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Lesson Guide for Session 019
Shortcuts to talk about the Future in Spanish

Using "voy a" before a verb in infinitive to talk about the future in Spanish

This is an easy way to talk about the future beginners can use to avoid having to conjugate all verbs in the future tense in Spanish.

In fact, this is used by native speakers everyday when they talk about their plans (I use it all the time!)

It is one easiest ways to talk about the future in Spanish without having to learn lots of conjugations.

It is simple, you only have to add the phrase "voy a" in Spanish (which means "I'm going to") before a verb in infinitive.

Let's review a few examples to see how it works.

- Yo voy a caminar I am going to walk Yo voy a caminar
- Yo voy a pensar I am going to think Yo voy a pensar
- Yo voy a viajar a Europa I am going to travel to Europe Yo voy a viajar a Europa

The shortcut's structure is:

A personal pronoun (i.e. "Yo") + The verb "ir" (to go) conjugated in the present tense + "a" in Spanish + a verb in infinitive

Let's review a few additional examples to see how it works when YOU want to talk about what YOU are going to do. In other words, for the first person of singular.

- Yo voy a cocinar I am going to cook Yo voy a cocinar
- Yo voy a cocinar la cena I am going to cook dinner Yo voy a cocinar la cena
- · Yo voy a escribir I am going to write Yo voy a escribir
- Yo voy a leer un libro I am going to read a book Yo voy a leer un libro
- Yo voy a correr I am going to run Yo voy a correr
- Yo voy a hablar con Luisa en la escuela I am going to talk to Luisa at school Yo voy a hablar con Luisa en la escuela

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If you want to use this same shortcut to talk about the things other people will be doing in the future, you can change the pronoun and the conjugation of "ir" which means "to go" accordingly to match the person you are talking about.

Let's take a moment to review the conjugation of "ir" in the present tense:

- I go Yo voy
- You go Tú vas
- He goes / She goes Él va / Ella va
- We go Nosotros vamos
- You go Ustedes van
- They go Ellos van

Here are a few additional examples:

- Tú vas a visitar You are going to visit
- Él va a llamar hoy He is going to call today
- · Ella va a comer más tarde She is going to eat later
- · Nosotros vamos a ver una película We are going to see a movie
- · Ustedes van a venir al hotel You guys are coming to the hotel
- Ellos van a bailar salsa They are going to dance salsa Ellos van a bailar salsa

This is simple and it is an effective tool for beginners who want to speak basic conversational Spanish quickly. So give it a try and practice your Spanish as often as possible!