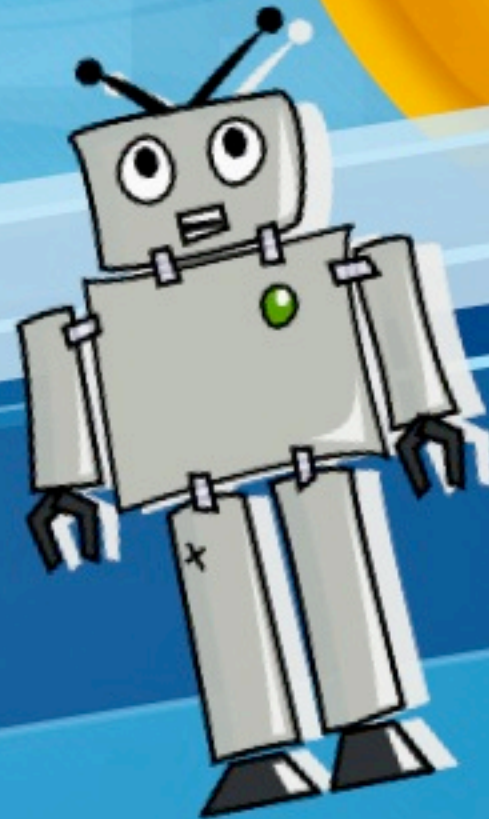


The Future

Mark Koester





Future Language

- ◊ I will...
- ◊ I am going to do / I am doing...
- ◊ What's the difference? When do you use each?



Using Present Tenses (I am doing / I do) to talk about the future

- o We often use the present continuous (I am doing) to indicate something in the future.
 - o *He is having a party on Friday.*
 - o *She is going to the dentist tomorrow.*
 - o *I'm flying to America next month.*
- o These examples all show something that has already been decided or planned for the future.



Going To: I'm going to do...

- o I am going to do something = I have decided to or I have set plans to do something.
- o *Are you going to watch TV or do your homework tonight?*
- o *No, I'm going on a date with my new girlfriend.*



Will: Present Decisions

- I'll (=I will) is used when we decide to do something at the time we are talking. For example:
 - I forgot to put away the ice-cream. I'll put it in the freezer now.
 - What would you like to drink? I'll have a beer, please.
 - Did you do your homework? No, I'll do it now.



We use "will" when we:

- 1. agree to do something: Can you help me do my homework? Sure, I'll help you this afternoon.
- 2. offer to do something: You're too short to reach that. I'll help you with that.
- 3. promise to do something: Can I borrow some money? I'll pay you back tomorrow.

Probably / Expect

We often use **will** ('ll) with:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| probably | <input type="checkbox"/> I'll probably be home late tonight. |
| I expect | <input type="checkbox"/> I haven't seen Carol today. I expect she'll phone this evening. |
| (I'm) sure | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't worry about the exam. I'm sure you'll pass. |
| (I) think | <input type="checkbox"/> Do you think Sarah will like the present we bought her? |
| (I) don't think | <input type="checkbox"/> I don't think the exam will be very difficult. |
| I wonder | <input type="checkbox"/> I wonder what will happen. |

After **I hope**, we generally use the present (**will** is also possible):

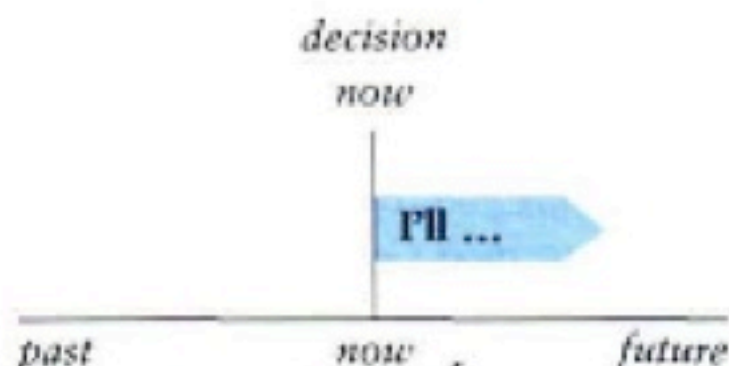
- ☐ I hope Kate passes the exam. (or I hope Kate will pass ...)
- ☐ I hope it doesn't rain tomorrow.

