

AC I 182

Hola, buenas noches de nuevo con ustedes en este programa dedicado a los alumnos del curso de Acceso Directo a la Universidad para Mayores de 25 años, el CAD. Nos sintonizan a través de la onda de la ionosfera en el 1.359 de onda media y en radio 3, frecuencia modulada de Radio Nacional de España. Esta noche en nuestro programa Lengua Inglesa nos acompaña la profesora María Dolores García Flores, con ella hablaremos de los temas 10 y 11 del método inglés Acceso.

En el programa de hoy de Lengua Inglesa vamos a tratar los puntos más significativos y algunas de las dificultades que presentan las unidades 10 y 11. Nos acompaña como es habitual la profesora María Dolores García Flores, buenas noches María Dolores. Buenas noches Isabel, buenas noches a todos.

Bien, podemos empezar entonces con estas dificultades y estos puntos más importantes de las unidades 10 y 11. En estas unidades, la 10 y la 11, vamos a ver desde el punto de vista funcional o de uso cómo llamar por teléfono, cómo invitar, cómo se puede expresar una acción futura y cómo se puede narrar algo recientemente ocurrido. Y luego desde el punto de vista gramatical, estas dos unidades nos van a presentar, entre otros temas, las formas y usos del futuro, el uso de los numerales ordinales, el género de los sustantivos, concretamente cómo se forma el femenino, los grados del adjetivo, es decir, cómo se forma el comparativo y el superlativo de los adjetivos, y luego un tiempo verbal que suele plantear bastante dificultad a los españoles, que es el pretérito perfecto.

De todos estos puntos gramaticales, ¿cuál destacaría en primer lugar? De la unidad 10, yo destacaría, sin lugar a dudas, las diferencias que hay entre las tres formas más importantes de expresar el futuro en inglés. Una forma es utilizando los auxiliares shall y will, y aquí me gustaría que ustedes recordasen una cosa. Hasta hace poco tiempo era obligatorio utilizar shall para la primera persona del singular y del plural, es decir, para I, yo, y para will, nosotros, y will, la forma will, para el resto de las personas.

Sin embargo, hoy en día esta diferencia prácticamente ha desaparecido y se utiliza will para todas las personas. Pues bien, esta forma se usa normalmente cuando nos referimos a un futuro en el que no interviene la voluntad del que habla. Por ejemplo, cumpliré 20 años la semana que viene.

Eso en inglés sería utilizando estos auxiliares. En inglés diría I shall be o I will be hoy en día 20 years next week. Por otro lado, también se va a usar esta forma para indicar una promesa, una resolución o insistencia.

Por ejemplo, para decir jamás volveré a fumar. En inglés va a utilizar este futuro, I will never smoke again. O para decir no te preocupes, yo te ayudo.

Uno pone la voluntad y en inglés diría don't worry, I will help you. Esto quiere decir realmente

yo quiero y estoy dispuesto a ayudarte. Vamos a ver algún ejemplo que indique insistencia, que también expresa will.

Si en español decimos una frase como interrumpo, él interrumpe una y otra vez cuando hablo. Siempre me está interrumpiendo. En inglés diría he will interrupt when I'm speaking.

Utilizando también el will. Finalmente, shall y will, estos dos auxiliares, se van a utilizar también para indicar que algo en opinión del que habla va a ocurrir. Es decir, el que habla presupone que va a ocurrir.

Por ejemplo, Pedro va a construir una casa, diríamos en español. Eso en inglés sería Peter will build a house. Con esta frase indicamos que creemos, es decir que en nuestra opinión él va a construir una casa, pero no sabemos cuándo va a empezar ni ningún otro detalle ya planificado.

Sin embargo, fíjense bien en esto. Si en vez de decir he will build a house, el inglés dice he is going to build a house, he is going to build a house, aunque la frase en español se traduciría igual, es decir, él va a construir una casa, la idea que expresamos es distinta. Al utilizar la forma going to, que es otra forma de indicar el futuro, estamos indicando que él tiene la intención de hacerlo y ha tomado la decisión, la determinación de construirla.

Y además indicamos no solo que tiene esa intención, sino que probablemente la vaya a empezar muy pronto. ¿Qué usos tiene entonces la forma going to? La forma going to se va a utilizar en inglés, la forma recuerden ustedes que es con el verbo to be y luego going to, pues se va a utilizar por un lado para expresar la intención de hacer algo o no hacer algo en un futuro más o menos inmediato, es decir, la intención. Por ejemplo, una frase en inglés, I'm going to buy a new car, I'm going to buy a new car, voy a comprarme un coche nuevo.

