**Instructions**

Read through the scene below three times, each time looking for different edits that it may need.

1. Does it make sense? Do the timelines work? If there are any mistakes, change them.
2. Does this introduce the characters well enough? Does it set up a story we are interested to see? If not, see where you could add some more detail. If there are parts that are too long, trim them.
3. Where could it be better? Look for moments that could be improved and make the changes!

Feel free to cut, add or change as much as you like. It might help to put changes in a different colour so you can see where you have edited the text. There are some mistakes so check carefully!

**The Play**

The play tells the story of a world where memories are recorded and can be replayed. The scene below is a first draft of a scene early in the play, in which the characters of Molly, Arthur, and Vic are introduced. It is set in their office, and needs to hint at a conflict between Molly and Vic.

**Characters**

Vic - The inventor of the memory-recording technology. He is loud and socially awkward.

Molly – A promising employee of the company, frustrated that Vic doesn’t seem to notice her good work.

Arthur – Molly’s best friend, always making jokes. Avoids any tricky conversations.

**First Draft**

*Molly has spilled some water on her leg.*

Arthur: Had an accident, have we?

Molly: Very funny, I’ve just been drenched by the watercooler!

Arthur: I’d stick with that story, much less embarrassing than the truth.

Molly: Just wanted a drink and now look at me. I’m really embarrassed now.

Arthur: [*Handing Molly a tissue*] Well you’re only going to get fizzy water in there, he’s going through a sparkling phase.

Molly: Is he now? No more coconut water? Or ‘Smart’ water? Or flavoured water? [*hands a wet tissue back to Arthur, who looks at it faintly repulsed]*

Arthur: Apparently not. Though you might get a slice of cucumber if he’s got Tim going to the market every morning which he usually does, so yeah

Molly: How was he today?

Arthur: Tim?

Molly: Vic.

Arthur: Well, a little bit-

*Vic enters*

Vic: Here he is! The man of the hour. Great stuff today, no clue where you come up with all these ideas.

Arthur: Well you know how it is.

Vic: I really don’t. Utter genius! Didn’t even get a chance to ask about you, how are you, what’s happening, what’s bubbling under?

Arthur: Well, distinctly lacking in excitement. Yourself?

Vic: Good, good, yeah. What kind of excitement?

Arthur: What?

Vic: That you’re lacking? What’s the excitement you’d like to be happening?

Arthur: Well, I just meant in general.

Vic: Cool. Love your shirt by the way.

Arthur: Well, thanks.

Vic: Yeah. Hey, are you around tomorrow evening? I’ve got some tickets to a magic show if you fancy coming along?

Arthur: Er, sorry, not tonight. The one night of the week I have any plans…

Vic: Not to worry, mate. More magic for me as I always say.

Arthur: Do you?

Vic: From time to time.

Arthur: Molly might be?

*Vic spots Molly*

Vic: Yeah.

Molly: Are you free? Just for a quick catch up? I’d really like to talk to you about something very important…

Vic: [*Noticing the damp patch]* Sorry, must dash, got someone coming in this morning. Need to pick up some cucumbers from Jim before we get started.

Molly: Sure, not to worry. See you in a bit then.

Arthur: We should really get everyone together outside work.

Vic: We will! Another time then mate. Great. And great shirt. Well, goodybye!

*Vic leaves*

Molly: Guess I’m not going to the magic show.

Arthur: Did you want to go to the magic show?

Molly: I would have liked to be offered the chance to politely decline.

Arthur: You’re disappointed with him.

Molly: Not disappointed, he’s just different to what I expected. You know that speech he did? The one he got famous for?

Arthur: Blimey, that’s going back a bit.

Molly: It made me want to come and work here. But it’s just… you know, I’ve been here a

while now and… he’s never seemed like that person.

Arthur: A very good speech then.

*Molly smiles but is still thinking about it.*

Arthur: I think it would be pretty difficult for him to always live up to that version of himself, don’t judge him too harshly.

Molly: Sorry, I know you two are great friends.

Arthur: You’ll get used to him. He’s a good guy and he’s great at his job, despite the cucumbers. Right, I better get on. If I’m not careful I’ll get invited to a Salsa class next.

Molly: I would pay good money to see that.

Arthur: Well, see you later*. (leaving)* Go and stand under the hand dryer for a minute.

Molly: Good idea! Bye!

*Arthur leaves.*