

CHAPTER 3

The Giving Pledge



Preview Questions

- **What problems in the world do you care about?**
- **Can money fix these problems?**
- **Someone gives you \$1 billion. What will you do with this money?**

In 2010, forty U.S. billionaires made a big promise: They agreed to give away half of their money to the project, The Giving Pledge. It **will send** money around the world and **will help** in areas such as education and medical research. The billionaires **can choose** to give away their money while they're alive or after they're dead.

Billionaires Bill Gates, worth \$50 billion, and Warren Buffett, worth \$45 billion, started the project together. They say that The Giving Pledge **is going to make** the world a better place.

If estimates **are** correct, money from the forty billionaires **will total** about \$150 billion and more billionaires **are about to join** the project. In fact, Gates and Buffett **are meeting** with international billionaires in the spring. Their goal is for most of the world's 1,000 billionaires to join the project.

Because a pledge is a promise, not a contract, the billionaires **may change their minds** and **keep** their money. However, because the pledges are public information and the world is watching, most people believe that the billionaires probably **won't change their minds**.

Reading Comprehension

Complete the sentences with information from the reading.

1. The billionaires in The Giving Pledge agree to give away half of their money .
2. The money is going to go around the world
and help in areas such as education and
medical research .

Reading Comprehension

Complete the sentences with information from the reading.

3. Money from the forty billionaires will total about \$150 billion.

4. The billionaires' pledge is just a promise, not a contract. So the billionaires may change their minds and keep the money.

GRAMMAR PRACTICE

Choose the correct completions.

1. Bill Gates **may** / **maybe** pledge his money to stop hunger.
2. Some of the Giving Pledge money **is going to** / **is going** help with cancer research.
3. Many billionaires **go** / **are going to** donate next year.

GRAMMAR PRACTICE

Choose the correct completions.

4. When all the billionaires **join** / **are going to join** the project, organizers will be very happy.
5. What famous billionaire **takes** / **will take** the pledge next? Time will tell!

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