1. formation
2. uses
3. aller in the imperfect + infinitive

formation

There are two future tenses in French, the simple future and the near future (**le futur proche**). The futur proche is usually translated into English as **going** + infinitive (e.g., going to eat, going to drink, going to talk). The futur proche is characteristic of spoken French but may be used in informal writing. It is formed with the verb aller (to go) conjugated in the present tense followed by an infinitive.

nager 'to swim'	
je **vais nager**, I am going to swim	nous **allons nager**, we are going to swim
tu **vas nager**, you are going to swim	vous **allez nager**, you are going to swim
il, elle / on **va nager**, he, she (it) / one is going to swim	ils / elles **vont nager**, they are going to swim

To negate the futur proche, place **ne ... pas** around the conjugated form of **aller**: Je **ne** vais **pas** nager. (I am not going to swim).

Corey: Je **vais aller** à Barton Springs. J'adore l'eau. Je **vais nager**. Tu viens avec moi, Bette?	Corey: I am going to go to Barton Springs. I love water. I am going to swim. Are you coming with me, Bette?
Bette: Tu es fou! Il fait trop froid! Je **ne** vais **pas** nager!	Bette: Are you crazy? It is too cold! I am not going to swim!

uses

The futur proche is used to refer to most future events in informal conversation. For details on usage see future: usage.

Corey: Tex! Tammy! Nous **allons aller** à Barton Springs.	Corey: Tex! Tammy! We are going to go to Barton Springs.
Bette: Mais il y a de gros nuages gris, il **va pleuvoir**.	Bette: But there are big gray clouds. It's going to rain.
Corey: Chouette! Je **vais nager** sous la pluie.	Corey: Great! I am going to swim in the rain.



aller in the imperfect + infinitive

The construction **aller** + infinitive is also found with the verb **aller** in the imperfect (l'imparfait) to indicate what someone **was going to do**. For example:

Les copains **allaient partir** pour Barton Springs, quand ils ont vu un éclair.	The friends **were going to leave** for Barton Springs, when they saw lightening.
Bette: Corey, tu **vas te faire électrocuter**! Moi, je **vais faire** du shopping. Qui **va venir** avec moi?	Bette: Corey, you are going to get yourself electrocuted! I'm going to do some shopping. Who's going to come with me?



texercises

fill in the blanks

Give 'futur proche' of the verb indicated in parentheses.

1. Corey: Je ne sors pas ce soir. Je _____ à la maison. (rester)
2. Tammy: Nous avons un examen demain. Nous _____ ce soir. (étudier)
3. Tex et Tammy _____ en France cet été. (voyager)
4. Fiona: J'ai besoin d'argent. Je _____ cet automne. (travailler)
5. Joe-Bob: J'ai faim. Est-ce qu'on _____ bientôt? (manger)
6. Il y a du soleil. Il _____ chaud. (faire)
7. Tammy est en short, elle _____ au tennis. (jouer)
8. Tex et Tammy vont à la campagne. Eduard _____ un pique-nique pour ses amis. (préparer)
9. C'est la Saint Valentin, et Tex _____ d'acheter une carte pour Tammy. (ne pas oublier)
10. Tex: Aujourd-'hui, nous _____ dans la Guadeloupe, à New Braunfels. (nager)
11. Fiona: Joe-Bob et Corey, il y a une fête chez Tammy dimanche. Est-ce que vous _____ des amis? (emmener)
12. Fiona: Tex, pourquoi est-ce que tu _____ en France cet été? (voyager)

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