

2024 ARTS & ACADEMIC GROUP SCENES

There are 21 group scenes for you to choose from. Please select ONE and turn it into your own unique & entertaining performance. It doesn't matter if more than one group picks the same script – in fact it's wonderful to see different interpretations and ideas for the same script! You are expected to learn your lines and wear a costume. You may bring props to use in your performance, but you must be able to carry everything on and off the stage by yourselves in one trip. You will be performing in the primary forum, so make sure your voice is LOUD & CLEAR! Most importantly, HAVE FUN!

1. Lunch
2. Dog day
3. The runaway
4. Excuses
5. I spy
6. Jack and Jill
7. Slowsand
8. The audition
9. The mysterious trail
10. Detective Dog
11. The painting
12. Abracadabra
13. Dressed to kill
14. Parent evening
15. Mountain mishap
16. Why?
17. Boredom buster
18. The travel agency
19. Surprise!
20. Cat
21. Journey to the centre of a video game

ADJUDICATION CRITERIA:

INTERPRETATION & CREATIVITY	VERBAL PERFORMANCE SKILLS	NON-VERBAL PERFORMANCE SKILLS	TECHNICAL ELEMENTS
<p>This refers to how well you have taken the script "from the page to the stage" and how creative, interesting, engaging and entertaining your final performance is.</p>	<p>This refers specifically to how well you use your VOICE in your performance. Can we hear you? Can we understand you? Are you articulating your words clearly & with appropriate expression? Are you speaking at a good pace? (speed)</p>	<p>This refers specifically to how well you use your BODY in your performance. Have you made decisions about your body language, facial expression, posture, movement etc. that clearly show us your character? Can your audience see you?</p>	<p>This refers to how well you use the technical elements of Drama, such as costumes & props. You are also marked on your use of the stage area. Do you use your whole performance area (rather than 'hiding' up the back of the stage?) Is the table and chair on stage really necessary? Perhaps it's effective to sit very still in the centre of the stage for your whole performance?</p>

LUNCH

This script is written for TWO people, but you can easily redistribute lines to make it work for THREE people (split B's lines between 2 people)

A: May I take your order?

B: I'll have a hamburger and French fries please.

A: We don't have that here.

B: This is a lunch place, right?

A: Yes. We are vegan, dairy free, gluten free, non-GMO, totally organic & low FODMAP.

B: Well, what do you have?

A: I would suggest the Moroccan Chickpea salad or the Tempeh sandwich.

B: What's tempeh?

A: Fermented soybean cake.

B: Maybe I should look at a menu.

A: Or, you could try our special today. We have a lovely miso sandwich made with chia seed bread topped with nutritional yeast.

B: Don't you have just a soup and salad?

A: Yes, our soup today is creamy kale made with a rice-milk base and fermented soy. The salad is mung-bean and arugula topped with wild dandelion.

B: Dandelions? As in the weeds that grow in my garden?

A: It's a delicacy.

B: I can go home and chew on my grass if I want to eat dandelions. What's the most normal thing you have?

A: I don't know what you mean.

B: Like a plate of French fries or something.

A: Oh, yes, we have French fries! They're made with organic yams and sprinkled with dead Sea salt & maringa powder.

B: Never mind. I think I have a donut leftover from breakfast at home.

DOG DAY

This script is for TWO people. 2 children who live in the same street meet up to play.

A: Hi!

B: (excited) Hi! Guess what??

A: What?

B: We got a new dog yesterday!

A: Oh wow, really? Awesome! What sort of dog is it?

B: It's a labra-groodle-dalma-pug

A: A what??

B: A labra-groodle-dalma-pug! She's soooo cute!

A: What on earth is a labra-groodle-dalma-pug?

B: She's part labrador, part golden retriever, part poodle, part dalmatian & part pug

A: Wow! What does she look like?

B: She's about this high (hold hand around knee height), her fur is golden and curly, with black spots, and she's got a squished up nose. She's so beautiful.