La idea es tengo la intención, se podría traducir así también perfectamente, tengo la intención de comprarme un coche nuevo. Recuerden que la intención es de hacerlo en un futuro relativamente cercano, no se puede utilizar esta forma con un futuro muy muy lejano. Por otro lado, la forma going to se va a utilizar también cuando el que habla tiene la certeza de que algo va a ocurrir de forma inmediata porque hay evidencia de que va a ocurrir.

Por ejemplo, si decimos va a llover, en inglés va a utilizar esta forma, va a decir it is going to rain. Esta frase se diría si el tiempo evidentemente está nublado y por lo tanto se ve, hay evidencia de que va a llover, it is going to rain. Veamos otra frase, un inglés diría Mary is going to have a baby.

Mary va a tener un niño. Esta frase está indicando con certeza, tú sabes que María está embarazada porque se le nota externamente el embarazo o porque tú lo sabes en la ciencia cierta que está embarazada, entonces en inglés va a utilizar la forma going to. María Dolores, nos has dicho que para decir, por ejemplo, jamás volveré a fumar, hay que utilizar el futuro con will y esto también implica una intención como la forma going to.

¿Se pueden entonces utilizar indistintamente? No, no. Will y going to implican cosas diferentes. Aunque cuando se utiliza will haya en algunos casos intención, lo que estamos indicando no es tanto que tenemos intención de hacer algo, sino que indicamos la voluntad de hacerlo.

Cuando se utiliza will, nunca hay premeditación ni planificación previa. Sin embargo, la forma going to sí indica siempre que hay una intención premeditada o una evidencia clara de que va a ocurrir algo. Veamos algún ejemplo para ver un poquito mejor esta diferencia.

Fíjense ustedes si decimos llaman a la puerta, voy a abrir. Eso en inglés sería, there is somebody at the door, I will go and open it. Es decir, se está utilizando will.

No hay premeditación, hay simplemente la voluntad, están llamando y yo voy a abrir. Sin embargo, si decimos esta otra frase, es el cumpleaños de María, voy a telefonarla. También estamos diciendo en español voy a, pero es otro caso.

El inglés diría en este caso, it's Mary's birthday. Y ahora fíjense, I am going to phone her. Aquí hay cierta planificación previa, hay una intención premeditada con respecto a la frase anterior, si se han fijado.

Al principio nos dijiste que había tres formas de expresar el futuro, hemos visto dos, ¿cuál es la otra? Bien, pues la tercera forma de expresar el futuro en inglés es utilizando el presente continuo. Recuerden ustedes los usos y significados de este tiempo que se estudió en la unidad 4, concretamente los tienen explicados en la página 84 del libro. Bueno, pues uno de sus usos era para indicar una acción futura que ha sido planeada con anterioridad.

El presente continuo se va a utilizar por tanto cuando queremos expresar una acción futura, pero cuidado, una acción ya concertada y programada. Si utilizamos el presente continuo, no solo existe la intención de hacer algo, sino que ya se ha planificado y programado todo. Vean ustedes el siguiente ejemplo.

We are having dinner with Peter and Mary next Saturday. We are having dinner. Nosotros traduciríamos esa frase en español, vamos a cenar con Pedro y María la semana que viene.

Entonces, con esta frase los ingleses están indicando que ya hemos quedado con ellos para cenar, es decir, la cena está ya concertada para el sábado. Recuerden, de todas formas, algo muy importante. Para tener este valor se necesita que el presente continuo vaya acompañado de un adverbio o frase adverbial de tiempo, en este caso, next Saturday, el sábado que viene o el sábado próximo, o que, por lo menos, se sobreentienda por el contexto.

Hay ejemplos de estos futuros en la unidad 10. Sí, hay algunos ejemplos con will y uno con presente continuo, pero yo creo, Isabel, si te parece, podríamos escuchar el diálogo y fijarnos un poquito mejor en estos usos de will. Pues sí, vamos a escuchar el diálogo de la unidad 10 que está en la página 199.

Where is the party? At my house. Come at about 10 o'clock. I'll ask Paul, but I don't think he's

doing anything.

Thanks for the invitation. OK. Give me a ring if you can't come.

Otherwise, I'll expect you about 10. Bye. Bye.

At the party. Do people eat grapes at 12 midnight? No, but they drink champagne and sing Auld Lang Syne. What does that mean? It means, for old times' sake, it's a way of saying we should all be united and happy, and people join hands to sing.

What else do people do? There is a custom called first footing. You must be tall and dark. You must bring a piece of coal and a bottle of whiskey with you and go and visit people.

If the first person to visit you is someone tall and dark and brings a piece of coal and a bottle of whiskey, you will bring them good luck. Listen, there are the bells of the town hall clock. It's 12 o'clock.

