

## AIRC21

R: Hi everybody and welcome to episode 21 of "Aprender Inglés con Reza y Craig", episodio 21. Hi, Craig, how are you?

C: Hi, Reza, I'm fine, how are you?

R: Very well, thanks.

C: Good to see you.

R: You too, always a pleasure. Let's start off with some good news, we've heard on itunes from Jairo Restrepo, I think the name is pronounced.

C: Does it say where he's from? He sounds Brazilian.

R: Doesn't say, doesn't say...

C: Jairo.

R: Jairo, or maybe "Yairo", I'm not quite sure. Jairo Restrepo... I think it's a man's name so I'll say he, he wrote: Enhorabuena esta sección, me gustaría si es possible que hablaran un poco más despacio, de tal manera para los principiantes sería más cómodo".

C: I think he means in English, Reza, not in Spanish.

R: Ok, ok, ok. "Una pregunta", he adds, "¿yo puedo descargar los diálogos?". Can he?

C: Good question Jairo. Unfortunately, not. We have show notes, we have notas de episodio, on the web page, on the podcast webpage, which is [inglespodcast.com](http://inglespodcast.com), but you cannot download the full transcription of everything we say, for the reasons we explained last episode, So, we do have help, I write the examples, we have links, tenemos enlaces en las notas de episodio, but we cannot, because of time restrictions, we cannot write every word of the podcast.

R: Just the show notes.

C: Just the... yeah, the show notes of each episode.

---

R: Let's get cracking with some gramática, shall we?

C: Yes, why not? What grammar are you going to teach us this week, Reza?

R: I thought we would look at something which is in my opinion one of the very hardest grammar points in English.

C: Uhh... conditional sentences?

R: The future.

C: The future.

R: I think the future's much harder than conditionals.

C: Why is the future hard in English? Why is it difficult, Reza?

R: Well, because there are many ways of expressing it. We are not going to talk about every single way because there wouldn't be enough time and our listeners would just be confused, it wouldn't be a good idea, it would be too much information, sobrecarga, too much.

C: Sobrecarga, so many different ways to speak about the future in English.

R: And some ways seem exactly the same but there are subtle, sutil, differences between them, it's a complicated area. But, let's cover the most important aspects.

C: Ok.

R: Well, let's begin by asking a few questions. Craig, are you going on holiday any time soon?

C: Yes, I am, hopefully, I'm going on holiday soon.

R: Where are you going to stay?

C: I have a very good friend who lives in Sidney, Australia, so I'm trying to save money, trying to put my euros in the bank, so that I can go and see him. So, I hope that I'm going to stay with him in Sidney.

R; When did you say? What month?

C: Sometime this summer, I'm not sure which month but probably this summer, I hope.

R: Ok, so... Craig there said that he's going to stay with his friend in Sidney.

C: Let me say this, if I go, if I go to Australia, I'm going to stay with him because it's cheaper.

R: Ahh, good reason. So, that's your plan, right?

C: Yes.

R: His plan is to go to Australia and he's going to stay with his friend in Sidney. It's a plan and that's why he uses going to, going to is for

future plans. Craig, if you do go in the summer... when you say the summer you mean the summer in Spain... C: In Spain, yeah.

R: But of course, it won't be the summer in Australia, it'll be there winter, because it's the opposite.

C: Correct, yeah.

R: What will the weather be like, you think? If you go.

C; I think it will be cold because as you said it's usually the opposite in Australia to here so I think it will be... Well, it will be winter and I think it will be quite cold in Sidney.

R: Mmm. So, Craig's talking about the future weather but of course nobody knows exactly what the weather will be like.

C: It's a prediction.

R: It's a prediction, so he's using the word will this time, not going to, because he has no direct evidence, it's merely a prediction of what the weather will be like. He thinks it will probably be cold because that time of the year is the winter In Australia, so a prediction with no hard, concrete evidence is will. However, you can use going to also for predictions but predictions with evidence or predictions of things which are likely. Compare these two things Craig: You think it probably will be cold when you're there, but you know, we have no evidence for the moment, it's a long time until you go to Sidney. What about if we looked up into the sky right now and we saw a big black cloud? You might say I think it's going to rain.

