciding if he needs to get a part time job to help save money to travel.

**Conversation 2:** A woman is deciding whether her and her family should move out of the city to a village.

**4B. Listen again. Match the extracts (1-4) to the conversations.**

1. I might get a job in a local restaurant. **Conversation 1**
2. Next week we're looking at a house in a village. **Conversation 2**
3. We'll see if we can find somewhere nice then we'll make our decision. **Conversation 2**
4. They're going to travel around South America.

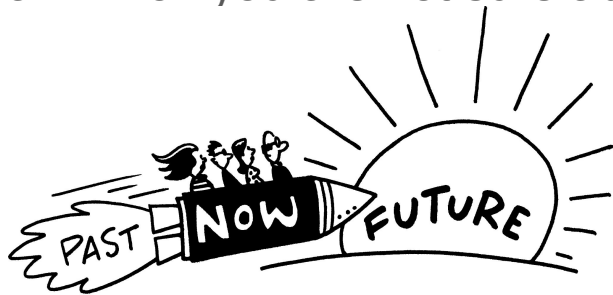
**Conversation 1**



## Grammar: Future Plans and Intentions

4C. Match the tenses and verb forms (a-b) with the examples in ex 4B (1-4).

- a. present continuous to talk about a future arrangements. 2
- b. *going to* for future plans. 4
- c. *will* for a decision made at the time of speaking. 3
- d. *might* for a plan which you are not sure about. 1



# Grammar: Future Plans and Intentions

## be going to + infinitive:

|                    |                                                                                           |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Affirmative</b> | I <b>am going to start</b> university next year. She <b>is going to work</b> at a school. |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                 |                                                                                        |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Negative</b> | She <b>isn't going to move</b> to Paris. / They <b>aren't going to hang</b> out later. |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                 |                                                                                                 |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Question</b> | What <b>are</b> you <b>going to do</b> later today? / Who <b>are</b> you <b>going to meet</b> ? |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

- We use **be going to** when we have already decided on a future plan or intention.

Ex. She **is going to buy** a house. (**NOT..** ~~We will buy a house~~)



# Grammar: Future Plans and Intentions

## Present Continuous: **be + verb -ing**

|                    |                                                                                                           |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Affirmative</b> | I <b>am starting</b> my course in September. We <b>are marching</b> in a parade in May.                   |
| <b>Negative</b>    | We <b>aren't going</b> away for very long. / She <b>isn't visiting</b> her brother next week.             |
| <b>Question</b>    | What time <b>are</b> you <b>leaving</b> in the morning? / Where <b>are</b> you <b>going</b> for vacation? |

- We use the **present continuous** to talk about future plans and arrangements that have already been made. (its a definite plan).

- We usually specify a future time such as *next week, on Friday etc.* unless we know its happening in the future.

### **Examples:**

1. We're **flying** to Greece on Friday. (We've already bought the tickets)
2. We're **staying** in a hotel near the airport. (The hotel is already booked)

# Grammar: Future Plans and Intentions

## Present Continuous: *be + verb -ing*

- We often use the **present continuous** instead of ***be going to*** when the main verb is ***go*** or ***come***. Both forms are correct.



Instead of: We're ***going to*** go to Spain.

We say: We're ***going*** to Spain.



Instead of: I'm ***going to*** come and see you later.

We say: I'm ***coming*** to see you later.

# Grammar: Future Plans and Intentions

## Will + infinitive

|                    |                                                                                                       |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Affirmative</b> | We <b>will meet</b> you at the trainstation. / I <b>will stay</b> home. / He <b>will cook</b> dinner. |
| <b>Negative</b>    | We <b>won't see</b> you tomorrow. / They <b>won't go</b> to the party.                                |
| <b>Question</b>    | <b>Will</b> you <b>want</b> a taxi? / <b>Will</b> she <b>call</b> you later?                          |



- We use **will + infinitive** when there is no plan or fixed arrangement but we make the decision at the time of speaking.

### **Example:**

- I'm tired. I **ll go** to bed.
- I'm really hungry. I **will make** some food.

