

Express Future

Read the conversation below. When is James free to meet his friend?

Anna: Hi, James. This is Anna.

James: Oh, hi Anna.

Anna: **Do you have any plans** for this evening?

James: I'm staying home. I have to do my homework.

Anna: **Oh boring!** What about tomorrow afternoon?

James: **Let's see...**No, I'm not doing anything. Why don't we have lunch together?

Anna: Ok. Hey, I'm having a party on Friday. Do you want to come?

James: Oh, I can't! I'm going out of town on Friday.

Anna: **Too bad**. Anyway, see you tomorrow afternoon.

James: Yeah, sure. See you tomorrow.

Look at the highlighted sentences in the conversation.

- Which grammar structure is being used?
a) Simple Present b) **Present Progressive**
- James' plans are...
a) **definite** b) possible

Explanation:

It is possible to use the structure of Present Progressive **to express future plans** if a time expression in future is used within its context.

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Examples:

Subject + **be(n't)** + **verb(ing)** + complement (including future time expression).

I'm staying home this evening.

We are having a party on next weekend.

He is studying for the test tomorrow morning.

I'm not finishing my homework this afternoon.

Sarah and I aren't going to the beach on Saturday afternoon.