

1. Picture Day

CAST: (2M, 5F) MADISON, MR. DOBBS, JADE,
LAURA, BECKY, MONA, PHILLIP

PROPS: Chair, mirror.

- 1 *(At rise MADISON rushes to the chair, sits down, and smiles.)*
- 2 **MADISON:** Ready!
- 3 **MR. DOBBS:** *(Enters.)* Great! Let's get started. First, if you would
- 4 turn just your shoulders to the siiiide. *(Adjusts her*
- 5 shoulders.) Yes, that's it. Chin down. *(Moves her head*
- 6 down.) And tilt your head like this. *(Moves her head to the*
- 7 side.) That's it. Now, sit up straight. *(Steps back.)* And hold
- 8 iiiiit. *(Moves back as he speaks.)* Hold it, hold iiiit.
- 9 **MADISON:** *(Moves out of the position.)* Wait!
- 10 **MR. DOBBS:** What's wrong?
- 11 **MADISON:** What about my hair?
- 12 **MR. DOBBS:** Would you like to check the mirror?
- 13 **MADISON:** Yes, please.
- 14 **MR. DOBBS:** There's a mirror right over there.
- 15 **MADISON:** Thank you. *(Looks into the mirror and arranges her*
- 16 hair.) OK. I'm ready now.
- 17 **MR. DOBBS:** All right. Shoulders to the side. Chin down. Head
- 18 tilted. Just a bit more, please.
- 19 **MADISON:** You know ... I don't like tilting my head to the side
- 20 like this. It feels awkward.
- 21 **MR. DOBBS:** It helps to erase shadows. A bit more to the side,
- 22 please.
- 23 **MADISON:** *(Moves her head.)* Well, I don't want shadows.
- 24 **MR. DOBBS:** Yes, that's more natural.
- 25 **MADISON:** *(With her head tilted awkwardly, she speaks in a stiff*
- 26 tone.) Are you sure this looks natural?

1 MR. DOBBS: Sit up straight!
 2 MADISON: I don't think I can sit up any straighter!
 3 MR. DOBBS: (*Claps his hands.*) Come on, come on! Sit up tall
 4 and straight! That will help reduce the appearance of your
 5 double chin.
 6 MADISON: I have a double chin?
 7 MR. DOBBS: Pictures can be quite revealing. (*Moves her hair.*)
 8 And one more adjustment right here. (*Steps back.*) Now
 9 hold it ... (*Quickly steps back as he is speaking*) Hold it, hold
 10 it ...
 11 MADISON: (*Moves out of the position.*) Wait! Can we try
 12 something different? Like this? (*Looking over her shoulder*
 13 *and smiling*) Isn't this cute?
 14 MR. DOBBS: (*Frustrated*) Miss ... ?
 15 MADISON: Riley.
 16 MR. DOBBS: Miss Riley, this is a school picture, not an actor's
 17 headshot! (*Takes a deep breath.*) All right, let's try this
 18 again. (*Adjusts her.*) Shoulders to the side ... Chin down ...
 19 Head tilted ... Sit up straight ... And hold it ... hold it ...
 20 (*Quickly steps back*) Smile!
 21 MADISON: (*Frowning*) Wait! (*Moves out of position.*)
 22 MR. DOBBS: What now?
 23 MADISON: It feels all wrong!
 24 MR. DOBBS: Well, it would help if you would smile!
 25 MADISON: But every year my yearbook picture always turns
 26 out so bad! And this year I want it to be good! So can't I do
 27 something else? Maybe this? (*Makes a dramatic pose and*
 28 *smiles.*) Or this? (*Poses and smiles.*)
 29 MR. DOBBS: No, you may not.
 30 MADISON: Or this? (*Makes another dramatic pose.*)
 31 MR. DOBBS: (*Begins to adjust her again.*) Shoulders to the side ...
 32 MADISON: Wait! Can't I sit like this?
 33 MR. DOBBS: No! To the side, please! Chin down ...
 34 MADISON: But I don't like my chin down! And if I have a
 35 double chin, this isn't going to help!

