

36 *Make a decision*

Situation cards



You're working on the computer when smoke starts to come out of it.
Make a decision.

You're just going to give a presentation to the board of directors, but you've left your notes in the car. Make a decision.

You're playing golf with your boss. He's terrible. You're winning. Make a decision.

Sales are falling in the USA for your main product – the Chimera mountain bike.
Make a decision.

Your boss calls you to his office. He tells you your salary is going to be cut by 20%. Make a decision.

A colleague is stealing money from the company. Make a decision.

You go to see your biggest customer. He tells you that a competitor is 25% cheaper than you. Make a decision.

Another company offers you a job in Sri Lanka. The contract is for two years and the salary is higher than your current salary. Make a decision.

You have a new assistant. He comes to work late every day.
Make a decision.

You owe £45,000 to a supplier. You have £30,000 in the bank. Make a decision.

You're in a hotel in Madrid. It's August. The air-conditioning has broken down.
Make a decision.

You have to make an important telephone call to a customer. You have a meeting with your boss in five minutes.
Make a decision.

You arrive at the office in the morning. A colleague has sent you 24 red roses.
Make a decision.

You receive your salary. The company has paid you £500 too much.
Make a decision.

Make a decision Worksheet **36**

ACTIVITY

Groupwork; speaking

AIM

To decide on a course of action in various situations.

GRAMMAR AND FUNCTIONS

Decision taking: *I (don't) think I'll + verb*

I won't + verb

VOCABULARY

office, secretary, decision, computer, screen, to give a presentation (to someone), the board of directors, to fall (e.g. sales), main product, salary, to cut by X%, colleague, company, customer, cheaper, to offer (someone) a job, contract, assistant, supplier, to owe, to have £X in the bank, air-conditioning, to break down

PREPARATION

Make one copy of the worksheet for every group of up to six students and cut it up as indicated.

TIME

30 minutes

PROCEDURE

1 Put the following table on the board.

<i>Situations</i>	<i>Decisions</i>
You don't like your job.	I think I'll...
You're looking at the menu in a restaurant.	I won't...
Your computer is seven years old.	

- 2 Elicit suggestions for possible decisions for the situations.
- 3 If necessary, drill some of the students' suggestions, using, for example, *I think I'll...*, *I won't...*
- 4 Divide the class into groups of four or five.
- 5 Appoint a secretary in each group whose job it will be to write down all the decisions.
- 6 Give each group a set of situation cards. Place the cards face down in a pile.
- 7 Explain the task. Each student in turn, turns over one of the situation cards and reads it aloud. He or she makes a decision about what to do, and tells the rest of the group. Other students in the group who believe they have better ideas, suggest them. Finally, the secretary writes down the decision chosen as the best by the group. It is then another student's turn.
- 8 Once the students understand the task, start the activity. Allow about 10 to 15 minutes.
- 9 When most groups have finished, reconvene the class and ask a few people what decisions they made for various situations.