C: Because there's evidence, i.e., the clouds.

R: The cloud. You're making a prediction cause you don't control the rain, it's not a plan, but the big black cloud suggests it's gonna rain, so it's a prediction with evidence and it's better to use going to, if the prediction has evidence.

C; And what would you say for example if you saw a pregnant woman, a woman who has a very big stomach because she's pregnant?

R: I would say I think she's going to have a baby.

C: She's going to have a baby.

R: That's my prediction but the evidence is obvious, there's obviously evidence there, the bug bump. The swollen part of her body, so going to.

C: And what would you say if you saw a boy or a young man on a bicycle who was drunk and he was riding the bicycle in a very unsafe, a very dangerous way... What would your prediction be there?

R: That I think he's going to fall over or he's going to have an accident.

C: Yeah.

R: I see the evidence so my prediction is based on his drunken state, something bad is going to happen.

C: So, you might say he's going to fall off, he's going to fall off the bike.

R: Yeah.

C: Absolutely.

R: Going to, so going to, prediction with evidence, will, prediction with no evidence. But hold on, listeners, if only that was the whole story and there was nothing more, Craig, but as I told you it's complicated. We also have going to for plans, Craig's plan is that he's going to stay with his friend in Australia, in Sidney, he's going to stay, it's a plan. However, we can use will for other things apart from predictions. Imagine we have just arrived in a restaurant and I say "Craig, I think I'll have the fish, what about you?"

C: Well, that's an instant decision, so I might say "Well, I'll look at the menu, yeah, the fish looks good, I'm not sure but I haven't had a steak for a long time, I'll have the steak".

R: Mmm, you'll have, you will have, so there's will, but it's not a prediction, it's gonna happen, it's gonna happen, that's for sure. But we use will in our words "I'll have the steak" or "I'll have the fish" because it's a spontaneous decision.

C: A decision at the moment of speaking.

R: Yeah, maybe we thought about it for a minute or two but we didn't plan it before we went into the restaurant, that is will for spontaneous decisions not really planned in advance. Compare that to Craig's holiday in a few months in Australia, he's going to stay, it's planned, so that's going to, spontaneous will.

C: So, what are you doing this evening?

R: Ahh, what am I doing, what am I doing, sounds like a present continuous.

C: But do you know what you're doing or haven't you decided yet?

R: I know what I'm doing. Listeners, we haven't gone crazy, we know we told you in present continuous things are happening now, but Craig says what are you doing this evening. Oh, have we gone crazy? No, we haven't. Present continuous can also be for the future. He's asking me about my future plans this evening. You can say going to or you can use present continuous. This evening, Craig, I'm watching TV because I feel tired, that's my plan.

C: You're not going out?

R: I'm staying in and I'm watching TV. I've planned that.

C: Many Spanish speakers would ask that question with will, many Spanish speakers would say: "What will you do tonight?"

R: Well, they're wrong.

C: Yeah.

R: People can understand them, yeah, we understand.

C: It's the future will but it's not expecting a planned answer, expecting an arrangement... How do you say arrangement?

R: Very good question, Craig, I was talking to an advanced class about just this the other day. It depends, there are different ways of translating it.

C: Compromiso?

R: I would say algo quedado, that's my way of explaining it.

C: Algo quedado...

R: Algo quedado, cause it's not exactly the same as a plan, a plan es un plan, as easy, but an arrangement is algo en que habías o has quedado.

C: Yeah, that's true, so if you decide to stay at home and rest, no has quedado con alguien, it's not an arrangement, it's just, it's a plan, but it's not an arrangement.

R: Pero he quedado en hacer eso, yeah.

C: Jaja.

R: But Craig, I could use going to, tonight I'm going to stay in and tonight I'm going to watch TV at home. That's as equally valid as tonight I'm staying in and tonight I'm watching TV at home. Very often we can use either going to with infinitive or just present continuous, because what's the difference between a plan and an

arrangement? The truth is not much, not much, they're often interchangeable. Often

C: But do you think you would use the present continuous more than going to?

