CLASS ACT

Skit

Backstage Pass
All Access
Dear CLASS ACT Cast,

Thank you for taking on such an important part of Backstage Pass: All Access. Because this VBS curriculum has the theme of a movie studio, it was very important that we include a “movie being made.” As such, this script is somewhat more extensive than a typical VBS script.

The following is a description of each character. They are stereo-typed characters that you may find on a movie set. As a cast member, you should play up this stereotyping. The four cast members (Taylor, Joey, Cade, and Dakota) should, if possible, be played by youth.

**DIRECTOR:** This character can be either male or female but is stereotyped to the loud, usually obnoxious male director, so a female playing this part should keep that in mind as well. The director must be able to pull off saying GG name wrong and not even realizing it. S/he must be able to be larger than life, overly dramatic, and completely self-absorbed.

**GG:** (this stands for Goofy Gaffer, but will never be explained to the children) GG is a fumbling assistant to the Director (and should be played by an adult or older youth); however s/he is the only crew member on set and has to try to do everything, which lends to the comic relief. Think Lucy, here. Much of the activity for GG isn’t necessarily scripted. GG should be constantly busy — fussing around the cast and Director, straightening the set, checking lights and camera – but all the while fumbling and tripping.

**TAYLOR:** Taylor is your average girl-next-door. She needs to be able to pull off some dramatic moments like bursting off the set in tears. The spiritual focus of the script centers around her.

**JOEY:** The leader-type. Compassionate, concerned, attentive.

**DAKOTA:** The diva. It’s important that Dakota not come off as being too snooty – just more of a self-absorbed, beautiful movie star. We don’t want the kids to dislike Dakota. She appear more funny to them than obnoxious.

**CADE:** The typical too-handsome, too-athletic, and not-too-smart athletic guy (again, a stereotype!) Cade should also be loveable in his self-centeredness.

*Set information can be found in the Decorations Manual.*
CLASS ACT Scene One

*(Taylor and Dakota enter stage. Dakota is primping in a mirror.)*

DAKOTA: Taylor, how does my hair look? I think that new stylist in Hair and Makeup didn’t capture my beauty.

TAYLOR: *(not bothering to look, answering grumpily)* It looks fine, Dakota. Don’t worry about it. It’s your job to look beautiful. They wouldn’t even let you walk on this set if you weren’t gorgeous.

DAKOTA: Sheesh, what’s gotten into YOU? *(looking back into mirror, not really expecting an answer)*

*(Director and Goofy Gaffer enter, cutting off further conversation)*

DIRECTOR: *(shouting, clapping his/ her hands)* Alright, people, let’s get to work *(looks around, exasperated)* Where are my people?

GG: *(reacts suddenly, begins looking under things and around things)* Ooh, ooh – I’ll find them sir . . . *(bumps into other people)*

DIRECTOR: *(exasperated, yelling)* CJ, what are you doing?

GG: *(looking sheepish but confused)* I’m looking for your people, sir. And, uh, my name is GG.

DIRECTOR: *(getting angry)* Whatever. Well, they’re not HERE, go somewhere ELSE and find them!

*(GG turns suddenly and bumps into Joey and Cade, they react with some annoyance)*

GG: *(excited)* Oh, look, sir. I found some of your people!

DIRECTOR: *(audible grunt and exasperation, moves to director’s chair)* Alright, people, let’s get busy. We’ve got only a few hours of rehearsal before the lighting technicians need to be on set to make some changes. We don’t have time for mistakes and missed lines. *(all turn to Cade except GG who continues to move about doing who knows what, fumbling and tripping)*

CADE: What? So I forget a line or two! What’s the big deal?

TAYLOR: *(annoyed)* The big deal, Cade, is that when you don’t bother to memorize your lines, we ALL suffer. Everyone knows you just got the part in this movie because you’re cute and all the girls swoooon over you, but that doesn’t mean you can just do whatever you want!
CADE: Whoa, back off, Taylor. And I didn’t get this part because I’m gorgeous – although, I’ll take that as a compliment. I got it because I can act!

*(Joey coughs like he’s trying to cover up a laugh)*

TAYLOR: Whatever.

*(Cade is about to respond when the Director interrupts)*

DIRECTOR: *(clapping hands, always shouting)* Seriously, people, we’ve got to get to work. Where’s my script? PJ, where’s my script? Get me my script!

*(GG fumbles around until a script is produced, then shoves it at the Director.)*

GG: *(humbly)* It’s GG sir.

DIRECTOR: *(sarcastically)* Thank you. Alright. Scene 1. Watch your marks people! I need you to stop on your marks. Ready on camera, TJ?

