Uses of Shall and Will

**With the first person**

*Shall* is used with *first person* pronouns to express simple futurity.

I **shall** leave for Texas tomorrow.
We **shall** discuss the matter with him.
I **shall** be thirty next Friday.
We **shall** invite them to the party.
I **shall** begin the work tomorrow.

In the example sentences given above **shall** is used to talk about the strong possibility or certainty of an event or action which is going to take place in the future.

**With the second and third persons**

With the second and third person pronouns, **shall** may be used to express a command.

You **shall** not lie. (You are commanded not to lie.)
You **shall** leave this place at once. (You are commanded to leave this place at once.)
He **shall** obey my instructions. (He is commanded to obey my instructions.)
You **shall** not tell this to anybody. (You are commanded not to tell this to anybody.)

Sometimes **shall** is used to talk about a promise.

You **shall** be given a present if you study well.
He **shall** be promoted.
She **shall** get a prize if she does not make a single mistake.

**Shall** is also used to express a threat.

You **shall** regret this.
He **shall** be dismissed if he doesn’t obey my instructions.
They **shall** pay for this.

Sometimes **shall** expresses determination on the part of the speaker.

You **shall** apologize. (I am determined that you must apologize.)

**Will**

With the first person

With the first person pronouns **will** expresses ideas such as determination, promise, threat, willingness etc.
Uses of Shall and Will

Determination

I will go, whatever happens.
We will not wait.
I will not let him go.
I will study well and pass the examination.

Promise

I will do whatever I can to help you.
I will give you a call after I return.
I will try to get you a job.

Threat

I will teach him a lesson.
I will kill you if you do not obey my orders.
I will punish anyone who creates trouble.

Willingness

All right, I will come with you.
‘There is the door bell’. ‘I will go.’
Of course, I will lend you my car.

With the second and third persons

When used with the second and third persons, will expresses simple futurity.

The train will leave at 10 am.
The school will re-open on Monday.
He will arrive at 8 o’clock.