Study the difference between will and (be) going to:

Sue is talking to Helen:



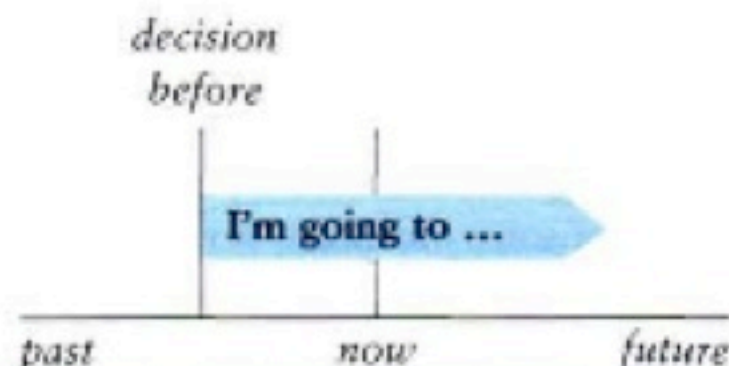
will ('ll): We use will when we decide to do something at the time of speaking. The speaker has not decided before. The party is a new idea.



Later that day, Helen meets Dave:

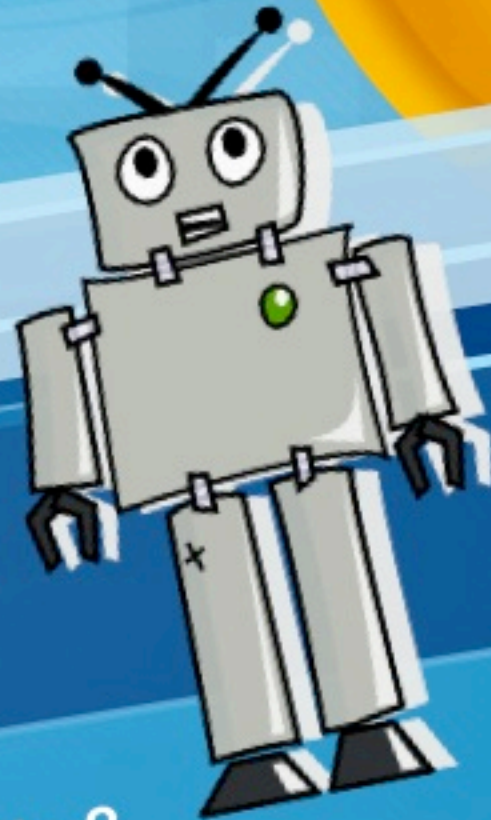


(be) going to: We use (be) going to when we have *already decided* to do something. Helen had already decided to invite lots of people *before* she spoke to Dave.



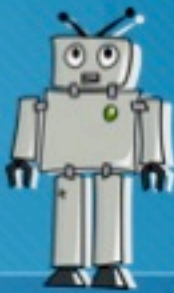
The Future

What will it be like?

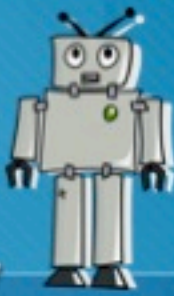




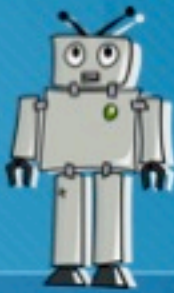
Computers 'to match
man by 2029'



- A leading US scientist has predicted that computers will be as intelligent as humans by 2029. Futurologist Dr Ray Kurzweil told the American Association for the Advancement of Science that in the near future, machine intelligence will overtake the power of the human brain. He said that within two decades computers will be able to think quicker than humans.
- Dr Kurzweil painted a picture of us having tiny robots called nanobots implanted in our brain to boost our intelligence and health. He told reporters that these microscopic nanobots would work with our brains to make us think faster and give us more powerful memories. Kurzweil explained that we are already “a human machine civilization” and that the upcoming technology “will be a further extension of that.”