GG: *(yelling loudly, claps clapboard)* CLASS ACT, Scene 1, Take 1 *(everyone jumps)* Quiet on the set!

DIRECTOR: Good grief, GG! Now, where were we? *(perusing script)* Dakota and Taylor are talking about a science test coming up and Dakota wants to borrow Taylor’s notes. Alright, let’s pick it up from there.

*(Cade and Joey step to the side, Dakota and Taylor get in acting positions)*

DIRECTOR: Let’s take it from Dakota’s line.

GG: *(yelling loudly, slapping a clapboard again)* Scene One, Take One!!

DIRECTOR: *(totally exasperated)* GP, this is not a Take, it’s a rehearsal!!

GG: *(sheepishly)* Oh. sorry – uh, it’s GG.

DIRECTOR: *(ignoring him)* Go ahead, girls.

DAKOTA: *(beginning to act)* Taylor, please! I need to borrow those science notes for the test tomorrow.

TAYLOR: Why should I let you borrow them? You sit around in class passing notes and doing your nails. Why do I have to do all the work?
DAKOTA: Because that’s what you DO. You like to do that stuff – you know, take notes and pay attention and do homework. (primping) And I like to do what I do – which is to look good.

TAYLOR: (upset and angry) Which is apparently NOT what I do! (storms off the set)

DIRECTOR: (flipping quickly through the script) Where’s that line? I don’t see that line? What page are we on? Where is her mark? Where is she going?

CADE: (calmly, understated) Whoa.

JOEY: What was that about?

DAKOTA: (prissy) Does somebody want to tell me what is going on here?

GG: (yelling loudly again) Cut!

DIRECTOR: (flustered and confused) What is going on? . . . I don’t see that in the script . . . (continues rambling as Floor Director comes up.)
CLASS ACT Scene Two

(Cast and crew enter at same time, talking together. GG is fussing over the Director.)

DIRECTOR: Alright, people, listen up! We’ve got to get these scenes rehearsed today! No more outbursts like we had yesterday.

(Everyone looks at Taylor.)

TAYLOR: (sheepishly) Sorry. I don’t know what got into me yesterday, but I won’t let it happen again today, I promise.

DIRECTOR: Now, I need you people to listen to me carefully. I have some important changes to make to the script – and I’m changing some of the marks. If you’re too busy talking or playing around (looks at boys who are presently “playing around”), you won’t hear me, and you’ll mess it all up! GP! Where is my script?

GG: (again scrambles to find the script, finally tossing it to the Director as s/he trips) Uh – here ya go – and it’s GG. My name is GG.

DIRECTOR: Yes, GG, of course – that’s what I said. Now, Taylor, we have the first line edit for you.

TAYLOR: (is staring off, not paying attention and doesn’t respond.)

DIRECTOR: Taylor!

(Cade shoves her a little to get her attention.)

TAYLOR: (overreacts) Stop, Cade! Leave me alone.

CADE: Chill, dudette. The Director man is talking to you – Hello??

TAYLOR: Oh. sorry. (turns to Director) What did you say?

DIRECTOR: (turning to GG) TJ, tell her what I said!

GG: (not remembering) Uh . . .

DIRECTOR: (exasperated) Good grief! I said that Taylor has a line edit to her script!!

GG: Oh yeah (turns to Taylor) You have a line edit to your script!

TAYLOR: Oh. OK – what is it?
DIRECTOR: *(huffs)* Well, interesting enough, on line 13 when you say “I’ve had enough” will now change to “I’ve heard enough.” Too bad you didn’t hear ME!

DAKOTA: What is with you these days, Taylor? You’re, like, so sensitive!

CADE: Yea – and not normal!

JOEY: *(concerned)* Is there anything wrong?

TAYLOR: It’s just . . . no, there’s nothing wrong – I don’t want to talk about it. Sorry everybody. *(turns to Director)* Can we take a break?

DIRECTOR: *(flustered and emotional)* A break?? A break?? We haven’t even started yet?!! PJ!!! Get me . . . get me . . . get me SOMEthing, I’m feeling a bit woozy. *(dramatic)* Ooohh, my head is starting to hurt already. Everybody take 5.

*(Everyone exits set except GG)*

GG: *(facing the direction of their exit)* Ah. It’s GG. My name is GG.
CLASS ACT – Scene 3

(Cade is alone on set, arriving while Floor Director is still talking. He begins to flex his muscles as a guy would do in front of a mirror when he is alone. He appears to be unaware of the audience. This should be funny.)

CADE: (still alone) Whoah. Not too bad. (flexes arm muscles again)

(Taylor arrives as Cade continues to flex his muscles.)

