

A script from



## **“Flunking English”**

by  
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- What** A high school student (boy or girl) has a meeting with his English teacher who is flunking him because he (the student) always has a Christian slant to everything he writes in class. (Themes: Taking a Stand, Unashamed, Passion, Persecution, Testing, Faith, Endurance)
- Who** Mr. Johnson- an English Composition teacher      Paul- high school student
- When** Present- Note: If using in conjunction with the script “Flunking Life” this should be set 25 years ago.
- Wear (Props)** backpack for Paul  
Teacher’s desk w/ “stuff” on it (i.e. papers, coffee mug, etc.)  
2 chairs
- Why** Romans 1:16
- How** It’s easy to look at situations like the one in this skit and think “that never happens”. Unfortunately it does, but regardless, make sure you present it as a real situation, or what we call a “slice of life”. Don’t vilify Mr. Johnson as the evil atheist. He could be a real person who is just trying to figure everything out and takes out his disbelief on an unsuspecting kid. Make the characters are relatable and you’re sure to connect with the audience.
- Time** Approximately 3-5 minutes

*Note: This piece can be used in conjunction with "Flunking Life", a follow-up piece.  
Paul, a high school student walks into his classroom for a "showdown" with his teacher,  
Mr. Johnson.*

- Paul:** Excuse me, Mr. Johnson? Could I, uh, could I... talk to you for a minute?
- Mr. Johnson:** *(somewhat curt)* Yeah. I was just finishing up some grading here. But, please have a seat. What can I help you with?
- Paul:** It's about my English Composition grade, Sir. I've been doing really bad in this class and I really need to talk to you about my grades.
- Mr. Johnson:** *(not all ears, said with some pre-judgement)* I'm all ears.
- Paul:** *(uncomfortable pause)* Well, it's just that I've always done really well in all my other English classes. But your class ... I've made a D or an F on every paper I've written in here. I was just wondering if there's something I need to do... to... you know... do better on my papers.
- Mr. Johnson:** Ahhh, I see, Paul. You're asking me to give you some advice on writing. Is that it?
- Paul:** Well, yes sir, I guess that's it.
- Mr. Johnson:** Well, to start with, I think you need to be more careful about your subject matter.
- Paul:** Sir?
- Mr. Johnson:** Your subject matter - the subjects about which you choose to write. I find your subject matter very...questionable.
- Paul:** You mean it's offensive?
- Mr. Johnson:** *(pauses with a bit of a pompous attitude)* Offensive? Well... possibly to some. No, Paul, your subject matter is questionable because it's self-serving. It's gratuitous. And beyond that, you seem to be fixated on a subject that is not only inane, but is also hopelessly outdated.
- Paul:** Mr. Johnson, you've gotta forgive me here. I'm not trying to be a smart aleck, but I really don't know what you're talking about.
- Mr. Johnson:** *(turning nasty)* Look... Paul. You can stop playing innocent. You know exactly what I'm talking about. Every paper you've written this semester has been about Jesus. I ask for a book review; you