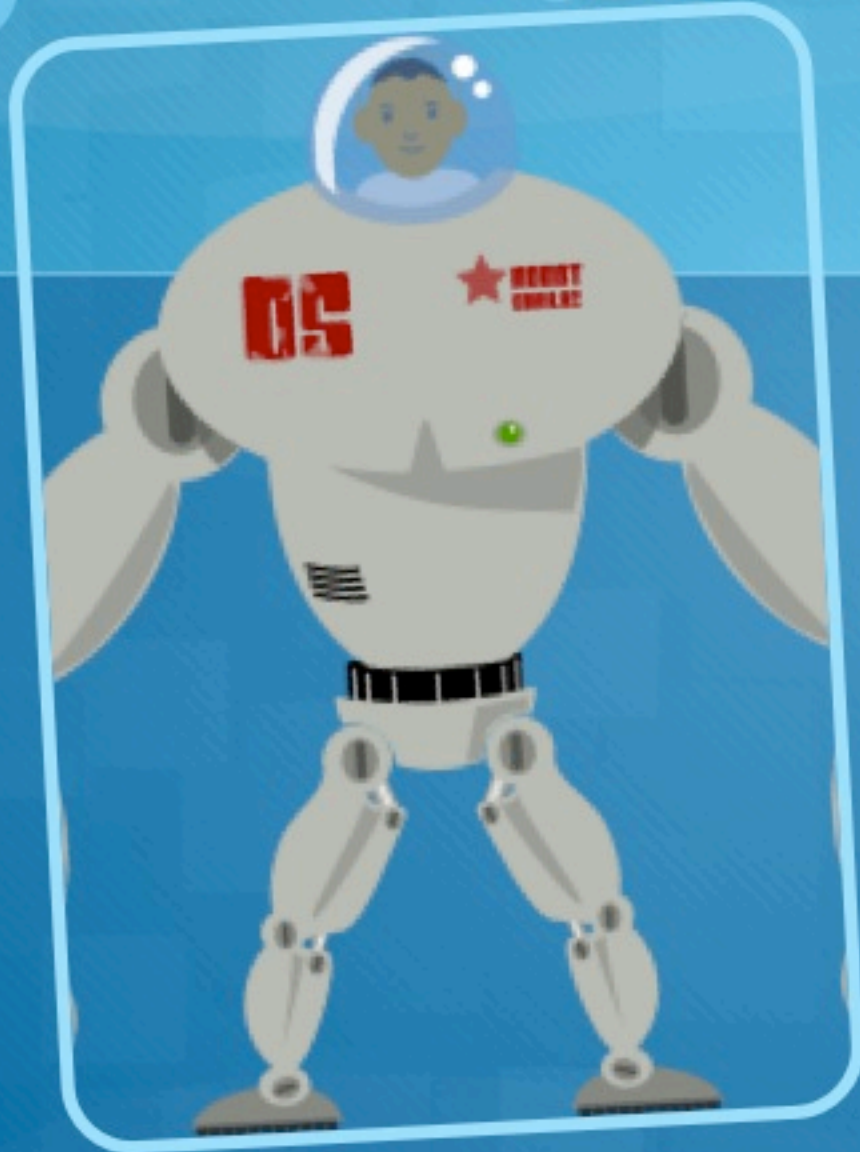
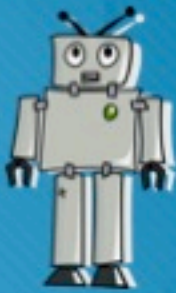


- Dr Kurzweil was one of 18 top intellectuals asked by the US National Academy of Engineering to identify our greatest technological challenges. Other experts included Google founder Larry Page and the human genome pioneer Dr Craig Venter.
- Kurzweil has a very impressive background in science and innovation. He was an innovator in various fields of computing, including the technology behind CDs. He also pioneered automatic speech recognition by machines.
- He predicts the pace of new inventions will increase greatly from now, saying: "...the next half century will see 32 times more technical progress than the past half century." This means scenes from science fiction movies, like *Blade Runner*, *The Terminator* and *I Robot*, will become more and more a part of our everyday lives.



Discussion Questions

- o What invention would you like to see?
- o Are you looking forward to a world full of robots?
- o How will the world change if computers and robots became more intelligent than humans?
- o What would you like your robot to do?
- o What could a robot do if it were 1,000,000 times more intelligent than us?
- o What would humans be able to do better if they could think faster?



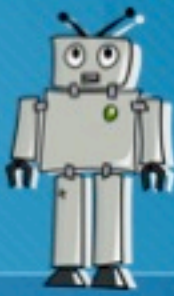
Quick Roleplay

Students A strongly believe that robots will one day take over and control the world

Students B strongly believe this idea is just science fiction

**What do you think are
our greatest technological
challenges?**



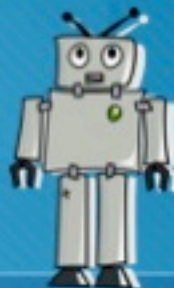


21st-Century technological challenges: What can we do?

Challenge	Possible?	How?	When?	Benefits?
a. Make cheap solar energy				
b. Reduce carbon emissions				
c. Provide access to clean water				
d. Understand the entire brain				
e. Prevent nuclear terrorism				
f. Make cyberspace safe				
g. Improve our cities				
h. Make better medicines				
i. Advance personalized learning				

Would you like to be implanted
with nanobots that would boost
your intelligence and memory?





Nanobots



- o With your partner, talk about for which of the things below you would put nanobots into your body. Rank them in order of most important to you.
- o a. _____ to live to be 125
- o b. _____ to play an instrument like a concert performer
- o c. _____ to speak a new language fluently
- o d. _____ to play computer games like the world's best player
- o e. _____ to be happy all day, every day
- o f. _____ to look very young for all of your life

ROBOT ATTACK:



- Do you think robots really will take over the world?
- Write a magazine article about how super-intelligent robots try to take over the world. Include imaginary interviews with the robot leader and the robot creator.
- Read what you wrote to your classmates. Write down new words and expressions.