

WHICH ONE?

Ask these questions in order. Stop at the first YES.

1 Is it on a timetable?

trains, buses, films, lessons, shops

leaves at... · starts at... · opens at...

YES
→

present simple

The train **leaves** at 8:30.
The film **starts** at nine.

↓ NO

2 Is it in my diary?

time and place are arranged with other people

tonight · on Friday · at six with Anna

YES
→

present continuous

I'm **meeting** Anna at six.
We're **flying** on Friday.

↓ NO

3 Is it a plan? Can I see it?

I decided before now, or there is evidence now

I've decided · my plan · Look! · Careful!

YES
→

be going to

I'm **going to** learn German.
Look! It's **going to** rain.

↓ NO

4 Is it new? Is it my opinion?

a decision now, a prediction or a promise

I think · probably · maybe · I promise

YES
→

will

OK, I'll help you.
I think it'll rain.

? Will or going to? The fast check

I can see it → **be going to**

I planned it before → **be going to**

I think it → **will**

I decide it now → **will**