A: She sounds... interesting!

B: Wanna come to my house and play with her?

A: Sure!

B: Lets go

They run off stage to go and play.

THE RUNAWAY

*This script is written for **TWO** people, but you can easily redistribute lines to make it work for **THREE** people (split A's lines between 2 people)*

A: What are you doing?

B: I'm packing.

A: Where are you going?

B: I'm running away.

A: Again?

B: This time it's for good.

A: Where are you going to go?

B: I don't know. I thought I might try New Zealand this time, or Borneo. I hear it's beautiful there.

A: Do you have any money?

B: Yes. \$14.76.

A: You can't get anywhere on \$15.

B: Well, maybe I'll take a bus until I see a circus and I'll get a job putting up the tents and they'll like me so much that I'll work my way up to Ringmaster.

A: I don't think it works that way.

B: Okay, then maybe I'll ride my skateboard until I see a slow-moving train. I'll hop on that and wind up in Canberra and everyone there will like me so much that eventually I'll become Prime Minister.

A: Why are you running away, anyway?

B: My parents. They won't let me do anything. I wanted to borrow my dad's good video camera to make an audition tape for a new reality show.

A: And he wouldn't let you do it?

B: Well, it was more about what I was going to film. The reality show is called 'Gross Out,' and I was going to eat twenty live cockroaches.

A: Gross.

B: See? They would have put me on the show!

EXCUSES

*This script is written for **TWO** people, but you can easily redistribute lines to make it work for **THREE** people (split A's lines between 2 people)*

A: We've been through this before. You could have at least called.

B: I was stuck in the year 1622, how exactly did you expect me to call?

A: It's my birthday. I'm in no mood for this.

B: Oh, come on. I'm not that late.

A: You're over an hour late!

B: See, this is the earliest I've ever been late!

A: It's nothing to brag about. What really happened?

B: I was kidnapped by the army. They let me go after one hour.

A: Stop. Just stop.

B: Okay, I had to chase my cows back into the field.

A: You live in an apartment.

B: I had to chase my imaginary cows back into the imaginary field.

A: This really isn't funny!

B: Alright. What really happened was, well...you've heard of that bear who is going around hijacking cars, right--

A: --Look. I've been putting up with this long enough. You owe it to me to a)start being on time, and b)tell me the truth!

B: There was a bee in the car?

A: Stop!

B: Okay. I'll tell you what really happened, but you won't believe it. I was abducted by aliens. After being transported to the mother ship, the aliens decided my brains weren't worth sucking out. They sent me back--

A: --That's it. If you're not going to---

B: --Wait. Don't leave. *(Pulls envelope out of pocket.)* This was supposed to be a surprise. I was going to give it to you at dinner. *(Hands over envelope.)* They're tickets to *(insert name of favourite rock band)*. I stood in line for six hours to get them. *That's* why I'm late! Happy birthday!

A: *(Jumping up and down.)* No way! No way! Okay, you are forgiven. *(Pause.)* But you'd better not be late for THIS!

I SPY

FOUR CHARACTERS: Mum, Dad, David (younger brother) and Megan (older sister).

The family is in the car on the way to the sea-side

David: (Whining) Dad, are we nearly there yet?

Megan: (Shoves David) I'm getting fed up with you!

Dad: (Angrily) Look, it's bad enough driving for two hours without having to listen to you two arguing.

Mum: (Snappily) Be quiet you two, find something to do with yourselves.

Megan: (Whining) But mum, I've read all my comics and done all my puzzles.

David: I've read my comics too (whines) AND I've done all my dot to dots

Mum: O.K. then, let's play I Spy for a while, you start, Megan.

Megan: (Looks at David) I spy with my little eye something beginning with F.

There are a number of unsuccessful guesses. Everyone looks tired

David: I give up, it's too hard, what do you spy beginning with F?

Megan: (Pointing at David) F is for FOOL!

