

Grammar Going To

How to Use 'Going to' in English 2

Going to (be + going to + infinitive) is a semi-modal auxiliary verb that we use to express **future intentions / plans** (where the decision is made before speaking), **predictions** (based on present evidence), and **commands** that you have no choice but to follow:

- future intentions / plans: He is **going to** buy a new book tomorrow.
- predictions: The cat is **going to** break that dish!
- commands: You **are going to** tidy your bedroom, young man!

We generally use **going to** in informal speech. It is not a tense, but we often learn it with Future Simple as an essential elementary future form.

Going to + infinitive can get confused with **going to + place** (GO in present continuous), and also the verb + adverb phrase **going too**, e.g. 'I'm going to the café.' 'Yes, I'm **going too**.'

Going to is often pronounced **gonna** (g n) – with two schwa sounds. The phrase is contracted because it consists of function words. The preceding auxiliary verbs should be contracted too, e.g. '**He's** gonna buy...'. Important: if you stress **going to** (as a future form) the listener may believe that you are starting a sentence with main verb GO.

We can discuss **going to** with the following four forms:

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| A. going to | + place (GO = main verb in pr/con) | I'm going to the museum tomorrow. |
| B. going to | + infinitive (going to = future form) | I'm going to visit the museum tomorrow. |
| C. gonna | + infinitive (going to = future form) | I'm gonna visit the museum tomorrow. |
| D. going too | GO + adverb (end of clause) | 'I'm going to the museum.' 'I'm going too .' |

Read each sentence below and decide if it is correct or incorrect. If it is incorrect, write it correctly on the line. Then write the use: **intention** (I), **prediction** (P), or **command** (C), and the form A-D (above):

| | Correction (if necessary): | Use: | Form: |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| 1. You're gonna to sit here till you finish the test! | You're gonna sit here till you finish... | C | C |
| 2. Lia's gonna to buy a new car. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. The video is going too finish. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. I'm gonna to drive to York tomorrow. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 5. The video is going to finished. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 6. You're going to sit here till you finish the test! | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 7. It's gonna rain. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 8. You're going sit here till you finish the test! | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 9. It's going too rain. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 10. We're gonna to go for a walk. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 11. The water's gonna boiled over the pan. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 12. We're gonna Florida in the spring. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 13. The water's goingto boil over the pan. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 14. We're going go for a walk. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 15. 'Lia's gonna buy a new car.' 'I'm going to too.' | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 16. We're going to Florida in the spring. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 17. Lia's going to buy a new car. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 18. 'We're going for a walk.' 'I'm going to.' | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 19. The video is going to finish. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 20. You're gonna sit here till you finish the test! | _____ | _____ | _____ |