# Grammar: Future Plans and Intentions

## Might + infinitive

|             |                                                                                            |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Affirmative | I <b>might go</b> out later. / She <b>might watch</b> a movie tonight.                     |
| Negative    | We <b>might not go</b> on holiday this year. / I <b>might not stay</b> over at your house. |
| Question    | We don't usually use question forms. (old fashioned and formal)                            |

- We use **might + infinitive** to talk about plans, when we are unsure what the plan is.

### Example:

- I **might see** you at the restaurant this evening. (not sure, I might not go).
- They **might not go** hiking on the weekend. (not sure, maybe the weather might be bad)



# Grammar: Future Plans and Intentions

## 3C. Match the sentences (1-6) with the purpose (a-d).

- 1 We've decided that we're going to have a holiday sometime later in the year. **b**
  - 2 I'm meeting Amelia at the restaurant at 7 p.m. **a**
  - 3 I thought I might order pizza later. What do you think? **d**
  - 4 Is that someone at the door? I'll go and see who it is. **c**
  - 5 Dan said he might come and see us later. **d**
  - 6 Marie is leaving at 4 p.m. today because she's got a doctor's appointment. **a**
- a** an arrangement  
**b** a future plan, but nothing is arranged  
**c** a decision the speaker makes at the time of speaking  
**d** a plan that is not sure



# Grammar: Future Plans and Intentions

## 3A. Choose the correct word or phrase to complete the sentences.

- 1 We ..... tonight, but we're not sure.  
 a might go out    b 'll go out    c 's going out
- 2 Thiago's got tickets for the film we .....  
 at 9 p.m.  
 a 've seen    b see    c 're seeing
- 3 I think I ..... an early night later.  
 a have    b having    c 'll have
- 4 We haven't thought about making plans for the  
 weekend, so we ..... in.  
 a stay    b 'll probably stay    c going to stay
- 5 Michael and I ..... up next weekend, but we  
 haven't decided when.  
 a are going to meet    b meet    c 'm meeting
- 6 I've booked the flights for the holiday we  
 ..... in November.  
 a take    b 're taking    c 've taken



# Grammar: Future Plans and Intentions

1. Complete the conversations with the correct words in brackets in the correct form. Sometimes two options are possible.

1. A: What **are** you **doing/going to do** later? (**do**)

B: I **'m having** dinner with my family. (**have**)

2. A:  you  to the match on Sunday? (**come**)

B: Yes, I  you there. (**see**)

3. A: A few of us  out for a meal later. Do you want to join us? (**go**)

B: Thanks, but I'm very tired. I think I  at home. (**stay**)

# Grammar: Future Plans and Intentions

1. Complete the conversations with the correct words in brackets in the correct form. Sometimes two options are possible.

4. A: I'm **meeting** my boss later. (**meet**) I'm **going to ask** him for more money. (**ask**)

B: Good luck!

5. A: My cousin **is getting** married in September. (**get**).

B: How lovely! Are they **having** a big celebration? (**have**)

6. A: I **am working** from home tomorrow. (**work**)

B: That's fine. We **will call** you if there are any problems. (**call**)



## **Speaking: Talk about future plans and intentions**

**6A. Prepare to talk for one minute about one or two of the topics below. Think about what you want to say and make notes.**

- a. Plans for this evening: What? Who? Where? Food? Entertainment?
- b. Plans for the weekend: Sports? Activities? Social plans? Family?
- c. Plans for your next holiday: Where? When? Why? How/travel? Places /visit?
- d. Plans for the rest of the year: Career? Studies? Courses? Work? Marriage?



**6B. Talk to other students about your plans and intentions. Ask more questions to find out more information.**



# Speaking: Talk about future plans and intentions

## Example:

I'm going to eat with my friends at a restaurant this evening. We might go to a Japanese restaurant but we aren't really sure because one of my friends doesn't really like sushi. After we are going to the movies to watch "Dune Part 3". If I feel tired, I might pass on the movie. I am looking forward to the evening.



WELL DONE



PENGU