1 MR. DOBBS: Head tilted ...
 2 MADISON: And tilting my head makes me look all spastic!
 3 MR. DOBBS: And sit up straight.
 4 MADISON: (*Stiffly*) I feel stupid!
 5 MR. DOBBS: (*Steps back.*) Smile!
 6 MADISON: (*Not moving, but glaring at him*) What if I refuse to
 7 smile?
 8 MR. DOBBS: Then, Miss Riley, you will look dumb in the school
 9 yearbook. (*Steps back.*) Smile!
 10 MADISON: (*Moves out of position.*) Wait!
 11 MR. DOBBS: (*Extremely frustrated*) Miss Riley, do you realize
 12 how many pictures I have to take today?
 13 MADISON: Hundreds?
 14 MR. DOBBS: That's right! Hundreds! And I can't seem to get
 15 even one picture taken!
 16 MADISON: I'm sorry, Mr. ... ?
 17 MR. DOBBS: Dobbs. Mr. Dobbs.
 18 MADISON: I'm sorry, Mr. Dobbs, but this picture is a lifelong
 19 memory for me! One day I'll be all old and wrinkled,
 20 sitting around with my grandchildren, showing them
 21 pictures of how attractive their granny used to look, and ...
 22 MR. DOBBS: Wow. You really think ahead, don't you?
 23 MADISON: And Mr. Dobbs, I want my grandchildren to see me
 24 for who I am!
 25 MR. DOBBS: Which is?
 26 MADISON: Dazzling! Unique! Gorgeous! I want my
 27 grandchildren to scroll through the rows and rows of
 28 pictures and without hesitation be able to say, "Grandma,
 29 is that you? Why, you were the cutest girl in the whole
 30 yearbook!"
 31 MR. DOBBS: So let's take a cute picture!
 32 MADISON: Thank you! (*Poses and smiles.*) Ready!
 33 MR. DOBBS: (*Dryly*) Shoulders to the side. Chin down. Head
 34 tilted. Sit up straight. And smile.
 35 MADISON: (*Frowning at him*) But ...

1 MR. DOBBS: Thank you. Next.

2 MADISON: Wait! You took my picture like that?

3 MR. DOBBS: Next!

4 LAURA: (*Enters*) I guess I'm next.

5 MADISON: Wait! Wait! I wasn't even smiling!

6 MR. DOBBS: You had your chance, Miss Riley. If you would,
7 please move out of the way and let this young lady sit
8 down. What's your name, Sweetheart?

9 LAURA: Laura.

10 MADISON: But I was glaring at you! I wasn't smiling!

11 MR. DOBBS: And I told you to smile, didn't I?

12 LAURA: Why didn't you smile?

13 MADISON: Because I wanted to take a cute picture!

14 MR. DOBBS: And you had your chance. Now, if you would get
15 up and let this young lady sit down...

16 MADISON: (*Not moving*) Had my chance? How could I have
17 taken a cute picture looking like this? (*Demonstrates*) My
18 body twisted to the side in an awkward position, my chin
19 to the floor, my head flopped over like some spastic
20 person! And you want me to smile like this?

21 MR. DOBBS: Miss Riley, will you please let the next person sit
22 down?

23 MADISON: No!

24 MR. DOBBS: No?

25 MADISON: Take it again!

26 MR. DOBBS: Miss Riley, retakes will be taken after the first of
27 the year.

28 MADISON: After the first of the year?

29 MR. DOBBS: That's correct. So, if you don't like your picture ...

30 MADISON: This is just great! All my friends will be exchanging
31 pictures and I'll be stuffing them in my backpack! My
32 mom will be all excited to see them and then scream in
33 horror. Mr. Dobbs, please! Please!

34 MR. DOBBS: Do I need to send you to the principal's office?

35 MADISON: You can't send me to the principal's office! You're

1 just the picture guy!

