Will
Hello and welcome to today’s Grammar Gameshow! I’m your host, Will! Will Will be willing to let you win? All will be revealed. And of course let’s not forget Leslie, our all-knowing voice in the sky.

Leslie
Hello, everyone!

Will
Tonight we’re going to ask you three questions about…

Leslie
Will! That little modal verb that does so much!

Will
It’s my birthday and I’ll cry if I want to! Now, let’s meet our contestants!

James
Hello, all. I’m James.

Will
And contestant number two?

Frank
It’s nice to meet you. I’m Frank.

Will
James and Frank? Oh dear. It’s my birthday and what I say goes! Well… more than usual anyway! So now you’re William, and you can be Wilfred!

James
Hey! You can’t do that! I love being called James!

Will
Quiet, William! You know, you remind me a lot of my uncle Wilbert.
James
Why? Did he stand up for himself too?

Will
Oh no. He mysteriously disappeared! How about you Wilfred? Any problems?

Frank
Not here!

Will
Good! Now that we're all ready, let's have our first question. Like myself, the modal verb 'will' is a useful thing to have around. Have a look at these sentences and tell me what each use of 'will' is. Who wants to go first?

William
I will!

Wilfred
No, I will!

William
No, I will!

Wilfred
No, I will!

Will
Guys, guys, guys! You've got it all wrong! I Will. You William. You Wilfred! But if you can't decide, we'll use the buzzers. Here we go. It will rain tomorrow.

William
That's 'will' as a future auxiliary verb for a prediction.

Leslie
Correct!

Will
I'll have orange juice please.

Wilfred
That's 'will' used for a decision made at the moment of speaking.

Leslie
Correct!
**Will**
Thanks for your help. I'll pay you back on Friday.

**William**
That’s ‘will’ used for a promise.

**Leslie**
Correct!

**Will**
Are you hungry? I'll make you a sandwich.

**Wilfred**
That’s ‘will’ used as an offer to do something.

**Leslie**
Correct!

**Will**
I’ll kill you for this!

**William**
That’s ‘will’ used for a threat.

**Leslie**
Correct!

**Will**
Leslie?

**Leslie**
Well done. ‘Will’ is a modal auxiliary verb, which means it’s always followed by a bare infinitive and doesn’t change to show person or time. It has many uses including future predictions, future intentions, instant decisions, promises, threats, and offers to help, among others.

**Will**
Good job both of you. Have forty-seven-ty-six points. On to round two. True or false: In the same way as the present simple, ‘will’ can be used to describe present habits and routines.

**Wilfred**
True!
Will
It is true! Can you give me an example?

Wilfred
I’ve heard that people will often not come home from this show. And if anyone’s going to disappear, I would much rather it be James. William! William! Of course! Of course!

Will
Leslie?

Leslie
Well done, Wilfred! ‘Will’ can be used to describe present habits and typical behaviour, just like the present simple.

William
I’ll kill you for that!

Will
Excellent use of ‘will’ for a threat, but minus ten points for going to the dark side on my birthday… just like Uncle Wilber! He was a bit of a wet blanket too… at first. Wilfred, twelve points for you. Our final question, then. In some ways ‘shall’ can be used as a substitute for ‘will’, but there are a few rules about its use. Give me three of them.

William
We only really use ‘shall’ with ‘I’ and ‘we’.

Leslie
Correct!

William
That’s one.

Wilfred
You can use ‘shall’ to ask someone’s opinion when making an offer. For example: Shall I open the window?

Leslie
Well done. One more.

William
The response to a question with ‘shall we’ is ‘let’s’ or ‘let’s not’.

Will
Leslie?
Leslie
Good stuff. ‘Shall’ can be used to ask for advice and make suggestions and offers. However, ‘shall’ is usually only used with the pronouns ‘I’ or ‘we’. A common response to a suggestion with ‘shall we’ is ‘let’s’. ‘Shall’ is a little bit formal and a bit old-fashioned, but it has its place!

Will
Just like you, Leslie! Trapped for all eternity wherever you are! Excellent. Three points to William. And that brings us to the end of today’s Grammar Gameshow. But before we go… let’s play a party game! It’s my birthday after all. How about musical podiums? I’ll play some music and you two switch places. When the music stops, we’ll know who the winner is! Are you ready? Go! Oh, I neglected to nominate which podium would lose. Oh, well! Release the seagulls. And the winner is… me! Oh, Leslie, what do I win?

Leslie
It’s a birthday cake.

Will
Oh, Leslie! I thought you’d forgotten. You really are a true friend.

Leslie
Does that mean you’ll invite me to your party?

Will
But, that means I’d have to let you out of your box in the sky. I’ve invited your family though! Say goodbye, Leslie.

Leslie
An nyeong hee ge se yo, Leslie.

Will
See you next time.