

# The SCHOOL-O-VISION SONG CONTEST

## Script Sample 1

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### Scene 1

*(As the **theme tune** plays (**track 8**), the cast enters and all sit in groups to the sides of the main stage, waving to the audience. As the music ends we hear an announcement.)*

**Announcer** Good evening everyone and welcome to tonight's spectacular show! Yes, it's the moment you've all been waiting for! Please put your hands together for the man with a razor-sharp wit and the funniest put-downs in the business! It's everyone's favourite host, Mr Graham Norty!

*(To big applause from the seated cast and audience, Graham enters carrying a microphone with a 'GRAHAM NORTY' name card on it. He is typically catty and sarcastic in all his remarks!)*

**Graham** Thank you! Yes, they've roped me in again this year, for my sins! What did I do to deserve this, eh? But seriously, it's lovely to see you here for this very special show. And why is it so special? Well, this is the 50th anniversary of The School-O-Vision Song Contest, coming live from *(name of your school)*. Now, without further ado, let me introduce you to my co-hosts who will give this evening's proceedings a truly international flavour. From France, give it up for Nell Points *('Points' pronounced as the French)* and, from Sweden, Björn Yisturdy.

*(Nell, Björn and his 'translator' enter, each also carrying a microphone with their name on. NB – all the presenters have a lot of dialogue, so they could have music stands holding their scripts to refer to.)*

**Nell** *(with a French accent if possible)* Thank you, Graham. Thank you, everyone. Now, although I speak perfect English, Björn here is still getting to grips with your language, which is why he has his translator with him tonight.

**Graham** *(speaking loudly, slowly and rather patronisingly)* Hello, Björn. Welcome to Eng-land. It's lovely to have you here.

*(Björn whispers animatedly into his translator's ear, for what seems like a long time. As he whispers, the translator's face is one of confusion!)*

**Translator** *(after a short pause)* Err...Björn says 'Hi'.

**Graham** *(frowning at the translator)* Really? That’s *all* he said? *(the translator shrugs)* Okay, moving swiftly along, tonight, you, our *(sarcastically)* beautiful audience, will suffer musical performances from six finalists, who represent different groups from our school community, all hoping to win this, ahem, prestigious competition...the School-O-Vision Song Contest.

**Nell** That’s right, Graham. We’ll hear from those whose contribution to school life makes this a vibrant and happy place to be. *(Each group waves as it is named)* Teachers, premises officers, kitchen staff and parents will all be represented on stage tonight!

*(Björn whispers a single word into his translator’s ear.)*

**Translator** *(after a short pause)* Err...Björn says we mustn’t forget the children. Also competing tonight are the infants and, especially relevant to this time of year, the Year 6 leavers. Both are important groups within school and, as Björn quite rightly says, their contributions cannot be understated.

**Graham** He said *all* that? *(the translator shrugs)* But of course, the children, *(sarcastically)* how could we forget them? I mean, it would be lovely if we could, but...

**Nell** *(frowning at Graham for being rude)* Be nice, Graham!

**Graham** I’m trying my hardest, Nell! Now, I’m sure we all have something far more entertaining to look forward to after the show, so let’s get on with it, shall we? Without further ado, we’re kicking off the evening with a guest performance from the first-ever winners of School-O-Vision!

**Nell** Yes. Back in 1974, this group of Year 6 leavers walked away with the crown, after wowing the audience with a stunning performance! Now in their sixties, but still looking fresh out of the classroom, they’ve reformed for this 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary show, to sing their original winning song, ‘What A School’. Everybody, show your appreciation for the legendary...RABBLE!

*(The presenters stand back. To the first song’s fanfare intro (track 9), the members of RABBLE totter on stage with walking sticks. We’d suggest the group comprises 4 to 8 members, with an equal number of males and females. Their outfits resemble those of a certain Swedish group during their iconic era, although all members are visibly older! They each have grey hair and the men have grey beards and pot-bellies. They stand in the famous formation: one member face-on and the next in profile etc.)*

**NB – Although all the musical numbers in the show are led by specific groups, the whole cast should stand and sing to give the songs maximum impact.**

## Song **What A School!**

*Track 1 - vocal demo  
Track 9 - backing track  
Lyrics p29*

*(As the song ends and RABBLE lap up the applause, the presenters join the group.)*

**Graham** RABBLE there, everyone. Ah, bless them. Well, at least they had a go. *(to the group)* Wow! You guys don’t look a day over seventy-five.