2 MR. DOBBS: I'll be right back.

3 MADISON: (*Jumps up.*) All right, all right, all right! I'm leaving!
4 Happy?

5 MR. DOBBS: I don't think you want me to answer that.

6 MADISON: (*As she exits*) I can't believe this! All I wanted to do
7 was take a cute picture!

8 MR. DOBBS: (*To Laura*) All right, if you would just take a seat.

9 LAURA: (*Sitting down*) I don't really like having my picture
10 taken.

11 MR. DOBBS: I understand. Now, if you would just turn your
12 shoulders to the side.

13 LAURA: Like this?

14 MR. DOBBS: Good. Chin down. And tilt your head to the side.
15 That's it. And sit up as straight as you can. Good. And hold
16 it ... hold it ... (*Steps back.*) Smile! (*Returns*) Good. Thank
17 you. Next! (*LAURA exits. JADE enters.*) If you'll just have a
18 seat right there.

19 JADE: I hate picture day!

20 MR. DOBBS: I understand. Now, if you would just turn your
21 shoulders to the side.

22 JADE: Whatever.

23 MR. DOBBS: Good. Chin down. And tilt your head to the side.

24 JADE: Can you like, hurry?

25 MR. DOBBS: That's good.

26 JADE: Do you want me to say cheese?

27 MR. DOBBS: If you'd like.

28 JADE: Cheese!

29 MR. DOBBS: Let's wait until I step back to take the picture.

30 JADE: Whatever.

31 MR. DOBBS: Sit up straight. (*Steps back.*) And hold it, hold it ...

32 JADE: Do you want me to say cheese now?

33 MR. DOBBS: Smile!

34 JADE: I thought I was going to say cheese!

35 MR. DOBBS: (*Frustrated, he approaches her.*) Do you want to say

1 cheese or smile?

2 JADE: Well, I thought I was supposed to say cheese!

3 MR. DOBBS: Then say cheese!

4 JADE: Cheese!

5 MR. DOBBS: But don't say cheese until I take the picture!

6 JADE: OK, fine!

7 MR. DOBBS: *(Steps back.)* Say cheese!

8 JADE: Do you want me to say cheese and then smile or just say
9 cheese?

10 MR. DOBBS: Smile!

11 JADE: Or did you want me to smile and then say cheese?

12 MR. DOBBS: *(Screams.)* Say cheese and smile!

13 JADE: Cheese! *(Gives a big smile, then stands and exits.)*

14 MR. DOBBS: Next! *(Moves about shaking his head and wiping his
15 forehead.)*

16 BECKY: *(Enters.)* You want me to sit down?

17 MR. DOBBS: Please.

18 BECKY: I think taking pictures is stupid!

19 MR. DOBBS: If you would turn your shoulders to the side,
20 please.

21 BECKY: *(Turns.)* It's just a way for you guys to make money.
22 Send us home with these dumb looking pictures that our
23 parents feel guilty about not buying.

24 MR. DOBBS: Chin down.

25 BECKY: My mom always buys the entire package even when
26 they're bad. And they're *always* bad.

27 MR. DOBBS: Tilt your head to the side, please.

28 BECKY: Sends pictures to my grandparents, aunts, uncles,
29 cousins ... And you know, I really wish she wouldn't. Like,
30 yuck!

31 MR. DOBBS: And sit up straight.

32 BECKY: And the only good thing about picture day ...

33 MR. DOBBS: Smile!

34 BECKY: Is getting out of class. *(Smiles.)*

35 MR. DOBBS: Next!

1 BECKY: And you know, maybe I'll take my sweet time walking
2 back to math class. You know, smell the roses. Stop in the
3 bathroom. Stop by my locker. Take an early lunch ...

4 MR. DOBBS: Thank you. You may leave now. *(BECKY exits.)*
5 Next!

6 MONA: *(Enters. Enthusiastically)* Hi!

7 MR. DOBBS: Hi. If you would please take a seat.

8 MONA: Oh, sure! Thank you! I bet you love your job, don't you?

9 MR. DOBBS: Yeah, sure.

10 MONA: I mean, you get to meet so many people every day! And
11 make people smile all the time! I bet it's the best job in the
12 world!