Mum: (Frowning at Megan) Megan, that's nasty, apologise at once.

Megan: (Quietly) Sorry. Your go.

A pause while David thinks, he looks very confused

David: I spy with my little eye something beginning with G.

There are a number of unsuccessful guesses. Everyone looks really tired again

Megan: This is too hard; tell us what you spied that starts with G.

David: (Excitedly) Jumper!

Mum: David that begins with J. Never mind, it's the right sound.

Tensions start to rise in the car

Megan: Oh. My. Gosh. David!

David: What?!

Megan: You can't even-

Mum: Megan, shush please

David: *(whining)* Muuummmm, Megan's-

Mum: Look you two! Enough!

You can add your own slightly extended 'argument' scene in here

Dad: *(Trying to make the mood happy again!)* Look everybody! *(Pointing)* I spy with my little eye something beginning with S *(pauses)* it's the sea and we're here at last!

ALL REACT & FREEZE IN POSITION TO FINISH THE SCENE

JACK AND JILL

This script is for 2 actors

(Jack and Jill are walking along together holding empty pails or buckets)

Jack: Can't believe mum is making us fetch water *again*.

Jill: Yeah I know. I wanted to play with my skipping rope.

Jack: I was up to an awesome level on Sonic the Hedgehog!

Jill: Oh look there's the hill, and the well at the top! Race you!

(Jill starts running and Jack follows. How can you stage it to make it look like you're both running up a hill?)

Jill: Wow this hill is really steep. Be careful you don't fall Jack.

Jack: Ha! You need to be more careful than me, we both know how clumsy you are. *(Pulls a funny face)*

(Jack trips up and falls down the hill. How will you stage this? How can you make it look effective? Maybe you could use slow motion?)

Ahhh, it hurts.....I'm falling. My crown, I broke my crown. My head is bleeding. Mummmmyyy!

Jill: Oh my goodness Jack! Are you ok? I'm coming down to help you. Oh no!

(Jill trips too and comes tumbling down after Jack. How will you stage this? How can you make it look effective? Maybe you could use slow motion?)

Jack: Oh Jill!

Jill: I'm ok, just a scratch. Has your head stopped bleeding? You really are clumsy Jack.

(Jack looks up in disbelief)

Jack: *I'm* clumsy? Ha! You fell down too!

(They slowly and painfully get up onto their feet, lots of 'ouch' and 'oohs' as they get up)

Jill: C'mon Jack, we better get home. We better wrap that head of yours in vinegar and brown paper.

(They hobble off together, towards the exit, helping each other)

Jack: Mum's gonna be angry... we've come home without the buckets of water, *again*.

(They exit the stage)

SLOWSAND

This script is for 2 actors

QUINN stands on the stage, not moving. BAILEY enters. Eyes QUINN.

BAILEY: What are you doing?

QUINN: I read about the secret to escaping quicksand -- you need to lie down.

BAILEY: And then what?

QUINN: I guess you crawl out. Or roll. I can't wait to find out.

BAILEY: This is quicksand?

QUINN: Supposedly. Though I've been standing here for an hour, and I've barely sunk at all.

BAILEY: Maybe it's slowsand.

QUINN: There's no such thing as slowsand!

BAILEY: Well it's not quick.

QUINN: I'm expecting it to speed up any time now.

They wait.

BAILEY: What happens if it doesn't work? The lying down thing?

QUINN: I may need to be pulled out with a rope.

BAILEY: Did you bring a rope?

QUINN: I did not.

BAILEY: I'll go get one.

QUINN: Bring some snacks, too!

Quinn's feet wiggle, trying to sink lower.

QUINN: Hurry up! I might be in danger!

BAILEY: Um, I kind of doubt it. I'll be back in an hour with a pizza.

QUINN: An hour?!!!

BAILEY: Yeah, we're going to be here for a while.

