The future and plans ESL lesson plan (B2)

B2 (upper intermediate) · 60 minutes · for English teachers · englishcue.app

Stage	Time
Warm-up	5–10 min
Vocabulary	15 min
Controlled practice	10 min
Grammar focus	10 min
Speaking	15 min
Wrap-up and homework	5 min

1. Warm-up (5–10 min)

- Where do you see yourself in five years?
- What will your city be like in twenty years?
- What is one thing you are definitely going to do before you are old?

2. Vocabulary (15 min)

Elicit each word before you give it, model the pronunciation, then check meaning with a quick question.

Word	Meaning	Example
breakthrough	an important discovery or development	Scientists made a breakthrough in cancer research.
cutting-edge	the most advanced	They use cutting-edge technology.
foreseeable future	the period of time you can plan for	Prices will stay high for the foreseeable future.
inevitable	certain to happen and impossible to avoid	Change is inevitable.
unprecedented	never having happened before	We live in unprecedented times.
far-reaching	having a big effect on many things	The changes will be far-reaching.
speculate	to guess possible answers without knowing for sure	Experts speculate about the economy.
envisage	to imagine something as a future possibility	I envisage a world without cars.
anticipate	to expect something and prepare for it	We anticipate some delays.
foresight	the ability to see what will be needed in the future	They had the foresight to invest early.

Grammar focus (10 min): Future continuous and future perfect

Laura, a sales director, is leaving for Asia. “This time tomorrow, I’ll be flying to Tokyo. By Friday, I’ll have met all our clients there. And by the end of the trip, I’ll have been travelling for three weeks!” By the end of this lesson you can talk about the future from a point in the future.

Form	Pattern	Example
Future continuous	will be + -ing	This time tomorrow I’ll be flying.
Future perfect	will have + participle	By Friday I’ll have finished.
Future perfect continuous	will have been + -ing	In June I’ll have been working here for 10 years.
Time clauses	by the time / when + present simple	By the time you arrive, we’ll have left.

Watch for: ~~By 2030, I will finish my studies.~~ → **By 2030, I will have finished my studies.**. Completed by then: future perfect.

Speaking (15 min): A letter to open in ten years

The learner says what they would write to themselves in ten years: two plans, two predictions about the world and one promise. You ask how sure they are of each one, from certain to unlikely.

Useful language

- I’m going to… / I’m planning to…
- I’m meeting… on Friday.
- by 2040 · in ten years’ time · sooner or later
- I think… will… / I doubt… will…
- It’s bound to… / It’s unlikely to…
- I hope to… / I’d like to…

Wrap-up and homework (5 min)

- Each learner says the three new words they will remember, and one sentence with each.
- Homework: write 80–120 words about the future and plans using at least six words from the lesson and the grammar point.
- Self-study: the B2 the future and plans vocabulary page on englishcue.app has a self-correcting quiz with all 22 words.

The future and plans (B2)

Student handout · Name: _____ · Date: _____

A. Word bank

utopia · The writing is on the wall · dystopian · cross that bridge when we come to it · wait and see · a leap of faith · in the pipeline · on the horizon

B. Complete the sentences

Use a word from the word bank. Then compare with a partner.

1. No society is a _____.
2. It's a _____ novel about the future.
3. We'll have to _____.
4. Starting a business is _____.
5. Let's _____.
6. _____ for gasoline cars.
7. A new product is _____.
8. There are big changes _____.

C. Talk with a partner

Ask and answer. Make notes of one interesting answer to report to the class.

1. Do you make plans or wait and see?
2. What will you be doing this time next year?
3. What do you think will be easier in the future, and what will be harder?
4. Are you optimistic about the future? Why?
5. What skill will be most useful in ten years?

Write

Write 80–120 words about the future and plans. Use six words from the lesson.

Answer key

B. Complete the sentences: 1 utopia · 2 dystopian · 3 wait and see · 4 a leap of faith · 5 cross that bridge when we come to it · 6 The writing is on the wall · 7 in the pipeline · 8 on the horizon