

## MAKING INSTANT DECISIONS

**Level:** pre-intermediate +

**Aims:**

Introduce will/won't for instant decisions  
Provide fluency practice using will/won't

**Materials:**

Two sets of cards, one for student A and the other for student B. There should be as many sets of cards as there are students

**Class interaction:** pairs

**Procedure:**

1. WARMING-UP

Write the following phrase on the board: ***A friend in need is a friend indeed***

Teacher says: "I'm looking for a true friend among you and my only criterion is: ***A friend in need is a friend indeed*** (If necessary explain the meaning to the class)

Teacher says: "I'm a total loser, constantly in trouble, and complaining to you all the time. You're a dear friend, ready to offer help immediately. I've got a problem. I'm going to choose my best friend by assessing the kind of help you suggest as soon as I have explained the problem."

You can, for example, say: (on the phone) "*I'm on the motorway in the middle of nowhere. My tyre's punctured and I don't have a spare one.*"

Then elicit help suggestions from all students and declare the best friend by evaluating the kind of help they're offering. Now, encourage students to work out their own tricky situation (e.g. *Susan has left me; I'm the ugliest person in the whole world; I'm broke* etc.) and go round the classroom, complaining to other students and eliciting help suggestions from them. Finally they should pronounce their best friend on the basis of the help suggestions they have heard. Alternatively, students may look for the worst friend. They should be encouraged to come up with the worst thing a friend might do in a specific situation. (E.g. I'm busy, I'll call you back.)

2. EXERCISE

- Divide students in pairs. It is often more fun if you put a man and a woman together.
- Give out a pack of cards A to one student in a pair and a pack of cards B to their partners.
- Students shuffle the cards and put them face down on the table.
- Then student A draws a card from the pack and reads it (e.g. "I'm an alcoholic"), and then student B does the same (e.g. "I'll have your baby").

- Encourage students to do the exercise as quickly as possible; this will make it even funnier.

If the combination of lines proves

- a) a meaningful match, students set them aside, e.g. A: I'm broke B: I won't lend you any more money.
- b) humorous but probably not from the same context they put the card face down at the bottom of the pile, e.g. A: I weigh 100 kilos B: I'll buy you a gun
- c) meaningless, they do the same, e.g. A: What did the doctor say? B: I'll kill you

After a while students need to shuffle the cards to avoid constant reoccurrence of the same combinations.

The winner is the pair who discovers the most meaningful combinations for the set time (5 minutes or so). Naturally there are more possible solutions. You check the correctness at the end and pronounce the winner. Optionally, students may declare the most hilarious combination

**Student A cards**

**Student B cards**

I'm an alcoholic.	I'll leave you.
I weigh 100 kilos.	I'll go jogging with you.
What did you decide?	I'll marry you.
I'm in love with you.	I'll break your heart.
What did the doctor say?	I'll tell you later.
I'm in big trouble.	I'll help you.
I'm broke.	I won't lend you any more money.
I've lost all your money.	I'll murder you
I have a headache.	I'll get you an aspirin.
What will you buy me for my birthday?	I'll get you a gun.

**Student A cards**

**Student B cards**

I'm very busy.	I'll call you back later.
I have a lover.	I'll give you back the ring.
I'm so stressed-out.	I'll help you relax.
I'm leaving you.	We'll still be friends.
I'm knackered.	I'll get you a cup of tea.
I'm feeling miserable.	I'll cheer you up.
I'm starving.	I'll make you a pizza.
It's my birthday.	I'll buy you a drink.
It's raining outside.	I'll give you my umbrella.
I want to watch the news.	I'll change the channel.

I'm leaving town.	I'll miss you.
I've got a great new video game.	I'll be right over.
I've won the lottery.	I'll be your best friend forever.