THE AUDITION

This script is for TWO actors. A person consoles his/her friend who auditioned and did not get the part.

A: What's wrong? Why are you crying?

B: I didn't even make it past the first round of auditions.

A: Oh, I'm sorry to hear that... but... why?

B: Obviously because I have no talent.

A: Oh don't be silly! You are very talented.

B: Talented people don't forget the entire monologue and have to look at their notes every two seconds.

A: Of course they do. I bet Hugh Jackman has forgotten lines before! It could have happened to anyone.

B: Well, it didn't happen to anyone else today!

A: If it makes you feel better, there is always another audition.

B: There's not going to be another audition. I give up.

A: You just feel that way today. This is just a setback.

B: I think I'm going to become a funeral director.

A: Oh, there's a fun profession.

B: Hey, I can put the fun in funeral.

A: See, you're funny...and talented.

B: Lots of funny and talented people never make it in this profession.

A: True. But that's because they give up.

B: Maybe I could be a dog groomer. You don't need to audition for that job, right?

A: C'mon, let's go get some ice cream, that will cheer you up.

B: No thanks, I can't.

A: Oh, you have something better to do?

B: Ummm... I have another audition at three o'clock.

THE MYSTERIOUS TRAIL

This script is for TWO actors. A bushwalker (B) is surprised by an encounter with a talking frog (A).

A: I wouldn't go that way if I were you.

B: Why? What's that way?

A: I don't know, but no one has *ever* returned when they went that way.

B: Are you saying that it's dangerous?

A: I wouldn't know.

B: Well then why are you warning me? Maybe that way leads to somewhere better and people don't *want* to come back. Or maybe it's a shortcut.

A: It's possible.

B: I'm going that way.

A: Suit yourself.

B: Why did you say it like that?

A: Like what?

B: Like you *know* something.

A: I told you I don't know where it leads.

B: You're just crazy. You don't know what you're talking about.

A: Probably.

B: I'm wasting my time here. I have to get going.

A: I'm not stopping you.

B: Well, you kind of are.

A: How's that.

B: Well, look at you.

A: What about me?

B: Well... I guess that I should probably listen to a warning if it is issued by a talking frog!

A: Why don't you take a break for lunch and think about it? Do you have any dead flies?

DETECTIVE DOG

A talking detective dog seeks human help in cracking a big case.

A: You can talk?

B: I sure can.

A: You're a dog.

B: Ruff!

A: That's a first.

B: We can all talk, but we know humans would freak out. Better to just bark and ruff around you all.

A: So why are you talking to me?

B: Thing is, I'm a detective dog.

A: Uh-huh. Okay, a talking detective dog.

B: I'm on the case of a stolen bone. Very important stuff.

A: You checked with the other dogs in the neighborhood?

B: I interrogated them pretty hard core, yeah.

A: Birds?

B: Don't figure any of them could lift the bone. It's heavy.

A: Good point. What about the raccoons?

B: Everybody is always on the raccoons. They didn't much appreciate being accused, believe me.

A: I don't know. I give up.

B: Do you?

A: Yeah. I gotta go. It was nice meeting you talking, detective dog.

B: What's in your back pocket there, buddy?

A: Nothing.

B: (Barks. Growls. Loudly. Fiercely.)

A: Okay, okay. You caught me. I was taking it home to my Sparky.

B: I'll take that.

A: You're good.

B: Don't you forget it.

THE PAINTING

Two people in an art gallery discuss a piece of modern art.

A: You're frowning.

B: This is just my normal face.

A: It looks like you don't like it.

B: Hmmm... I've never really understood 'modern art'.

A: Yes, it's not to everyone's taste.

B: My uncle was a pig farmer. He had this bucket—called it the Sloppy Bucket. It had all sorts of food scraps, grass clippings, hay and coffee grounds in it.

A: Oh. And this painting reminds you of that?

B: Yes. And you know what he did with the stuff in the bucket?

A: I'm afraid to ask.