13 MR. DOBBS: If you would, turn your shoulders to the side.

14 MONA: Absolutely! I just love having my picture taken!

15 MR. DOBBS: Chin down.

16 MONA: Chin is down!

17 MR. DOBBS: And tilt your head to the side just a bit.

18 MONA: How's this?

19 MR. DOBBS: That's fine. And sit up straight.

20 MONA: Straight as a board!

21 MR. DOBBS: *(Steps back.)* Smile.

22 MONA: *(Gives a huge smile.)* Oh, I just love having my picture
23 taken! Hey, do you want to take it one more time in case I
24 blinked?

25 MR. DOBBS: Retakes are after the first of the year.

26 MONA: Oh, OK! Well, thank you! Thank you so much! *(Shaking
27 his hand)* And it was such a pleasure to meet you! I guess
28 I'll see you next year! That is, unless I have to come back
29 for retakes. But I don't think I will. I think they will be OK.
30 OK, well I better go so you can get back to work! Have a
31 great day! And I know you will because you have a great
32 job! Bye! *(Exits.)*

33 MR. DOBBS: Next! *(MADISON rushes in and sits down.)* Oh, no!
34 Not you again!

35 MADISON: Shoulders to the side. Chin down. Head tilted. Sit

1 up straight. *(She smiles.)*

2 MR. DOBBS: Retakes are after the first of the year.

3 MADISON: *(Still smiling)* Just pretend I'm someone else, OK?

4 MR. DOBBS: That's not possible.

5 MADISON: *(Smiling)* Or pretend I'm not here. Either way.

6 MR. DOBBS: We already took your picture.

7 MADISON: *(Smiling)* One more time, OK?

8 MR. DOBBS: Look, this is supposed to go quick! *(Snaps.)*

9 Students sit down, I give instructions, they smile, I snap

10 and they leave! And after four hundred or so pictures,

11 then I get to go home! *(Looks at his watch.)* And the way

12 this is going today, I'll have to come back tomorrow! And

13 the only time that has happened to me was in 1998 when

14 an unexpected fire drill sent kids marching out of the

15 school. And believe me, I don't like coming back for a

16 second day!

17 MADISON: *(Smiling)* I'll be quick. As soon as you take my

18 picture, I'm out of here!

19 MR. DOBBS: Next!

20 MADISON: *(Smiling)* Just take it real quick, OK?

21 MR. DOBBS: Next!

22 MADISON: *(Smiling)* It'll be our secret, OK? I slipped in and you

23 didn't notice that you took my picture twice.

24 MR. DOBBS: Oh, I noticed! Believe me, I noticed!

25 MADISON: I'm smiling! I'm ready!

26 MR. DOBBS: Next!

27 PHILLIP: *(Enters.)* I'm next.

28 MR. DOBBS: Good. If you would please take a seat.

29 PHILLIP: I would, but ... *(Motioning to MADISON)*

30 MR. DOBBS: Miss Riley!

31 MADISON: *(To PHILLIP)* Just give us a minute, OK?

32 MR. DOBBS: Sir, if you would sit down.

33 PHILLIP: I would, but ...

34 MADISON: *(Smiling)* One quick picture and I'm out of here!

35 PHILLIP: Could you please hurry up? I have to get back to gym.

1 Coach is going over some critical plays for the game on

2 Friday.

3 MADISON: *(Smiling)* I'm ready!

4 MR. DOBBS: *(Takes a deep breath, then steps back.)* Smile!

5 MADISON: I'm smiling!

6 MR. DOBBS: And there we go. Thank you. You may leave now.

7 MADISON: But you didn't take my picture! The flash didn't

8 even go off!

9 MR. DOBBS: Well, what do you know? Sorry about that. Retakes

10 are after the first of the year.

11 MADISON: But I want my retake now!

12 MR. DOBBS: What you want and what you get are two different

13 things, Missy!

14 MADISON: Oh my gosh! How hard is it to take a stupid picture?

15 MR. DOBBS: Obviously not very hard because that's exactly

16 what we took of you!

