Do you know the idiom ‘at the drop of a hat’?
Do you know what ‘at the drop of a hat’ means?

When we say something happened ‘at the drop of a hat’ we mean that it happened very quickly, without stopping to spend time deliberating.

Another phrase that means the same thing is: ‘as quick as a wink’.
Origins: the story

This phrase originated from the United States in the 19th century.

The beginning of a fight or race would be started by either dropping a hat or sweeping it down whilst still holding it.

The response to this movement would be so quick that this is how the idiom came to represent any action that happens very quickly, without any hesitation or deliberation.
Examples

1. We packed the car the night before our holiday so that we could leave at the drop of a hat.

2. If I ever had the chance, I would go to China at the drop of a hat!
Consider

• When have you done something at the drop of a hat?

• Why did you feel that speed or urgency was needed?
• How did it affect how the situation was carried out?

• When might it be useful to do things at the drop of a hat?
• Are there any times that we shouldn’t do things at the drop of a hat?