B: He fed it to the pigs.

A: So, you're saying that the painting should be used as pig food?

B: Maybe the artist wasn't finished.

A: You think it needs more work?

B: I think maybe it needs less, actually.

A: They do say that some artists don't know when to stop. They cross over this line into ruining their piece.

B: But it's hanging in this gallery. So, someone had to think it was pretty good.

A: Good enough to put a \$4,000 price on it.

B: Is that how much it is? Wow, I would never pay that much for something like that!!

A: The other one, over there, just sold for \$5,500. It's by the same artist.

B: Really?!? Wow, some people just have more money than sense!

A: You think it's pretty bad, huh?

B: Ummm, yep! I mean, what was the artist thinking?

A: Well, maybe you should ask them.

B: Oh – are they here? I should probably keep my voice down.

A: (putting hand out to shake hands) Nice to meet you, I'm the artist, and creator of pig food, apparently.

ABRACADABRA

This script is written for TWO people, but you can easily adjust it to allow for THREE people. A magician and assistant are rehearsing their next show.

A: Now then, one more time. Final rehearsal. After the rabbit disappears, you pass me the cloak.

B: Like this?

A: Yes, but with the other hand.

B: More like this?

A: Yes, that's it.

B: Then I secretly pass you the bunch of flowers. . .

A: . . . and Hey Presto! That's trick number three finished.

B: Are you going to do the chopping off the head trick next?

A: What do you think? We could do the goldfish trick before that.

B: No, do the head trick. I like that.

A: Okay. "Ladies and gentlemen, I will now cut off my assistant's head".

B: I bend down over the chair

A: "This is a very dangerous trick, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls".

B: Hang on! My back's gone funny!

A: Well get up then!

B: I can't!

A: Come on! Stop fooling around.

B: I'm not! I'm not! You'll have to call an ambulance.

A: Are you joking??

B: Ummm... do I look like I'm joking?!

A: We seriously don't have time for you to be mucking around, this is our final rehearsal!

B: I can assure you, I am not joking and I am not mucking around! Do something!

A: Well... ummm... I don't know what to do! Where does it hurt?

B: Everywhere! Ooh, my back!! Do something!

A touches B's back in a number of different places, B exclaims with pain each time. A takes a different approach, grabbing the magic wand and waving it over B's back whilst saying some magic words.

A: Abracadabra, alacajack, in one second you'll have a fixed-

B: Oh for goodness sake, now you're joking-

A: -back!

After a big flurry of actions with the magic wand by A, B suddenly stands up, pain free.

A & B: Gasp!!

DRESSED TO KILL

*This script is written for **TWO** people, but you can easily adjust it to allow for **THREE** people. A shopkeeper and a customer are in a dress shop:*

- A Good morning madam, can I help you?
- B Ah yes, good morning. I'd like to return this dress, please.
- A Certainly madam. Is there something wrong with it?
- B Oh no! Absolutely nothing. In fact everyone at the party said it was a lovely dress.
- A I beg your pardon?
- B Everyone at the party said it was a lovely dress. They said it matched my eyes.
- A I'm sorry madam. Can we just get this straight? You have already worn this dress?
- B Oh yes.
- A And now you want a refund?
- B Yes please. I don't think I'll be going to any more parties in the near future, so I don't think I'll need it any more.
- A I'm very sorry madam. This is not a hire shop. We *sell* dresses here, we don't hire them out for a few days.
- B But I haven't had it for a few days. *(Pause)* I've had it for two weeks.
- A *Two weeks!* You can't bring an item back when you've had it two weeks *and* worn it!
- B Why not?
- A Because ... becausebecause it isn't hygienic for one thing.
- B Are you saying I smell?
- A No of course I'm not....
- B I certainly don't smell, I can assure you!

