

Using the future continuous tense

Form

Affirmative

Subject + will + be + ing form of the verb

I will be working.

She will be playing.

Negative

Subject + will + not + be + ing form of the verb

I will not be working.

She will not be playing.

Interrogative

Will + subject + be + ing form of the verb

Will she be working?

Will they be coming?

The future continuous tense is used to talk about future events that will be in progress at a specific time in the future. We often use this structure to make a contrast between a present event and a future event.

This time tomorrow I will be lying on the beach.

This time tomorrow I will be celebrating my birthday.

This is not just a simple statement about what you will be doing tomorrow. It also shows how exciting a future moment will be compared to the present moment.

But of course, we can use the future continuous tense to talk about not-so-exciting moments too.

Using the future continuous tense

This time next week I will be taking my exam.

This time tomorrow I will be waiting at the doctor's office.

More examples are given below.

She will be giving a presentation at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

We can also use the future continuous tense to make predictions about the present.

Mother will be cooking dinner now. (Here we are talking about something that might be happening at the moment although the structure used is the future continuous.)

She will be getting ready for school.

Don't call them now. They will be having dinner.

Common time expressions used with the future continuous:

The future continuous tense is commonly used with the following time expressions: *while, when, this time tomorrow, this time next week, in the afternoon, next month, next week, next year* etc.