# IDENTIFY THE USE OF FUTURE TENSE IN RICK AND MORTY SHOW BY JUSTIN ROILAND & DAN HARMON

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#### **Abstract**

Learning about grammar is essential for EFL students. To different people, the Word Grammar means different things. To the average person, it refers to the correctness or incorrectness of the words they use. It entails a logical and terminological analysis of sentences for a school student. Grammar knowledge helps the student in the correction of errors and the progress of written work. Only through unconscious assimilation can a person learn a foreign language accurately. Learning grammar is essential because it is indispensable for the student. Grammar is the system of a language. Grammar is often referred to as a language's "rules," but no language has rules. When we say "rules," we mean that someone made the rules first and then spoke the language, as if it were a new game. Languages, on the other hand, did not begin in this manner. Moreover, in the English language, there are verbs. There are three tenses for verbs: past, present, and future. Things that have already occurred are described in the past (e.g., earlier in the day, yesterday, last week, three years ago). The present tense is used to describe events that are taking place or that are ongoing. Things that have not happened yet are defined in the future tense (e.g., later, tomorrow, next week, next year, three years from now). EFL students need to watch the materials in order to enhance their capacity as speakers. Rick and Morty are well-known TV shows. A future tense (abbreviated fut) is a verb form in grammar that usually indicates that the event represented by the verb has not yet occurred but is expected to occur in the future. This TV show contains many data about the future tense that will be analyzed. This paper aims to find the future tense in a TV show called Rick and Morty. It uses the descriptive qualitative method. Future tense with the word "will" is discovered to be the most commonly occurring data.

Keywords – grammar, future tense, TV show, Rick and Morty

### Introduction

Language plays a significant role in human communication. Problems that often occur in EFL students related to language are communication problems or misunderstandings because they cannot master word replacement. Studying word transformation is a meaningful part of learning a language as meaningful as pursuing vocabulary, sentence structure, and grammar. Our primary means of communication is language. It is a medium in which we express our concepts, emotions, beliefs, and thoughts. English in today's globalized world cannot be overstated because English is the language that is very much spoken on this planet. English is widely spoken in several fields, including medical analysis, methods, and learning. One of the alibis for learning English is to provide access to a world of entertainment.

There is a universal misconception that English is a language that is difficult to implement, with many complicated grammar provisions to learn. Understanding grammar is a complicated process, so users must ascertain when and why using a dialogue or writing procedure. On the other, this type of decision requires grammatical expertise. One part of the grammar is called tenses. Broadly, if tenses are a meaningful part that needs to be



implemented. English is seen in the tenseness language family. On the other hand, Indonesian is categorized as a tenseless language.

This shift has little to do with a particular genre or a pre-existing category, such as American or British television shows. To demonstrate what is fresh in this new Televisi series development, we must first define the regular TV shows we used to see decades ago. On one side, television shows and television, in general, are generally regarded as forms of entertainment (Nishanthi, 2018). On the contrary, streaming video platforms connect media content with internet application companies, plus hardware and software producers. One example of this is Apple's iTunes, the digital distribution platform that proved the importance of linking popular media to access user-friendly computer applications that operate across multiple devices (Stanković, 2018). Watching television can reinforce norms and also provide insight into other ways of thinking. This thesis investigates the influence of television on adolescent sexual behavior by solving the following three basic questions: how television affects adolescent sexual behavior and the extent to which TV viewing can determine adolescent sexual behavior (Rao, 2019).

The whole population of the English Language Education Program batch 2018 (98 students) was the topic of this investigation. These issues stem from students' inability to apply the aspect and tense in the correct context, first-language interference, a lack of practice repetition, and a lack of confidence in their ability to use the language. It was proposed that language teachers should concentrate not only on the form of the tenses but also on their function and significance (Listia & Febriyanti, 2020).

