

Future Time Clauses

Teacher's Notes

Level: Intermediate

Description: Just when students thought the future in English couldn't get any more confusing, along come the dreaded Future Time Clauses! Whilst getting to grips with the multitude of similar yet different time conjunctions entailed is a pretty mean feat in itself, deciding which tenses to use with them is enough to tip any mere mortal over the edge! The exercises in this activity sheet allow students to practise these vital yet vexing clauses in an enjoyable and varied manner.

Aim: To practise Future Time Clauses through a series of written and communicative exercises.

Procedure: Give each student a copy of the two-page activity sheet.

Exercise A: Students begin by completing the sentences, choosing one of the words provided and circling the correct time conjunction.

answer key:

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. as soon as, there | 6. after, married |
| 2. when, light | 7. until, guests |
| 3. after, school | 8. as soon as, shirts |
| 4. when, bus | 9. before, breakfast |
| 5. while, movie | 10. when, teeth |

Exercise B: Next, students circle the correct multiple-choice answer in each sentence.

answer: key:

1. b 2. c 3. a 4. a 5. c 6. b 7. b

Exercise C: After this, students complete the sentences, putting the verbs in the correct form.

answer key:

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|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. opens, will buy | 2. will make, get | 3. will stay, gets |
| 4. clear/have cleared, do | 5. add, will melt | |

Exercise D: Students then put the words in the correct order to create Future Time Clause sentences.

answer key:

1. Before we have dinner, I'll wash my hands.
2. I'll get some more wine while I'm at the shop.
3. As soon as the post arrives, I'll let you know.
4. When I get married, I'll invite you to my wedding.
5. We'll order dessert after we've finished our main course.

Exercise E: Lastly, students work with a partner and plan an imaginary holiday to a destination of their choice. They then complete the Future Time Clause sentences as if they were going to visit that country, circling the correct conjunction, putting the verb in the correct form, and adding their own ending.

answer key:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. as soon as, arrive | 2. after, will eat | 3. when, go | 4. until, have tried/try |
| 5. while, will take | 6. when, get | 7. before, will buy | |

When they've completed their sentences, students find a different partner, read them their sentences, and see if they can guess where they're going on holiday.