

Adapted from: Elementary Language Practice by Michael Vince

Explanations

We can use the present continuous when we talk about arrangements for the future. Arrangements are plans, but we are sure they will happen. We often write them in our diaries.

- *My parents are buying me a bike for my birthday. (I'm sure about this.)*
- *I'm going to the doctor's on Friday. (It's fixed. I have an appointment.)*

- *'Are you doing anything on Saturday?'*
 (It's fixed. I've invited my friends.) *I'm having a party.'*

- *What are you doing tomorrow? I'm staying at home and studying.*

- **come and go**

My brother is coming to stay.

I'm going to Prague tomorrow.

- **going to or present continuous?**

I'm having a party.

Fixed arrangement

I'm going to have a party.

Plan/Intention

Jean is going to get her hair cut.

Plan/ Intention

(She doesn't know when exactly.)

Jean is getting her hair cut next week.

Fixed arrangement

(She has an appointment at the hairdresser's.)