Do you know the idiom ‘down to the wire’?
Do you know what ‘down to the wire’ means?

When we say something is ‘down to the wire’ we mean that the outcome is decided at the very last possible moment.

For example a decision could be made at the last possible moment, or the winner of a race may not be clear until the very last second.

Another phrase that means the same thing is: ‘last minute’.
Origins: the story

This phrase originated from horse racing.

Before the days of technology, it would be difficult to determine who was the winner in a close race. A method to help overcome this was adopted around the 19th century when a wire would be hung above the finish line to help make it clear who the winner was. Races that were very close were said to be ‘down to the wire’.
Examples

1. If I get this homework completed I’ll be lucky; I’ve left it down to the wire.

2. The company’s owner had still not made a decision, he’d left it down to the wire incase anything changed last minute.
Consider

• When have you left something down to the wire?

• How did this affect the decision/outcome?
• How did it affect how you felt before and during the decision? Did this change afterwards?

• When might it be useful to leave a decision down to the wire?
• Are there any times that we shouldn’t leave something down to the wire?