Happy New Year, Paco. Happy New Year, Paul. Let's find a phone.

Didn't you say you wanted to ring your family in Spain to wish them a happy New Year? Oh dear, I forgot the difference in time. It's already 1 o'clock in Spain. I'll try and ring them right now.

We've heard that the future is often used with Will, but in almost all of them he is contracted. Is there a reason for that? The only reason is that, since it's a conversation, the contracted form is preferred, which is more colloquial. There is no other reason, really.

It's just that in the spoken language, and due to the economy of the language, the abbreviated form is preferred. In the dialogue that we just heard, we are again talking about Christmas, about New Year's Eve in particular, right? Yes, New Year's Eve, which is New Year's Eve. Remember what I told you in the previous program about these days so marked by Christmas, Good Night, New Year's Eve.

The English don't say, I'll remind you again, neither good nor old, but they use, remember this, the word Eve, which is late. And so these two days are literally called Christmas Eve, which is good night for us, and New Year's Eve, which is the old night. The dialogue also tells us about some English customs at these parties.

For example, the English on New Year's Eve don't drink the twelve grapes like us, but they only drink champagne. And at the time of ringing the bells, well, they sing an old Scottish song, Old Times Say, which would be translated into Spanish as for the old times, or to remember the past, something like that. And they kiss, they usually kiss under a bunch of blackberries that they usually hang in all the houses.

Also in the text we have seen another English custom, which is the so-called first footing, which we could translate as something like the first meeting. It's a somewhat superstitious custom,

from what the text says, you tell me. And it's supposed to bring luck in the year that begins, this year, this old night.

Besides, María Dolores, from this cultural aspect, what use structures would you highlight in this dialogue? In this dialogue, I would highlight, first of all, the way of calling by phone. If you have noticed, in the first lines of the dialogue, you will have realized the difference there is with respect to Spain. We, the Spaniards, when we hang up a phone that is ringing, we usually say, tell me.

The English, however, usually say their phone number. In this way, the person who calls realizes if he has marked the correct number or if he has made a mistake. But they don't say, tell me.

And then also, notice that if the person who hangs up the phone is the person who has been asked, we usually say, yes, it's me. Well, the English simply say speaking, which means something like speaking, or I'm talking. But they don't say the phrase, I am, or it's.

Simply speaking. It's the same thing, but it's expressed in a different way in English. Any other important thing? Well, I would also highlight the way of expressing an invitation or asking someone to do something.

In the dialogue, it is specifically about inviting Paco to go to a party on Christmas Eve. Notice what John says to Paco. Would you like to come to a New Year's Eve party? Would you like? Well, that would you like is one of the ways of inviting or asking someone if they would like to do something.

This phrase would be translated into Spanish in several ways. Let's say it would literally be, would you like to come to the party? But it can also be translated as, would you like to come? Or it can even be translated more colloquially, do you want to come to the party? They exist in English, therefore, several ways of asking this, of inviting people. Would you come to a party? It would be one.

And will you come to the party? They are two different forms of would you like that we have seen previously. Both the form would you like to come, for example, as would you come and will you come mean the same thing. The difference is that the first two are more courteous and the last one, will you come, is more informal, more colloquial, and well, it is used in the end when there is more confidence.

But they all come to be, would you like to come? Would you like? Would you like? Well, we have seen in unit 10 the most interesting things, the most important. And we can start with unit 11. What would you highlight about this unit 11? The most important thing about unit 11 is, from my point of view, the uses of the past perfect, present perfect in English.

This point of grammar is explained quite extensively on page 225 of the book, so I would not like to go into it too much. I do recommend that you read it very carefully, because some of its

uses totally differ from the uses of our past perfect. In fact, not always this verbal English tense is going to be equivalent to the Spanish past perfect.

However, I would like to highlight something in this program so that it is very clear about the past perfect. One is the difference between this tense and the simple past to indicate actions that have already occurred in the past. English uses the past perfect to indicate a past and totally finished action.

But be careful, if we say when it was done, if we say when that action was done, English must use the simple past that you already know. For example, if we simply say we have read Hamlet and we do not say when, English will use the past perfect. It will say I have read Hamlet.

But if we say when we have read it, English will have to use the simple past. I read Hamlet last month. I read Hamlet last month or yesterday or two days ago.

Another example. English will say I have been to England. It will use the past perfect if the action is finished but it does not say when.

I have been to England or I have visited England. However, if it says when I have been to England, it will use the simple past. I was in England or I went to England two weeks ago.