- A I'm sorry madam. Unless the dress has a fault I am under no obligation whatsoever to exchange or refund the item.
- B I think you should reconsider. I know my rights!
- A Actually madam, I don't think you do.
- B Are you calling me *dumb*?? Well I-
- A No madam, I am not-
- B First you tell me I *smell*, and now you tell me I'm *dumb*?
- A No madam, that's not what I meant at all, I don't think you're hearing me-
- B -And deaf too?!
- A Madam, please-
- B I have never been so insulted in my life! What appalling customer service! (*customer storms out*)
- A I think it's going to be one of those days (*big sigh*)

PARENT EVENING

Three characters at a parent/teacher interview evening.

Characters:

A Parent

B Child

C Teacher

A Right. Are there any more teachers I need to see?

B (clearly wants to leave) Nope! I think that's the lot.

A What about your maths teacher? I haven't seen him yet.

B Oh, no, he wasn't at school today. I don't think he's here tonight. I think he's really sick. Contagious, actually. Let's go home, come on.

A Just a minute. Isn't that him over there?

B Nope! No, I don't think so.

A Yes, it is. Come on ... hello, how nice to see you again.

C Good evening. I wish I could say the same.

A I'm sorry. What do you mean?

B Come on mum/dad, let's go!

C (clearly very unhappy with Sam) "What do I mean"? I'll tell you exactly what I mean-

B I really don't feel very well and I think I need to go to the toilet...

C Sam's behaviour is simply unacceptable. Yesterday afternoon, for example, I asked the class what the value of Pi is. Do you know what Sam said?

A (shocked to hear that Sam has been naughty) What did you say?

B I really am going to make a mess in a minute

C When I asked the value of Pi Sam replied, "it depends on which shop you go to and which sort of pie you want"

B (sticking up for him/herself) Well it does! Steak and kidney cost a lot more than plain!

C Do you see what I mean!? A No not really. He's absolutely right. I think you need to be more specific in your questioning.

B (Can't believe he/she has got away with it) Yeah!

A And, in fact, Mrs Macs are on special at Woolies this week. If you don't mind baking them at home yourself, of course.

C I don't believe this!

A I know – half price for a packet of 4! I couldn't believe it either, so I've stocked up and popped them in the freezer!

C Mrs Smith, Pi. 3.14-

A Oh no! If you're paying more than \$3 you're getting ripped off! \$2.85 I paid! It's just basic maths really!

(A) ends the scene pleased with themselves for helping out the teacher. (C) ends the shock in disbelief. (B) is giggling and can't believe he's got away with it!

MOUNTAIN MISHAP

*This script is written for **TWO** people, but you can easily adjust it to allow for **THREE** or even **FOUR** people. Near the top of a very tall mountain*

- A I can see it! I can see it! We're nearly there!!
- B O thank goodness! I don't think I could carry on much longer.
- A It's all been worthwhile. Two weeks of non-stop climbing ...
- B Temperatures of -30 degrees ...
- A Sleeping on ledges and eating dried food ...
- B Not seeing our family ... Missing my dear dogs' birthday...
- A And now we are about to be the very first people to reach the top of the third-tallest mountain in the world!
- B And claim it for our country! Get the flag out!
- A Flag?
- B Yes, the flag. Get it out so that we can put it on top of the mountain so that everyone will know that we were here first!
- A I thought *you* had the flag.
- B No no. I had all the food to carry.
- A But I had all the sleeping equipment. Surely you had room for one little flag?
- B It was on *your* list, not mine.
- A No it was not on my list! (*gets list out*) Look, here's my list. Sleeping bags....
- B You've brought your list with you but you couldn't be bothered to bring the flag?!?
- A ... spare underpants, goggles, ... nope, definitely nothing about the flag on here.
- B I don't believe this. All this way, all the planning, all the money, all the work and pain, and we haven't even got a flag to put on the top to prove that we got here!
- A We could write our names in the snow?
- B Who's going to see that?!? Eagles and anyone who happens to be passing by in a helicopter in the next day??
- A Well, I think we should go back then.
- B What?!?!?

