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**“All Ears”**

by  
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**What** In this skit, Becky tries to show Abby that her headphones have become a major problem in her life. However, Becky doesn't realize that her own headphones are causing a bigger communication issue.

**Themes:** Listening, Communication, Judgment, Confrontation, Accountability

**Who** Abby  
Becky

**When** Present

**Wear  
(Props)** Ear Buds  
Noise Canceling or Large Headphones

**Why** James 1:19; Matthew 7:5; Galatians 6:1-5

**How** Actors should pay careful attention to comedic timing of lines. Dynamics such as volume should be exaggerated, especially by the actress playing Becky, to emphasize the communication problem. While the actors are moving around the stage, they should be careful to avoid turning their backs to the audience unless noted.

Characters can also be played by males by changing the names.

**Time** Approximately 3 minutes

*Abby is sitting center stage. She appears to be listening to music with her ear buds; swaying, humming and bouncing to the beat. **Becky** walks in wearing large headphones. She appears annoyed when she sees **Abby**. She looks toward audience and shakes her head as if disappointed and sighs. She looks determinedly back at **Abby**, straightens her shoulders, and stomps toward her.*

**Becky:** *(loudly)* Abby!

*Abby startles and begins to pull out her ear buds to respond to **Becky**, but before she can finish, **Becky** is waving her hands frantically in front of **Abby** as if to get her attention.*

**Becky:** *(louder)* Abby! (***Becky** turns around and faces audience with her hands on her hips. She is oblivious to **Abby**'s responsiveness. She voices her displeasure, still facing the audience, as if frustrated*) This is ridiculous! Those ear buds have got to go! It's so disrespectful!

**Abby:** *(sitting up, concerned)* Becky, what's wrong?

**Becky:** *(yelling)* ABBY!

**Abby:** *(trying to get **Becky**'s attention)* Becky! I hear you. What's wrong?

**Becky:** *(turning back toward **Abby** as if to yell again but realizes that **Abby** is looking at her)* Oh! Well, now that I've finally gotten your attention, we need to discuss something. Frankly, it's waited long enough.

**Abby:** *(uncertain and confused about **Becky**'s reaction)* Okaaaay.

**Becky:** It's actually a little uncomfortable for me to bring up. But, well, it's so obvious *(gesturing toward the ear buds)* that I can't let it go any longer.

**Abby:** I'm all ears, Becky.

**Becky:** *(leans in closer to **Abby**)* What was it that you said?

**Abby:** *(louder and leaning to talk into **Becky**'s headphones)* I said I'm all ears.

**Becky:** Ha! Yes, it HAS been going on for years.

**Abby:** What? No, *(louder)* I SAID, I'm all ears!

**Becky:** Oh, well you should learn to enunciate a little better. Anyway, it's funny that you should say that because, actually, your ears are the problem.

**Abby:** They are?

Becky: *(loudly)* What?

Abby: *(louder)* I said, they are?!

Becky: So, you already know?

Abby: No...yes...no. I mean, I'm asking you what you meant when you said my ears are the problem.

Becky: Exactly!

Abby: What?

Becky: Look, Abby. Can I be honest with you? *(Abby opens her mouth to respond, but Becky doesn't wait for an answer)* You're always walking around with those...those THINGS in your ears and you're never paying attention and, I hate to point it out, but it's just downright rude. *(Begins to pace away from Abby and faces audience with back to Abby)* I just think you need to know because the first step is admitting you have a problem.

Abby: But, Becky, I can hear you just fine. I think maybe you might be having trouble hearing me because you have those headphones covering your—

Becky: *(Becky's back is still turned away from Abby, so she hasn't heard that Abby is talking. She interrupts abruptly)* So, you've got nothing to say. Look, Abby, you can't really fix a situation if you can't even come clean about the problem. *(Turns to look pointedly at Abby)*

Abby: But, Becky, like I was trying to tell you—

Becky: What was that? Abby, you should speak up. I'm really concerned for you. I think those ear buds are affecting your hearing AND your speech.

Abby: *(louder)* Becky, I think the problem is related to the fact that YOU *(gesturing to her own ears)* have—

Becky: Exactly!

Abby: What?!

Becky: *(pointing to Abby's ears)* Finally, you see what the problem is.

Abby: I do?

**Becky:** So, hand them over, Abby, and I'll get rid of those nasty little things for you.

**Abby:** *(trying to speak slowly and clearly so that **Becky** can understand her)* Becky, you can have them *(hands **Becky** the earbuds)*, but what I think you should know—

**Becky:** You don't have to be mean about it, Abby.

**Abby:** Mean?

**Becky:** Saying that I "should go" isn't nice at all.

**Abby:** Go? But I didn't— Oh for goodness sake! *(**Abby** reaches over to **Becky** and grabs the headphones from her ears; her voice is still loud from trying to get **Becky's** attention)* Finally!

**Becky:** Whoa! You don't have to yell! I'm going, alright?

**Abby:** *(quieter)* Oh, sorry, Becky. You just couldn't hear me with these on. *(Holding the headphones up)* I didn't tell you to go. I said, "I think you should know" because I was trying to tell you that you had these on.

**Becky:** *(stunned)* Oh. Oh my. Ummm...how long have I been wearing them?

**Abby:** I don't know. Quite a while, but I never had the courage to tell you until now.

**Becky:** Really?

**Abby:** Yeah. You see, I had my own issue *(gesturing to the ear buds)* and I didn't feel like I should say anything until I got my problem under control. *(Laughingly)* And you wouldn't have heard me anyway.

**Becky:** *(laughs sheepishly)* I guess not. I didn't know I had such a big problem and here I was trying to focus on yours and not in the nicest way, I guess.

**Abby:** Well, I should have found a gentle way to tell you before now and then we could work on our problem together.

**Becky:** And I should have checked my own ears before trying to clean out yours!

**Abby:** So, we're good?

**Becky:** We're good! *(Pauses)* But, Abby?

**Abby:** Yeah?  
**Becky:** Can we go get some honey and hot tea? My throat is killing me.  
*Walking off companionably together as lights go down.*

SCRIPT

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