

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!	_____	_____	_____

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Answers:

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

*short form of: 'I'm going to *buy a new car too.*'