**Activity Type**
Reading and writing activity, individual and group work

**Language Focus**
'be going to' for future plans, intentions and predictions

**Aim**
To learn how to use 'be going to' for future plans, intentions and predictions.

**Preparation**
Make one copy of the lesson for each student.

**Level**
Elementary

**Time**
60 minutes

---

**Overview**
This informative three-page lesson is great for teaching students how to use 'be going to' for future plans, intentions and predictions. To begin the lesson, students are given a grammar explanation and shown examples of how the 'be going to' structure is used. The students then make sentences about their own future using 'be going to' for future plans and intentions. The students then work in groups of four and read their sentences to each other. After that, students complete a dialogue to practice the 'be going to' structure. Finally, students practice making predictions based on present evidence.

**Answer key**

**Exercise C**
1. I'm going to lend it to Liam.
2. He's going to take a few photos with it.
3. It's going to be a while before he can get it repaired.
4. Well, how long is he going to keep ours?
5. He's going to have it over the weekend.
6. When are we going to get it back?
7. We are going to get it back on Monday.
8. Well, I hope it's not going to get damaged.

**Exercise D**
1. I'm going to get wet.
2. I'm going to be sick.
3. I'm going to lose the game.
4. The airplane is going to crash.
5. The bus isn't going to stop.
We use 'be going to' for future plans and intentions. Usually the decision about the future plan or intention has already been made before speaking.

Examples:

I'm going to read the map if I get lost.
Emma is going to go on holiday tomorrow.
Rachel and Vicky are going to spend six weeks in Spain.
Paul has won the lottery. He says he's going to buy a Ferrari.

We also use 'be going to' for predictions based on present evidence, when we can see that something is going to happen.

Examples:

The ladder is moving. David is going to fall.
My sister is going to have a baby in March.
It's nearly nine o'clock. We're going to miss our flight!
Look at those big black clouds! It's going to rain.

The structure of 'be going to' is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>subject</th>
<th>be</th>
<th>not</th>
<th>going</th>
<th>to-infinitive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>am</td>
<td></td>
<td>going</td>
<td>to go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>'m</td>
<td></td>
<td>going</td>
<td>to go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>not</td>
<td>going</td>
<td>to go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>n't</td>
<td>going</td>
<td>to go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They</td>
<td>are</td>
<td></td>
<td>going</td>
<td>to go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are</td>
<td>you</td>
<td></td>
<td>going</td>
<td>to go</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The verb 'be' is conjugated. Look at these examples:

- I am going to go cycling.
- I'm going to go cycling.
- He is not going to go cycling.
- He is n't going to go cycling.
- They are going to go cycling.
- Are you going to go cycling?
A. Imagine it is the year 2050. Answer the questions below about the future you using 'be going to'.

1. How old are you going to be in 2050?

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

2. What are you going to look like?

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

3. Where are you going to live?

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

4. What job are you going to have? Where are you going to work?

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

5. Are you going to have a family? If so, how many children are you going to have?

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

6. What else can you tell us about the future you?

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

B. Now, work in groups of four. Tell your group what you are going to be like in the year 2050.
C. Complete the conversation below with 'be going to'.

Laura: What are you doing with that camera?

Ethan: I'm going to take (I / take) it to class. (1) __________________________

(1) I'm going to lend it to Liam. (2) __________________________ (he / take) a few photos with it.

Laura: Why can't he buy his own camera?

Ethan: He's got one, but it's broken. (3) __________________________ (it / be) a while

before he can get it repaired.

Laura: Well, how long (4) __________________________ (he / keep) ours?

Ethan: (5) __________________________ (he / have) it over the weekend.

Laura: When (6) __________________________ (we / get) it back?

Ethan: (7) __________________________ (we / get) it back on Monday.

Laura: Well, I hope (8) __________________________ (it / not / get) damaged.

D. What predictions can you make in these situations? Use these words: be sick, crash, get wet, lose, not stop, rain

Example: The sky is full of dark clouds.

It's going to rain.

1. Now it's starting to rain. There's nowhere to shelter and you haven't got an umbrella.

2. You feel awful. There's a terrible feeling in your stomach.

3. You are playing snooker. The game is nearly over and you are 100 points behind.

4. You can see a airplane coming down. It's out of control and falling to the ground.

5. You are waiting for a bus. There's one coming, but you don't know if it's the one you want. It's travelling very fast.