

Stand-Up Assignment

Read the news story script below and notice the “hole” in the script. This is where a stand-up would go.

Assignment: Write, memorize, and record your stand-up.

Work in pairs so that each student performs a stand-up, and shoots a stand-up by their partner.

Reminder: Choose a location that makes sense, speak clearly, be creative, but make sure what you say make sense based on what came before in the script, and what comes afterward.

Script (VO=voiceover, or narration)

“Do the Crime, Do the Time”

rep. P. Clark

photog S. Markum

Reporter VO: After repeated warnings about trash in the hallways, the administration has decided it’s time to act.

Dr. Richards, Principal: “I’m tired of talking and begging kids to clean up their act. So now we’re planning to start punishing those who won’t help keep our school clean.”

Reporter VO: During the day, there are only two custodians on duty. They have plenty to do, according to Dr. Richards. He says picking up after kids in the hallways should not take up their time.

Dr. Richards: “The custodians get here before the sun comes up, and they do so much behind the scenes and at lunch time. Frankly, it is just rude of our students to litter the halls and add to the custodians’ work load when all it takes is a little effort by our kids.”

Reporter Stand-Up:

Dr. Richards: We won’t just ask them to pick up their trash anymore. They will be written up, and after two infractions, they get to stay after school to assist the second shift custodians for half an hour. Let them see what it’s like to pick up after a bunch of teenagers.

Student #1: I think it's fine, because I don't litter the halls. That's the kind of punishment they deserve.

Student #2: It's dumb. Most of us have practice or stuff we have to do after school. I bet the coaches won't like it if athletes are missing practice just for dropping a wrapper on the floor.

Student #3: They kept warning us, so I'm not surprised they are doing this. Maybe it will help get everyone to take some pride in our school.

Reporter VO: The new policy goes into effect next Monday. Dr. Richards says teachers, as well as administrators will be watching closely.

Dr. Richards: "My hope is, this only takes a few days, and a few punishments, for kids to get the message. We would like to come back in a few weeks and tell students they have done a great job cleaning up our school. But for now, we'll use the new system to get the message across."

Reporter VO: For Middle News, I'm Pat Clark reporting.