TAYLOR: (laughing) Get over yourself, Cade.

CADE: (surprised and embarrassed) – Oh, hey, Taylor! So do you think we’ll actually be able to practice today or are you gonna have another meltdown?

TAYLOR: Very funny, Cade. Actually, I’m doing wonderfully today, thank you! No more “meltdowns” as you call them!

(Entire cast arrives at once. Everyone is talking at once. No one is listening to anybody else.)

DIRECTOR: Alright people! Let’s get busy! We are way behind schedule on this movie. Too much drama on the set! KP, where is my script?

GG: (searching, fumbling, knocking things over)

DIRECTOR: (frustrated) Oh good grief, KT – every morning it’s the same!

GG: (finding it and holding it up in triumph) – Got it! (then accidentally drops it)

DIRECTOR: (sarcastically) It’s a miracle. (begins to look through script). Let’s see, Cade, we will work on your scene here in the classroom.

CADE: (proudly) Cool! It’s about time we got to something with me in it!

TAYLOR: (sarcastically) Oh that’s right, Cade – you ARE the reason that this movie will be a hit.

DAKOTA: (gushing) He IS such a cutie (pinches his cheek)

CADE: (smugly) Well, I’m sure I’m not the only reason it will be a hit, but, c’mon people, admit it, I am the biggest star here. People are going to be spending their money mostly just to see me.

JOEY: (offended) Hey! That’s not very nice, Cade. We’re all important here.
CADE: Really? So how much are they paying YOU for your part? (proudly) I bet they’re paying me more.

TAYLOR: Back off, Cade. Some day you’re going to be old and not so good looking. Then what will you do? Because you certainly can’t act.

DIRECTOR: Alright people! Everybody calm down! I don’t care who’s getting paid what! I’ve got a movie to get in the can – now, let’s get busy! GG, flood the set.

GG: Hey! You called me GG (hugs director, gushing) I just knew we would be friends someday. I’ve dreamed of this day for so long now . . .

DIRECTOR: TJ, what are you doing?!! I said flood the set!

GG: Uh, flood the set?

DIRECTOR: (distracted) Yes! Flood the set. We need to check camera positions!

GG: (looking confused for a minute, then) AH! (retrieves a hose and is about to turn it on when everybody yells!)

(Everyone should yell a different name for GG – pick from TJ, PG, CP, GT, etc.)

DIRECTOR: (shouting) What are you doing?

GG: (confused) I’m flooding the set – you said to flood the set!

JOEY: GG, flood the set means turn the lights on.

GG (looks up, confused) But the lights are on!

DAKOTA: (playfully) Not THOSE lights, you goof!

DIRECTOR: (totally exasperated) Oh this is just too much! Somebody get me my stomach pills! I just can’t handle this . . . maybe they should get Steven to direct this movie . . . (continues mumbling as he exits set)

GG: Uh? Take 5?

(Everyone exits set)
CLASS ACT – Scene 4

(Cast members all enter at same time. GG is fumbling as usual.)

DIRECTOR: Alright people! Now I have had enough! We have wasted three days on this set with drama, drama, drama! No more breaks! No more meltdowns! You’re going to work until you can’t even talk because you’re so tired! Now listen up and get this straight! Everybody here gets paid the same! Everybody here knows how to act! Nobody is here just because they’re beautiful – or gorgeous! Now let’s get busy.

(Everybody stands, not knowing what to do.)

DIRECTOR: Well!

JOEY: OK, people – he’s right – let’s just get these scenes rehearsed today so we can start actually getting something in the can.

DAKOTA: I totally agree! I am so ready!

CADE: Dude, let’s do it!

(They all look to Taylor, who hesitates.)

TAYLOR: . . . Umm, ok.

DIRECTOR: (claps his hands) Good! Now where should we start? CJ, where is my script?

GG: (begins looking over and under things, muttering) Why can’t anybody get my name right! It’s GG – how hard is that – just a G, then another G.

DIRECTOR: TG!

GG: (jumps) Ah!! Yes, your highness . . . wait, I mean – yes sir (maam)?

DIRECTOR: Every morning it’s the same! (getting overly dramatic, fanning his/her face) Oh, I feel it coming again – where are my headache pills?!!

JOEY: Now, now – calm down . . . somebody give him a script

GG: (shouts) I found it!

DIRECTOR: Finally! Now (flipping through script) Taylor, we’ll start with you. You will need to act like you’re upset, you know – crying because you didn’t make the cheerleading squad.
TAYLOR (still hesitant) Ok.

DIRECTOR: Good!