# Methodology

A descriptive qualitative approach was used in this study to identify future tenses in a TV show. According to I Made Winartha (2006: 155), the descriptive qualitative method analysis is to analyze, describe, and summarize various conditions, situations from various data collected in the form of interviews or observations about the problems under study that occur in the field. In the descriptive analysis, there are several qualitative research phases. This study gathered information by watching the show and identifying the future tense used in it.

Justin Roiland and Dan Harmon's Rick and Morty show is the object of this study. It was chosen as the object since there are so many future tense verbs. In analyzing data, the steps done by the researcher were: 1) watching the show, 2) figuring out the future tense, 3) coding the data, 4) analyzing the data, and 5) creating a summary.

# **Finding and Discussion**

The future tense is a verb tense used for a future activity or a future state of being. It is a verb tense that is used to talk about events that have not yet occurred. To talk about an action or circumstance that will occur in the future, use the simple future. The formula for this tense is will + [root form of verb]. The formula for the simple future remains the same whether the subject is singular or plural. There is, however, another technique to demonstrate that



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something will occur in the future. [Am/is/are] + going to + [root form verb] is the formula. There are some findings from an evaluation of the facts on this research.

Table 1. Frequency - Future tense used in all four seasons of Rick and Morty

Aux. Verb	Frequency	Percentage
Going to	558	45%
Will	670	54%
Shall	12	1%
TOTAL	1240	100%

From the table above, it can be concluded that the future tense that often appears is future tense with modal auxiliary verb 'will'. There is future tense with modal auxiliary verb 'going to' in the second position, and then the rarest one is future tense with modal 'shall'.

The reason why 'will' be the most used modal is that it tells the story of the bizarre daily life of Rick Sanchez and his grandson, Morty Smith, in exploring the world of science with Rick's strange experiments. Hence, there are so many direct conversations between the characters, and they use future tense sometimes. Some examples of the future tense from the show analyzed:

Table 2. Examples of the future tense used from the show

Modal Function		Example	
Going to	to express events you have already planned in the future and your intentions for the future	<ul> <li>"That's going to hurt in a second."</li> <li>"I'm going to rescue your mom and her clone without revealing which is which."</li> <li>"I'm gonna go ahead and whistle."</li> </ul>	
Will	To describe the future, to make a prediction, to express a decision made at the moment of speaking, to make a request, to make promises and offers, to describe the consequence of a conditional phrase	<ul> <li>"I'll forgive you for abandoning us if you let me drive it."</li> <li>"Okay, all right, we'll give you a little more time."</li> <li>"You'll be heroes."</li> </ul>	
Shall	To make offers using I/we, to make suggestions using I/we, to express formal obligations, to make a promise, to describe a future very formally.	<ul> <li>"Shall we do it, mr. Morty?"</li> <li>"Gazorpazorp's laws on earth, you're no better than the men whose farts shall remain unspoken."</li> <li>"But I shall finally know peace when I watch the life drain from your wretched body!"</li> </ul>	

# **Analysis**

The simple future tense is a tense in English used to describe predictions, intentions, and activities that will take place in the future. At one particular time in the future, this will happen (Betty Schrampfer Azar, 1999). The Simple Future Tense statement uses the words will, going to, and shall. These three words have the meaning of "will" which is a word to describe something in the future.



In pronunciation, going to is pronounced with "gonna". Likewise, with "will" which is usually shortened to 'll after pronouns such as "she'll" and "it'll". These rules only occur in informal conversations and writings, as shown in the example table above. As a result of what has been found in the research above, the modal auxiliary verb "will" is the most used of the other two modal auxiliary verbs. "Shall" is the rarest.

# **Conclusion**

In this research, 1240 modals auxiliary verbs of future tense were found. The most used modal auxiliary in all four seasons of Rick and Morty is modal auxiliary "will" with 670 frequency or 54% from the total frequency of the modal auxiliary verb, followed with modals auxiliary "going to" with 558 frequency or 45% from the total frequency of modals auxiliary verb. The modals auxiliary that is rarely used in all four seasons of Rick and Morty is modal auxiliary "shall" with only 12 frequency or 1% from total frequencies of the modals auxiliary verb.

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