To be going to

The structure of going to

Subject + be + going + to-infinitive

I am going to buy a new car

How do we use *going to*?

o going to for intention

We use *going to* when we have the intention to do something before we speak. We have already made a decision before speaking.

- -Jo has won the lottery. He says he's going to buy a Porsche.
- -We're not going to paint our bedroom tomorrow.
- -When are you going to go on holiday?

going to for prediction

We often use *going to* to make a prediction about the future. Our prediction is based on present evidence. We are saying what we think will happen.

- -The sky is very black. It's going to snow.
- -It's 8.30! You're going to miss your train!
- -I crashed the company car. My boss **isn't going to be** very happy!

Common mistakes

Correct version

Why?

You know that I'll buy a new car, don't you?	You know that I'm going to buy a new car, don't you?	We use going to for a future action that has been decided before the time of speaking.
Look! You'll drop your books.	Look! You're going to drop your books.	We use going to if we see (and are sure) that the action will happen.