GG: (yelling very loudly) Scene 9, Take 1

(Everybody jumps!)

DIRECTOR: Good grief, PJ! How many time do I have to say this is just a rehearsal!

GG: (sheepish) Sorry!

DIRECTOR: Alright, Taylor – you’re up.

TAYLOR: (pauses, then begins to cry. At first, it appears that she is acting; but when she doesn’t quit, it is obvious that she is really upset)

DIRECTOR: (glancing back and forth at script) Why isn’t she saying her line? She’s not supposed to cry this long?

TAYLOR: (bursts out into louder crying) I just can’t do this! I’m a terrible actress! (runs off set)

CADE: Whoa.

DAKOTA: That was totally outrageous.

JOEY: (concerned) I wonder what’s wrong with her these days?

DIRECTOR: Oh this is just too much! Take 5! Again!
(Joey, Taylor, Dakota, Cade enter, looking dejected.)

JOEY: (perking up and trying to look cheerful) OK, guys – we can do this! The executives at the studio have invested a lot of money into this production – and the movie is a great movie – it’ll really help people, I think – to just be who they are and not try to be exactly like someone else. Let’s just really try to get through a rehearsal today. (compassionately) Taylor, we need to figure out what is bothering you. Is there anything you’d like to share with us? Anything we can do to help? Have we done something to upset you?

TAYLOR: (deep sigh) I’m sorry, guys. I know that this whole week has been all my fault.

CADE: (looking guilty) Well, maybe not ALL your fault. I was being really obnoxious the other day. I’m really sorry. I just found out that I didn’t get the part in Blue Moon. Trey Tyler got it. I guess I’m not as big of a star as I thought – and if I don’t straighten out my attitude I won’t learn how to really act – so that I can get some good parts in the future. Can you guys forgive me?

DAKOTA: (flirty) Oh, Cade, you’re so silly – of course, we forgive you!

TAYLOR: Of course, Cade. And you’re not a bad actor. I was just being insecure. It’s just that you guys are all so good at acting – not to mention that you’re all beautiful!

DAKOTA: (flounces hair) Thanks!

TAYLOR: (still looking dejected) Sure. Anyway, you three have been acting since you were practically babies! Good grief, Dakota, you were the Gerber baby! And Joey, you are so talented. I used to watch you in movies before I ever tried to audition for anything – and I remember thinking how it was amazing that you could cry in that movie Going Home. I don’t even know if I can make myself cry!

JOEY: (looking a little guilty) uhh . . . well, actually I was just keeping my eyes open so they would tear up. They showed me how to do that on the set.

TAYLOR: Oh. Well anyway, it doesn’t matter. And Cade, face it – you really are handsome – AND you’re a good actor. Not to mention you have a really cool name like Cade Carter! How can you go wrong with that?

CADE: (looking a little smug) Cool.

TAYLOR: Anyway, I just feel like I was hired to be the smart, nerdy girl. I’m so scared that I’m going to forget my lines! And this is only my first movie! Making a few guest appearances on TV didn’t exactly prepare me for this!
JOEY: But Taylor! You don’t get it. You’ve already got the part! Thousands of people auditioned for your part in this movie. They gave it to you because you ARE talented. There can only be so many absolutely gorgeous people in the world – and I’m not one of them. And I’m glad! I can focus on doing my job well – not how I look all the time.

DAKOTA: (looking into hand-held mirror) Yes, I do get so exhausted with it sometimes!

JOEY: Taylor, you just need to trust your abilities – and trust that we are here to help you if you mess up on your lines. I mess up all the time – and we all know that Cade totally blows his lines!

CADE: (looking offended) Dude! (then resigns himself to the truth) yeah, OK.

JOEY: But most importantly, Taylor – you have to trust that God is going to help you do this job well. He’s really the one that got you the part – this is His plan for you. He wouldn’t give you something to do if He didn’t know you could do it.

TAYLOR: You know, Joey – you’re right! I’ve been so afraid of failing that I haven’t even started! (thinking) That’s kinda’ like those Israelites who didn’t want to go conquer the Promised Land because it just looked to hard and they were too scared.

(Director and GG enter, GG fumbling and tripping as usual)

DIRECTOR: Alright people! We ARE going to work today! I refuse to let one more day get away from us! We are off budget and off schedule! I need cooperation, I need concentration! Are you with me, people?

ALL: Yep! Totally! Sure! (etc.)

DIRECTOR: (surprised by the eagerness) Really? OK. GG, I need my script!

GG: (actually HAS the script, and hands it to the Director)

DIRECTOR: (smiling) It’s a miracle!