

# 4.2

## UNIT 4 Future

# Make it snappy

### Language focus

**Will**

**Level**

**Pre-intermediate or intermediate**

**Type**

**Card game**

**Topic**

**Unplanned decisions**

**Interaction**

**Groups of three or four**

**Time**

**10 minutes**

**Material**

**Two sets of cards per group**

### Vocabulary

Words and expressions: *rain hard, flat broke, salary rise, splitting headache, set up, fired, freeze to death, soaking wet, storm, borrow, get a loan, call in sick, order, I've had it!, change into something warm*

### Comments

This activity focuses on the use of *will* for unplanned, spontaneous decisions. Although it does not really require language production, this game does provide a lot of useful input, and the quick pace actually reinforces this meaning of *will* here.

### Language output

A: *It's your mother-in-law's birthday today.*

B: *Gosh, I almost forgot. I'll send her some flowers/I'll go to visit her then.*

### Procedures

- 1 Before class, cut out one set of situation cards and one set of response cards for each group.
- 2 In class, write on the board a few situations similar to those on the situation cards. Ask students how they would respond spontaneously to each one of them. Elicit the responses and draw their attention to the meaning and use of *will*.
- 3 Divide the class into groups and hand out the material.
- 4 Playing the game:
  - ▶ Players shuffle the situation cards and place them face down on the table. Then, they shuffle the response cards and deal them out evenly.
  - ▶ The first player flips over the first situation card and reads it aloud. **Note:** The situation cards have been written the right way up and upside down so that everyone can see.
  - ▶ The first player to call out an appropriate response to the situation gets rid of the corresponding response card that he or she holds. **Note:** There are always two possible responses to each situation, so players have to be quick.
  - ▶ Players proceed in this way until someone has discarded all of his or her response cards and wins the game.

Situation cards

<p>You have a splitting headache.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>You have a splitting headache.</p>	<p>You've got a really bad cold.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>You've got a really bad cold.</p>	<p>You're freezing to death.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>You're freezing to death.</p>	<p>You arrive home soaking wet because of the storm.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>You arrive home soaking wet because of the storm.</p>
<p>You've got a big salary rise.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>You've got a big salary rise.</p>	<p>Your grandmother gives you £3,000 for your birthday.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Your grandmother gives you £3,000 for your birthday.</p>	<p>It's your mother-in-law's birthday today.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>It's your mother-in-law's birthday today.</p>	<p>Your boss is in hospital.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Your boss is in hospital.</p>
<p>You're flat broke.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>You're flat broke.</p>	<p>You want to set up your own business.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>You want to set up your own business.</p>	<p>You've been fired.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>You've been fired.</p>	<p>You hate your job.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>You hate your job.</p>
<p>It is raining hard.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>It is raining hard.</p>	<p>You've just fallen down in the middle of the street.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>You've just fallen down in the middle of the street.</p>	<p>There is no food in the house.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>There is no food in the house.</p>	<p>Your mother is coming over for dinner.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Your mother is coming over for dinner.</p>

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### Response cards

I'll take a taxi.	I'll borrow some money from my father.	Great! I'll buy a new car.	I'll take an aspirin.
I'll go back home right now.	I'll probably get a loan from the bank.	I think I'll take a holiday in Tahiti.	I'll call in sick.
I'll go to the supermarket this afternoon.	I'll start looking for another job.	I'll send her some flowers.	I'll take a hot shower.
I'll order a pizza.	I've had it! I'll set up my own business.	I'll go to visit her.	I'll change into something warm.