WHY?

A *Parent*

B *Child*

A OK, I'd like you to put your toys away now sweetheart.

B Why?

A Because we have to go and pick your brother up from school.

B Can I go to school?

A Not until you're old enough.

B When will I be old enough?

A In two years' time.

B Is that more than four sleeps?

A Yes.

B Is it more than three sleeps?

A Yes. It's a lot of sleeps.

B Why?

A Why what?

B Why can Robert go to school and I can't?

A Because he's older than you.

B Why?

A Why is he older?

B Yes.

A Because he was born before you were.

B Why was he borned before me? Why didn't you have me borned first?

A It's not as simple as that.

B Why?

A Shall we get these toys put away now?

B If I have a long long long long long long sleep can I go to school when I wake up?

A We'll see.

B Will my new baby brother go to school when he is borned?

A No, I'll have to look after him.

B But who will look after me?

A I will

B So you're going to look after me *and* my new baby brother?

A I sure am

B That's a *lot* of looking after for you to do, Mummy

A Tell me about it.

BOREDOM BUSTER

*This script is written for **TWO** people. 2 children are at the end of a long summer holiday break and looking forward to going back to school.*

A Hi

B Hi

A What have you been doing on the holidays?

B Ummm, not much. You?

A Ummm, not much.

B Do you want to play?

A Sure. What should we play?

B Don't know.

A How about pirates?

(Children start to re-enact a quick little pirate scene that lasts just a few seconds)

A&B Nah

B How about shops?

(Children instantly go into a 'shop' scene that lasts just a few seconds)

A&B Nah

A How about schools?

(Children instantly go into a 'school' scene that lasts just a few seconds)

A&B Nah

B How about dancing??

(Children burst into their favourite dance enthusiastically)

A&B YES!!

(Children continue to dance for a few more seconds and then freeze in a really cool pose to finish off the scene)

THE TRAVEL AGENCY

A & B are an elderly couple

C is a Travel Agent

A Here it is.

B This used to be Blenkinsops, the chemist. I didn't know it was a travel agent.

A Oh yes. It changed hands. About 7 years ago.

B Well, if it's that recent I wouldn't have noticed. Let's go in and see what they say.

C Good morning. What can I do for you?

A We'd like your help.

C I'll do everything I can.

B We want to visit our daughter.

C Oh how lovely.

B We haven't seen her for a while.

A Not since she moved.

C Yes, it can be very difficult when someone moves away.

A Difficult, yes.

B We don't like travelling, but it's time to bite the bullet.

C Well, we arrange travel all over the world, from deepest Africa to sunny California.

A Ooh goodness, I don't think I could travel that far!

B Ooh no. That's a bit out of or league.

A We don't like travelling.

C Yes, you said. So where is it exactly your daughter lives? England? South Africa?

A Oh no. Not England.

B Not South Africa.

C Where does she live?

A Edgewater

- C** (Pause) Edgewater?
- B** Yes.
- C** Edgewater.... *Perth*?
- A** Yes.
- C** That's about 10 kilometres away.
- A** Will we need to fly?
- B** Or do you think an organised tour is best for us?
- C** But.... It's *10 kilometres away*.
- A** I know, but we're up for it.
- B** Do we need a passport?
- C** It's *Edgewater*. Near Joondalup. You can go on the bus!
- A** Ah, splendid. We'll book two places on the bus then, please.
- C** What?
- B** Two places. On the bus. To Edgewater. To see our daughter.
- C** But this is a Travel Agency.
- B** (*and your point is?*) Yeeees?
- A** That's why we came to you, dear, you're the expert.
- C** (*with increasing frustration*) But you just need to get on a bus. The 467. It only takes 20 minutes. There's a stop just over the road. It costs \$2, though you can probably travel free with your old age pension card
- A** Brilliant! I can see why you're a Travel Agent. You've been so knowledgeable...
- B** ... and courteous....
- A** Now, how much do we owe you?