**RABBLE** *(hands on hips, indignantly)* We're sixty-one!

*(Björn whispers into his translator's ear.)*

**Translator** Björn says, 'Awkward!'

**Graham** Isn't it just?! *(to audience)* So, let's hear it again for the 'legendary' RABBLE!

*(RABBLE very slowly totter away on their walking sticks, waving to the audience. Graham watches them exit, impatiently looking at his watch as if to suggest they could move more quickly!)*

**Graham** *(as the last member leaves the stage)* Okay, good. Now that's out of the way, let's get on with the contest.

**Nell** So, the first act competing tonight is representing an important group of parents from our school community.

*(Björn whispers into his translator's ear.)*

**Translator** Björn says you might know them as the PTA.

**Graham** Ah yes, the PTA...which we all know stands for 'pass the al...'

**Nell** *(interrupting)* Graham! Stop it! That's outrageous! Stick to the autocue!

**Graham** Oh, how dull. OK then...the PTA, a band of volunteers, *(sarcastically)* whose tireless money-raising efforts are greatly appreciated by all.

**Nell** We caught up with them during their last meeting, to see just what they get up to in their day-to-day lives. Roll VT....

## Scene 2

*(As the **intro music** plays (**track 10**), the presenters exit. 5 members of the PTA enter, carrying a table and 6 chairs, which they arrange facing the audience. Their names could be changed to any recognisable parents on your PTA. As the music fades, they sit down.)*

**Penny** *(folding her arms sulkily)* PTA meetings. Why on earth do we bother, Sandy?

**Sandy** But Penny, we make a real difference to this school. Don't you agree, Ronnie?

**Ronnie** *(distracted, looking at his phone)* Eh? What was that? So, will this meeting take long? The footie's already started. *(He carries on secretly looking at his phone.)*

**Gilly** *(standing and handing out printed agendas)* Thank you everyone. Now, as chair of the PTA committee, I call this meeting to order.

**Kev** Oh come on, Gilly. Do you have to be so official?

**Gilly** Now, look here, Kevin. I didn't get where I am today by pussyfooting about. Come along everyone, let's get started.

*(Mary enters, breathless, with a tin of cakes.)*

- Mary** Sorry, everyone! I was late getting these lemon drizzles into the oven.
- Penny** Ooh! Mary's brought lemon drizzles! *(standing)* I'll put the kettle on!
- Gilly** *(gesturing to Penny to sit)* Not now, Penny! We've too much to get through. So, first on the agenda, the recent quiz and chilli night. How do we think it went?
- Mary** I thought it was great fun, but I'd have preferred a quiz and cakes night.
- Sandy** There certainly would have been less of a queue for the toilets.
- Penny** True. It was a particularly spicy chilli.
- Kev** *(boastfully)* Nonsense! It was nowhere near spicy enough for me!
- Gilly** Is that why you had your tongue in the fridge all night when you should have been in charge of the scoreboard? So, how much money did the event raise?
- Penny** Fourteen pounds and fifty-two pence...*(holding up a coin)*...plus a Euro.
- Gilly** Hmmm, that's a bit embarrassing. Okay, well that brings us onto item 2 – treasurer's report. Penny, how much do we have in the PTA bank account?
- Penny** Bank account? Oh, I don't trust banks. *(producing a shoe box)* Our funds are better-off in here. I keep it under my bed.
- Ronnie** *(reacting to the football on his phone)* Oh, come on! That was clearly a dive!
- Gilly** What's that, Ronnie?
- Ronnie** Erm, erm... *(thinking on his feet)* I said I bet the bank balance has taken a dive.
- Penny** Well, I'll let you know exactly how much we have when it has all dried out.
- Sandy** Dried out?
- Penny** Yes. *(holding up wet notes)* My cat mistook the shoebox for her litter tray.
- All** Eeew!
- Gilly** Thank you, Penny. Let's move on to item 3 – the pending summer fete.
- Mary** Oooh! *(raising a hand)* I'll do the cake stall. Everyone thinks my cakes are...
- Ronnie** *(interrupting, reacting to the football on his phone)* Foul!
- Mary** Ronnie?!
- Ronnie** Erm...*(thinking on his feet)* foul...or fair weather, it'll be a great day with Mary's cakes. I'll do the barbeque again.
- Kev** Nice one! And I'll help you...again.