R: No, I don't, I think we mix them around without really thinking much about it, what about you?

C; I might use present continuous more, especially with the verbs go and come for some reason. I wouldn't say going to go, it's just too many goes. And maybe the present continuous is shorter, it's easier, because it's only one verb.

R: Ah, ok, out of pure laziness. It's much easier to say "I'm going to Barcelona tomorrow" rather than "I'm going to go to Barcelona". Yeah, maybe out of laziness we do.

C: And it's easier to say "I'm staying home" and not "I'm going to stay home". But you're right, you could use either, it doesn't really matter. Just one thing, that when you say going to it's usually pronounced gonna.

R: Yeah, I'm gonna stay home tonight.

C: I'm gonna stay home, I'm gonna do this, I'm gonna do that.

R: Again, because we're lazy.

C: Yeah.

R: One important thing though, Craig, very important. I said very often going to as present continuous, it doesn't really matter which one you use, however, there is a case where it is very important. What about this, imagine I am a university student, right? I'm studying medicine now, I say to you "Yes, in the future I'm going to be a doctor". That's my future plan, right? I'm going to be a doctor. I cannot say I'm being a doctor, aha, I must use going to, I cannot use the present continuous. Why not?

C: I think you're going to tell us.

R: You're right, jaja, That's a good prediction Craig there's clearly evidence. The reason is to be a doctor is not an action, it is a state.

C: Stative verb.

R: Yeah, a stative verb, verbo de estado, not an action verb. Verbo de acción. If you're talking about a future plan, using a state verb, not an action verb, a state verb, verbs such as to be, typically, of the normal use of to have or certain uses of to think, to feel, to believe,

you cannot use a present continuous, you must use going to. I'm going to be a doctor. Or another one: uh, I feel a bit strange, I don't feel too good, I think I'm going to be sick, I'm going to be sick, not I'm being sick.

C; Because I'm being sick would be now at this moment.

R; Right now, exactly. Or another one is...

C: The senses, for example? Like smelling, hearing, seeing.

R: Exactly, the senses, because they are states, they're not actions, and state verbs, verbos de estado or often called as you said stative verbs, they must go with going to for future plans, not present continuous. Apart from that, normal action verbs don't really matter if you use going to or present continuous, I don't think.

C: Right, ok.

R: You just out of laziness might prefer present continuous. Another thing I wanna talk about is timetables. So, imagine I'm looking at a timetable and it says in Spanish "Tren salir Barcelona a las 5". I would say in English "Oh, the train leaves for Barcelona at 5 o'clock, it leaves at 5 o'clock", leaves, present simple. But I'm talking about the future, now it's 2 o'clock and the train leaves at 5 o'clock, so it's gonna happen in the future, but because I'm referring to the timetable, it's typical In English, like in Spanish, to use a present simple.

C: So, it would be more common to say the train leaves at 6 than the train is leaving at 6.

R: More common although you can use a present continuous. Craig, do you remember what I said at the beginning? I said "Uh, future in English, not at all easy, very complicated, there are subtle differences. It's perfectly ok and good English to say the train's leaving at 5 o'clock.

C: Or the train's going to leave at 5 o'clock.

R: The train's going to leave or the train leaves, look at that, three different ways of saying it.

C: Or the train will be leaving at 5 o'clock.

R: All of those are correct.

C: But that's for another episode.

R: But it depends how the speaker is considering the action. If I'm referring to the timetable, the timetable says that, I should have said

listeners, timetable is horario, in case you don't know, the timetable says that the train leaves at 5 o'clock, the train leaves according to the timetable. But Craig correctly said "Oh, the train's leaving at 5 o'clock", the train is leaving, present continuous, because that's the arrangement, that's the plan. So, it depends how you look at it. It's complicated, I wish we could say there's only one way for each situation and that's it but I'm afraid it's very ambiguous.