17 MADISON: What?

18 PHILLIP: Uh ... can we do mine now?

19 MADISON: No!

20 MR. DOBBS: Yes! Sit down!

21 PHILLIP: I would, but ...

22 MADISON: And I'm not budging until you take my picture

23 again! And not another fake one, Mr. Dobbs! A real

24 picture! *(Smiles.)* I'm smiling! I'm ready!

25 PHILLIP: Should I come back?

26 MADISON: Yes!

27 MR. DOBBS: No!

28 PHILLIP: Yes? No?

29 MR. DOBBS: Please, take a seat!

30 PHILLIP: I would, but ...

31 MADISON: I'm not budging, Mr. Dobbs! Shoulders to the side,

32 chin down, head tilted and sitting up straight! Ready!

33 PHILLIP: I'll come back.

34 MR. DOBBS: Don't you dare leave!

35 MADISON: Don't worry. I'm not.

1 PHILLIP: Me or her?
2 MR. DOBBS: She leaves! You stay! Now, take a seat!
3 PHILLIP: Again, I would, but ... I don't think she's budging.
4 MADISON: I'm not!
5 MR. DOBBS: Fine! Fine, fine, fine, fine, fine! One more picture
6 of you, Miss Riley!
7 MADISON: Thank you.
8 MR. DOBBS: Shoulders to the side. Chin down. Head tilted. Sit
9 up straight. And hold it ... *(Steps back.)* Smile!
10 MADISON: *(Quickly moves into a dramatic pose and smiles. After*
11 *the picture is taken, she jumps up.)* Yes!
12 MR. DOBBS: I told you not to do that! The school pictures are
13 all supposed to look the same!
14 MADISON: *(Smiling)* Oops. Sorry.
15 MR. DOBBS: Sit down! We're doing it again!
16 MADISON: No! I liked that pose! It'll be cute.
17 MR. DOBBS: Sit down!
18 MADISON: No! *(Starts off.)*
19 MR. DOBBS: *(Follows her.)* Come back here! We're going to take
20 another picture of you! Then another and another and
21 another if that's what it takes! You will look like the rest of
22 your classmates!
23 MADISON: But I don't want to look like the rest of my
24 classmates! I want to look cute! *(MADISON and MR. DOBBS*
25 *exit as PHILLIP is left standing there. After a moment, he sits*
26 *down in the chair, looks around, and then smiles.)*
27 PHILLIP: *(Takes a seat.)*
28 MR. DOBBS: *(Says to himself.)* I would please send Miss Riley
29 PHILLIP: *(Takes a seat.)*
30 MR. DOBBS: *(Says to himself.)* I would please send Miss Riley
31 PHILLIP: *(Takes a seat.)*
32 MR. DOBBS: *(Says to himself.)* I would please send Miss Riley
33 PHILLIP: *(Takes a seat.)*
34 MR. DOBBS: *(Says to himself.)* I would please send Miss Riley
35 PHILLIP: *(Takes a seat.)*

2 Lo

CAST: (1M, 3F) MRS. MILLS
PROPS: Map,
SETTING: CL

1 *(At risk MRS. MILLS is teaching*
2 *room. CASSIE and JANIE are*
3 *students at desks are optional.)*
4 MRS. MILLS: Correlative conjun
5 correlation between element
6 different things together an
7 example ...
8 RYAN: *(Enters.)* I know, I know, I know
9 MRS. MILLS: *(Looks at watch.)* Mr.
10 in a row that you've been late
11 RYAN: I know
12 MRS. MILLS: First day of school,
13 day, OK, you're still finding yo
14 RYAN: OK, so I was coming from the
15 right at the gym, left at the ch
16 at the cafeteria, but then
17 around. I thought, am I supp
18 the left? Right or left? So I too
19 MRS. MILLS: That was wrong.
20 RYAN: I know that now.
21 MRS. MILLS: Mr. Hodges, did you
22 the first day of school?
23 RYAN: *(Pulls out a large map.)* I ha
24 confusing!
25 MRS. MILLS: Hogwash. Anyone w
26 look at a map and find their w