The other point that I would like to highlight here is the use of the past perfect and this is very important with conjunctions FOR and SINCE. Be very careful with this use because Spanish does not use the past perfect but it will use a present. Look, to say I have been living in Madrid for 10 years or what is the same, I have been living in Madrid for 10 years, English will not use a present but it will use a past perfect and it will say I have lived in Madrid for 10 years.

This phrase will never be translated into Spanish as I have lived in Madrid for 10 years, which is what Spaniards almost always do. We see I have lived and it almost automatically translates as I have lived in Madrid for 10 years. If we say I have lived in Madrid for 10 years, we are actually indicating that we no longer live in Madrid.

And then the past perfect could not be put because what it is indicating precisely with the past perfect in English is that you are still living in Madrid. The past perfect with SINCE, which I have told you before with FOR and SINCE, with SINCE will indicate the same, that I live or that I have been living. However, SINCE will be used and not FOR when it is going to specify in some way the moment when the action began.

For example, a phrase like this, I have been living in Madrid since 1985 or I have been living in Madrid since I got married or I have been living in Madrid since I finished my studies. In any of these phrases, the English will use the conjunction SINCE and it will say I have lived in Madrid since 1985. FOR will be used in English to express the period of time as we have seen in the previous sentences and SINCE to indicate a little bit the moment since the action began.

Well, I recommend that you review this, the past perfect, which seems a little more complicated

to me, perhaps, when we enter other verbal tenses. English has its complications, that you review them well. Is there anything else to highlight in unit 11? Yes, some little things about the reading text of this unit.

For example, look at the way of saying a date in English. In the text that is on page 234 and that tells us about the European Monetary Unit, we have the date 1970. Well, the English, being a date and not a quantity, read it like this or say it.

It is as if we said in Spanish 1970, they say it like that. However, if instead of a date it were a quantity of money, then it would be said one thousand nine hundred and seventy. And look and remember, if it were a phone number, in some previous program I have told you, it would be said one nine seven oh, that is, digit by digit.

I would also like you to look at how the English use a comma instead of the point that we Spanish use to indicate the units of a thousand. The text tells us about a thousand pounds. Well, look at how it is written.

And also look at how they abbreviate the word pounds, which in English you know is pounds. They put the pound sign in front of the quantity and not behind, as we Spaniards do. We, for example, say a thousand pesetas and we say first the amount a thousand and then abbreviated we put pts of pesetas.

However, the English, although they write it like this, when they read it, they put the sign in front of the quantity, but when they read it, however, look, they would say one thousand pounds. That is, like us, like the Spaniards, the pounds behind the quantity, but only when reading it, not when writing it. I also want to remind you that if instead of pounds it was penniques, the English will write a single p and this time they will put the p behind the quantity, not in front as if they were pounds.

One thousand pence, for example, for a thousand penniques, they would put a thousand and then a p. Speaking of penniques, I would like you to remember that the plural of pennique in the singular is penique, but in English it is an irregular plural that is pence. Remember, it is an irregular plural and you would never say pence, but pence. We have very little time left and I think that both unit 10 and 11 have been seen quite well, but there is something that when seeing the dialogue of unit 10 and going back to unit 10, it catches my attention.

John, when answering Paco, says to him, ok, we all understand what he means, but could you explain to us what words these two initials that we all know correspond to? I'm glad you asked me this question, Isabel. Ok, as you all know, it is practically an international word today, in fact we also use it in Spain. However, remember that these two initials are equivalent to all right, they are a word, an American term, ok, in reality it is American English, not British.

And it is a bit of the phonetic deformation of the British words that I just told you, all right, which really means everything is fine or agreeable. When the British, remember, established

and colonized North America, the primitive all right gradually deformed in colloquial speech until it reached precisely the ok, which I insist again is American, not British. Well, as I said, we have very few minutes left, but something more to highlight from the two units.

Well, I think to finish, remind you a little bit about the use of the temporal preposition at, when talking about the time or a moment in time. Remember you at five, in English it is said at five o'clock, to say midnight, it would also be said at midnight. At Christmas, it is said in English at Christmas, this is important, it is not in, it is at Christmas.

Two examples of this we have in the dialogue of this unit, of unit 10. John says come at about ten o'clock. Well, it refers to the party around ten, around ten, at about ten o'clock.

And then a little later, Paco also asks, do people eat grapes at twelve midnight? That is, do you take the grapes at twelve or midnight? Well, as we have already said, we do not have more time. Keep reviewing the following units and review, above all, what has been seen so far. These eleven first units, which is very convenient and have them very clear.

Thank you very much, María Dolores, thank you very much to all and until the next program. Thank you very much, good night. We say goodbye to all of you, have a happy night.

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