- Gilly** What?! After you burnt down the fence last year! We can't have a repeat of that!
- Kev** Well, since there's no fence to burn down anymore, it will be fine.
- Sandy** I'm doing well collecting the raffle prizes. We have a lovely scented candle donated by *(name of a local gift shop)*. It's quite unusual...essence of Brussels sprouts. There's a box of soft centre choccies...only three months past their sell-by date. And, as always, that unopened jigsaw of a plate of baked beans.
- Mary** Haven't we got rid of that jigsaw yet? It's been donated as a raffle prize every year since our eldest was in reception. It's absolutely...
- Ronnie** *(interrupting, reacting to the football on his phone)* Shoot!
- Gilly** Ronnie! But I agree. Maybe that jigsaw should go into the lost property bin! Now, the wet sponge throwing. We need a volunteer to go in the stocks.
- Sandy** May I suggest we raid Penny's shoebox to buy some new sponges for this? Last year a couple of the sponges Mr Dickinson took square in the face had previously been used to clean the infants' toilet! He wasn't happy when he found out and is flatly refusing to go in the stocks again this year!
- Gilly** So, we need a volunteer. Anyone? No? Even if we get new sponges?
- Ronnie** *(reacting to the football on his phone and punching the air)* Yes! Get in!
- Gilly** Thank you, Ronnie. Very generous of you.
- Ronnie** *(looking up)* Eh? What?
- Gilly** And finally on the agenda for the fete is Health and Safety. Thank you for offering again, Kev, but I think we need someone a little less 'enthusiastic.' The Air Ambulance crew wasn't too thrilled about being called out last year.
- Kev** But it was an emergency! There was blood everywhere! I was covered in it!
- Penny** It was tomato ketchup! Squirting yourself instead of the hot dog hardly constitutes an emergency!
- Gilly** Okay, well *(looking at her watch)* that's something to carry over to the next meeting, which will be one week from today. Time's up everyone – we all have homes and families to go to. But can I just say a big thank you and suggest we pat ourselves on the backs. Even though we have busy lives, we certainly work hard to give the school those little extras. This PTA really is...
- Ronnie** *(interrupting, reacting to the football on his phone)* Utter rubbish! What a useless bunch of talentless prima donnas! My 5-year-old could do better! I can't believe I dedicate my precious time to this, week in week out! And for what? Just to be let down again and again! Well, this is the last time. *(closing his eyes and clenching his fists)* I'm done!

*(The rest look at Ronnie in stunned silence!)*

**All** *(indignantly)* Well! If that's how you feel!

*(With noses in the air, they march out in a huff! It takes a moment for Ronnie to realise what has happened, then he apologetically runs after them.)*

**Ronnie** Ah...no...I didn't mean...hey, guys...listen...please.....guys? *(He exits)*

*(The **wah-wah-wah** sound effect plays (track 11). Graham, Nell, Björn and Translator enter.)*

**Graham** Ladies and gentlemen, singing their song 'Join The PTA', put your hands together for a fabulous group...

**Graham, Nell, Björn & Translator** Parent Power!

*(The presenters move to the side. To cheers, the parents re-enter as 'Parent Power', wearing shades and sparkly accessories, to lead the cast in their song. The chairs are pushed back, the table is moved to the side and a sign is placed on it, reading 'RECRUITING.' A parent stands behind the table with a clipboard and during the song a steady stream of volunteers files past, signing their names and exiting. During the chorus, WW1-style placards are waved, reading 'YOUR PTA NEEDS YOU' and 'JOIN THE PTA'.)*

## Song **Join The P.T.A.**

*Track 2 - vocal demo  
Track 12 - backing track  
Lyrics p30*

*(Parent Power bow, wave and exit. They leave two chairs and the table, taking the other chairs off. The presenters move centre stage. Graham is visibly unimpressed.)*

**Graham** Parent Power there, ladies and gentlemen. You can take your fingers out of your ears now! What did you make of that, Björn?

*(Björn whispers, only very briefly, into his translator's ear.)*

**Translator** Björn said he particularly liked the uplifting chorus and the clever harmonies.

**Graham** Great. So, next...

**Translator** *(interrupting)* He says the lyrics were catchy and inspiring. He expects many adults in the audience will want to join the PTA after hearing this song.

**Graham** Okay. So...

**Translator** And he couldn't stop tapping his feet. It's going to be a hard act to follow.

**Graham** Björn said all that?

**Translator** Well, I left out all the unnecessary details!

**Nell** Right, next up is a fantastic group of people whom we could not do without – our premises officers. Arriving at the crack of dawn and not leaving until after dark, these unsung heroes ensure our school is clean, safe and secure. Let's see them in action. Roll VT...

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