C; I think it's a good idea to... We'll come back to this topic of future and speaking about the future in another episode and we will look at other ways of speaking about the future, because it is a complicated area.

R: Yeah, and by the way, Craig has said we will come back to this, we'll because it's definite, something which will definitely happen in the future is will.

C: Also, I just decided now, jaja.

R: Spontaneous.

C: A decision at the moment of speaking. We'll do this in a later...

R: You could look at it two ways, spontaneous will or another use of will is for something which will definitely happen, there's no doubt, it's not a prediction, it's not a plan, will definitely happen, that's also, I told you it's ambiguous.

C: The sun will rise tomorrow.

R: Yeah.

---

C: Moving on to vocabulary corner, and this week Reza I'd like to look at the vocabulary connected to restaurants because I know that you like going to restaurants, do you have a favourite restaurant in Valencia, Reza? A restaurant that you like to go to?

R: Well, Craig, old mansion ingles veterans, I hope, will remember Casa Botella.

C: Ahhh, Casa Botella.

R: And the famous youtube video you made of the day in the life of an English teacher, and you filmed me (did you not?) in Casa Botella.

C: I did, and you can find that video at youtube/lamansiondelingles, where I also filmed you in Ruzafa market buying vegetables.

R: That's right, so I would say my favourite restaurant in Valencia is Casa Botella, in calle Pintor Salvador Abril, Rafa, if you're listening, surely that's worth 20 euros.

C: Jaja, or a free tapa.

R: Or free tapa or something, una cerveza hombre.

C: We'll have to visit Rafa soon and some of his excellent food. So, let's say you wanted to go to Casa Botella in Ruzafa, Valencia, and you wanted to reserve a table before you went. What expression would you use for reservar la mesa?

R: If you were very formal you might say reserve but most people would say to book, I think to book a table.

C: To book a table, so you'd phone and you'd say "I'd like to book a table". I'd like to book a table for four, for example. And imagine you're in Casa Botella, how would you ask in English for the menu or the wine list?

R: The menu... Oh, you're trying to trick me, aren't you Craig? You're trying to trick me. He's smiling, listeners, if only you could see, he's smiling like a little devil, he wants me to say menu but it's not. The menu es la carta. I'm not falling for that trick, Craig, the menu is la carta.

C: Yeah, la carta. So, the menu or the wine list is la carta vinos. But what I was trying to get from you was in English, how would you ask for it. For example, what polite expression would you use in a situation where you want the wine list or you want the menu from the waiter.

R: Ok, if I wanted the menu I would say "Could I see the menu, please?" or "Could I have a look at the menu?" or "Could I have a look at the wine list, please?"

C: Ok.

R: What about you? Any other suggestions?

C: I would... Do you think there's a difference between could and can? Is it more polite to say could I than can I?

R: I think slightly more polite, yeah, could is slightly more polite, although can is by no means rude.

C: But remember listeners, a very important thing about being polite in English is the intonation, so if you have the correct intonation I don't think it matters too much whether you use can or could. So, a

polite expression would be "Can I have the menu?" So, the voice goes up, "Can I have the menu, please?" or "Could I have the menu, please?" or "Could I have the wine list?". So, the voice goes up, which makes you sound more polite.

R: And Craig, after you've had a look at the menu or the wine list and you know what you want, what might you say to the waiter?

C: I'll have the fish, *jaja*.

R: Ok, yeah, I know. So Craig, imagine you've had a good look at the menu and the wine list and you know what you want, how would you indicate this to the waiter?

C: I'd say "We are ready to order" or "We'd like to order now".

R: Ok, so to order, in Spanish *pedir*.

C: To order, we'd like to order. And the three courses that you usually have in a restaurant: the first course, you could say starter, so for a starter I'll have or for the first course. *Plato principal?*

R: The main course.

C: And *postre?*

R: Dessert, pudding, sweet.

C: Be careful of the spelling and the pronunciation of dessert and don't confuse it with *desierto*, which is desert. Desert, *desierto*, has the stress on the first syllable and one `s', desert, but in a restaurant you ask for dessert, with the stress on the second syllable.

