

A script from



## **"You're Not Listening"**

by  
The Skit Guys

- What** Two coworkers, Barry and Jerry, meet up at the water cooler for some conversation. But neither one is really listening to what the other is saying and it quickly goes downhill. This script reminds us how important it is to really listen when someone we know needs to be heard. **Themes:** Friendship, Selfishness, Attitude, Character, Relationships, Love
- Who** Barry  
Jerry
- When** Present
- Wear  
(Props)** Water cooler  
Two cups of water  
Could also be in a break room
- Why** Galatians 5:22; James 1:19
- How** Keep the dialogue conversational. Be sure to leave yourself plenty of time to practice with whoever runs your audio. You'll want to time your dialogue just right with the recorded dialogue.
- For more ideas on how to perform this skit, watch the video "You're Not Listening" at [www.skitguys.com](http://www.skitguys.com).
- Time** Approximately 4-6 minutes

*Jerry and Barry are at the water cooler and Barry is in the middle of a story.*

**Barry:** So there we were, and my grandpa was trying to get his sweater over his head, but he didn't have his glasses and there we were saying, "C'mon, Grandpa, blah blah blah blah blah blah... *(his voice fades, but he continues to "talk" saying "blah blah blah" while we hear Jerry's thoughts.)*

**Jerry:** *(Pre-recorded; these are Jerry's thoughts)* Wait. Is that bacon I'm smelling? I'm gonna find that bacon and I'm gonna eat it. I may even throw a bacon party. I'll invite everyone in the office to come to my bacon party. Oh, I am so gonna get that raise.

**Barry:** Blah blah blah blah blah...we love him so.

**Jerry:** Oh yeah, that reminds me of the time we went camping. I took three pounds of bacon in case there were bears. We went out to the Oahacatow...blah blah blah blah...

**Barry:** *(Jerry's voice fades and we hear Barry's thoughts)* Here we go. Another "Jerry" story. I'd rather cram a miniature replica statue of the Empire State Building into my ear than listen to this garbage. *(Pause)* Surely...surely they make adult size Underoos somewhere.

**Jerry:** Blah blah blah blah blah. I do love camping so.

**Barry:** Yeah, I bet they make Spiderman ones too. *(Pause; Jerry looks at Barry like he's a little crazy)* Hey, how 'bout those TPS reports, huh?

**Jerry:** Oh, I know, right? I mean, what a pain.

**Barry:** I know. I went into human resources and I saw Debbie there and I'm like, "Hey, Debbie! Blah blah blah blah blah blah blah..."

**Jerry:** *(Barry's voice fades and we hear Jerry's thoughts)* I have no idea where to go with this conversation. *(Pause)* How did every kid in America know how to fix old Nintendo games by blowing on the cartridges? I mean, there were no internet forums or FAQ's back then. It was pure instinct! Kids these days and their cheat codes. They're so soft.

**Barry:** So the moral of the story is that you can't bring pets to work no matter how many forms you fill out!

**Jerry:** *(Jerry laughs hysterically)* You are the man! And speaking of the man, that reminds me. Do you subscribe to Men's Health magazine? I read an article the other day...blah blah blah blah blah...

**Barry:** *(Jerry's voice fades and we hear Barry's thoughts)* There were four sets of plastic utensils in that Chinese take-out bag last night. Four sets!

Someone at the restaurant packed my order, took a second to think about it, and thought "There must be no less than four people eating to require such an amount of food." I was eating by myself. There's nothing more humiliating than being made to feel like Jabba the Hut before dinner.

**Jerry:** ...blah blah blah...so I thought you might be interested.

**Barry:** Good story.

**Jerry:** Yeah. About your grandpa...where'd you say he was living again?

**Barry:** Oh. Oh maybe you didn't understand what I was trying to say. See my grandfather blah blah blah blah blah...

**Jerry:** *(Jerry rolls his eyes and stares off into space; Barry's voice fades and we hear Jerry's thoughts)* I look so good today. If I don't get a compliment or a second glance, then it's all going to be for waste. I'm so glad I have such awesome muscles. *(He looks back at Barry and bursts out laughing)* Oh your grandpa, he's so funny. He's a keeper! Don't let that one get away.

**Barry:** *(Pause)* I just said he died.

*Long pause. Jerry reaches out towards Barry trying to form words.*

**Barry:** Don't.

**Jerry:** Could I take you for a soda?

**Barry:** Leave.

**Jerry:** Okay.

**Barry:** Better yet. I'll leave.

**Jerry:** *(Pulls out his phone and begins to text; we only hear his voice)* Status update. I just had the saddest conversation with a coworker. Why doesn't anyone listen to each other anymore? I grieve this. Well! Time to get my bacon on!