SURPRISE!

Two naughty sisters/brothers think they have found the best Christmas present ever. B is a little older than A.

(On the stage is a large box, wrapped up in Christmas paper)

A Oh my goodness! We found it!

B I told you it was hidden in the wardrobe! Look, our names are on it and everything!

A I can't believe it!

B *(grabbing it and carrying it out into the bedroom)* Let's open it!

A Wait! Do you think we'll get into trouble? I don't want Mummy & Daddy to be mad.

B No! Of course not! They won't even know! We'll just sneak a little peak and then wrap it back up and put it back in the wardrobe again.

A You're so clever! That's such a good plan! Let's do it!

(The children mischievously unwrap the large box. When they open the unwrapped box, there is another wrapped up box inside)

B What??

A *(excited)* It's like pass the parcel! This is sooooo cool!! Let's keep going

(Excitedly they unwrap the next box, and the same thing happens again. When they open the unwrapped box, there is another wrapped up box inside. This happens a number of times until there is quite a small box left. They finally get to the last box, and open it. There is an envelope inside)

B An envelope? Well that's not very exciting.

A *(still super excited)* What's inside the envelope. *(Rips open the envelope and looks at the piece of paper inside, that has a word written in big letters on it)* Oh wow!!!

B *(thinking it's something really cool and exciting)* What is it? What is it??

A I dunno, I can't read yet

B *(grabbing the piece of paper, reads it, and mood suddenly changes...)* It's says GOTCHA!!

(They both gasp with fear. FREEZE!)

CAT

KIP sits in a chair, (miming) playing a video game. JAN enters.

JAN: Have you seen the cat?

KIP: Hmmmm?

JAN: That cat is an amazing hider. She's like a ninja.

KIP: We have a cat?

JAN: Funny.

KIP: No, seriously.

JAN: Yes, we have a cat!

KIP: Are you sure?

JAN: You've never seen the cat?

KIP: What does it look like?

JAN: Like a cat!

KIP: Nope.

JAN: You didn't wonder about the litter box in the corner?

KIP: Is that what that is?

JAN: The bowls of food on the floor?

KIP: I thought those were snacks.

JAN: You've been eating the cat food?!?

KIP: I guess that's why the dog was giving me that dirty look.

JAN: We don't have a dog!

KIP: Small, furry thing?

Jan just looks at him.

JAN: I'm going to my room.

KIP: Can you bring me some of those snacks before you go? She leaves. He plays.

JOURNEY TO THE CENTRE OF A VIDEO GAME

One gamer tries to rally video gaming troops for a battle with an enemy of gaming technology.

A: I know you. You're Pac Man.

B: Get in line if you want an autograph.

A: No, I need your help.

B: Let me guess, you got a great video game idea. Everybody's a game designer these days.

A: You and your video game friends are in danger. All of them. The space invaders, the streetfighters, the Italian plumbers. Your days are numbered.

B: Even...Mrs. Pac Man?

A: Yes, all of you.

B: Okay, I'm listening.

A: A bad guy named Mr. X is trying to destroy all video game technology.

B: That's not good.

A: That's terrible. If he succeeds, I won't be able to play video games anymore. No more lovely worlds in Minecraft. No more Nintendo Switch. No more...

B: No more me!

A: Yeah, I don't want to lose you, Pac Mac.

B: I don't want to lose me, either!

A: You have to tell all of your video game friends, old school and new, retro and contemporary. Gather them up. We need to build a team.

B: For what?

A: War!

B: You know I'm not much of a fighter. There's plenty of other gaming characters that fit that bill. I mostly like to eat and run from ghosts.

A: Okay, maybe not war. Perhaps we can trick him. What do you say? There's plenty of yellow pellets in it for you to eat.

B: And no ghosts? Fine. I'll try.

A: There is no try. Only do. We must take action. But first. Can I have your autograph?