

Difference Between Present Continuous vs Going to Explained pdf



Present continuous or be going to?

So what is the difference?

Basically,

- We use the present continuous with a time expression like tonight, this weekend and at eight o'clock to talk about things that we have planned and arranged to do in the future: I'm meeting Joseph at six o'clock on Wednesday. (We have already arranged our meeting.)
- We use be going to to talk about things that we plan to do in the future, but have not yet arranged to do: We're going to buy a flat soon. (We don't know when yet.)



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Here's something most learners miss... You should pay attention to...

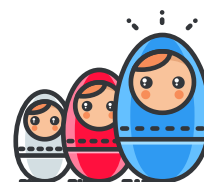
We use "be going to" **for personal plans**.

Example: I'm going to learn Russian next week.



We use the present continuous tense **for plans with other people**. Arrangements mean "plans with other people!"

Example: She is going dancing with her friends this weekend.



Remember to ask this question "Is it a personal plan? or plans with other people?"