R: And double `s'.

C: And double `s'. And when you finish what do you ask for?

R: If you're British or Irish, the bill.

C: Correct.

R: And if you're American?

C: The check.

R: Right.

C: So, "Could I have the bill, please?" or "Could I have the check, please?". And if you're very happy with the food and the service, *dejas una propina*.

R: A tip.

C: You leave a tip.

R: How much do people tip in the UK Craig? In the UK.

C: Uh, that's a good question. Well, people I know would possibly tip between 5 and 10%. I know it's high, it's higher in the US, in the US it's more like 10, 15, maybe sometimes 20%. It's more a custom in the US. In the UK people usually tip if they're very happy with the service. And in Spain I think it's even less common to leave a tip. I think it depends.

R: Craig, do you always tip in the UK?

C: No, no. I usually tip when I'm happy with the service and happy with the food, then I'll tip, usually between 10, maybe 15%, if I'm very happy. What about you?

R: Same as you, only if I'm happy, if not, no.

---

C: Ok, moving on Reza, do you have any phrasal verbs for us this week?

R: Yes, I wanted to talk about phrasal verbs with two prepositions, phrasal verbs con dos partículas. For example, very important phrasal verb, very common, is look forward to.

C: Ah, look forward to.

R: Look forward to.

C: Are you looking forward to anything at the moment?

R: I'm looking forward to my Easter break.

C: So am I. I'm looking forward to this weekend. So, how would you translate look forward to? Tengo ganas?

R: Tengo ganas de hacer algo.

C: Algo en el future.

R: O estás esperando algo.

C: Tener ilusión.

R: Tener ilusión, de que pase algo. Yeah. In the future something's gonna happen. Look forward, so it's gonna happen in the future.

C: Mirar hacia Adelante, jaja.

R: For example, "I'm looking forward to my birthday party". Preposition to, Craig, where does it go?

C: It goes after forward.

R: Yeah, so I'm looking, then forward, then to and then the object, my birthday party. You cannot separate the two prepositions forward and to, they can't be separated, they must stay together when there are two prepositions they usually go together.

C: And if look forward to is followed by a verb, the verb is always a gerund, un gerundio, as it always is after prepositions. For example, "I'm looking forward to seeing you tomorrow", "I'm looking forward to going to the beach on Saturday", "I'm looking forward to having a holiday at Easter".

R: Or a very typical thing which you write at the end of a job application letter, "I'm looking forward to hearing from you".

C: Yeah, and it can be used to finish almost any letter. "I'm looking forward to getting a reply", "I'm looking forward to meeting you at the airport", anything. But remember the gerund.

R: And don't separate the two prepositions forward and to. As another example here's a verb with two prepositions, to get away with something.

C: Get away with something.

R I think we saw that a few months back in a previous episode. It means, if you get away with something, you do something and you are not punished for it. Maybe it was illegal, maybe it was bad, something you shouldn't have done but you did it and you were not punished. For example, "The bank robbers got away with 50.000 pounds".

C; They escaped.

R: They escaped with no punishment. There I used 50.000 pounds as my object. I could have used a verb, "They got away with robbing the post office". As you say, after a preposition, for example with, the verb you use must be ing, they get away with together, you can't separate them, we can't put with at the end of the sentence or any other strange place. Get away with plus a noun or an ing and don't separate the two prepositions. So, be careful if it's a phrasal verb with two prepositions.

C: I hope I'll be able to get away with not working tomorrow.

R: I hope so. Well, Craig, that's all I've got about phrasal verbs for today.

C: Ok, thank you very much and that's all we have time for this episode, so thank you very much for listening and don't forget to give

us a review and a few stars on itunes, no olvideis darnos estrellas y una pequeña reseña en itunes. Thank you for listening and we hope to see you in the next episode. Bye for now.

R: See you then.

The music in this podcast is by Pitx, the track is called See you later, licensed by Creative Commons under a by-nc license at [cc mixer.org](http://cc.mixer.org).