

GOT TO GO FAST

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INT. DAY - CLASSROOM.

The PROFESSOR, a middle-aged man around his 40's, stacks a pile of papers together as the class around him bustles with the sounds of chairs moving back and bags being packed.

PROFESSOR

Don't forget about the exam next week class! It's at 1PM sharp and I expect everyone to be on time. If you're late, you'll be given a zero, no exceptions.

The PROFESSOR's phone rings on the table, right before he picks it up, scene transition to ABEL.

INT. DAY - BEDROOM.

Transition to ABEL, a teenager who picks up the phone. It reads MONDAY, 12:00PM.

ABEL

Oh shi-

He jumps out of his bed, looking about confused before moving to the cupboard. He pulls out a new set of clothes and struggles to put them on quickly. ABEL grabs his phone from the bedside and calls a cab. While the automated answering messages confirm his address, he packs his pencil case and studying material into his bag.

The phone starts to ring as a reminder that the cab has arrived.

EXT. DAY - OUTSIDE ABEL'S APARTMENT DOOR

ABEL gets out the door and heads down the stairs, towards the cab.

INT. DAY - TAXI INTERIOR

Once he enters inside the cab, he feels his back pocket to take out his wallet only to realize it isn't there.

ABEL

Sorry uncle, give me one minute I forgot my wallet upstairs.

ABEL dashes out of the cab door.

EXT. DAY - OUTSIDE HOUSE

ABEL runs back up the stairs to his house door. He fumbles with his pocket for his keys.

ABEL

Oh my-

He runs back down the stairs to the taxi.

INT. DAY - TAXI INTERIOR

Opening the taxi door, he reaches for a zipper on his bag to take out his keys. Just when he pulls out of the taxi door, he hits his head on the cabin.

INT. DAY - BEDROOM.

The door opens and runs to the bedside where his wallet lies then heads back out the door.

INT. DAY - TAXI INTERIOR.

The taxi moves along the road while ABEL tries to catch his breath. After composing himself, he reaches for his notes and starts to look through the material.

After reading through for awhile, he realizes the taxi isn't moving. He checks on the road conditions and sees that none of the cars in front are moving either. He hears car horns around him. It's the afternoon lunch jam.

ABEL shakes his head and puts his hands on his face in despair as he sees the meter on the taxi fare ticking away.

EXT. DAY - OUTSIDE SCHOOL BUILDING

The taxi pulls up to the roundabout and ABEL gets off. The phone time reads, 12:45PM. His tummy rumbles. He shakes his head side to side in approval to the time left and heads over to the road leading to the school canteen rather than entering the school building.

EXT. DAY - OUTSIDE CANTEEN

ABEL walks to the canteen doors and checks his wallet before entering. He shakes it and a single coin drops out from the wallet. ABEL looks towards the nearby ATM to see the decent sized queue. He checks his phone one more time before lining up with the rest.

As his turn comes, he approaches the ATM only to be greeted with an automated voice as he places his card into the machine.

ATM

Sorry, this machine does not have sufficient funds. Please try again later.

ABEL takes his card back with disappointment. He takes out his debit card and looks at the nearby 7-eleven. He shakes his head in defeat and walks towards the store.

EXT. DAY - OUTSIDE 7-ELEVEN

ABEL walks out of the door with a plastic bag in his hand. His phone reads 12:55PM. Surprised, he starts to run back towards the direction of the school building.

EXT. DAY - PATHWAY TO SCHOOL BUILDING

While running, a sandwich falls out from the bag and hits the floor. ABEL stops to pick up the mess from the floor and looks at the wasted sandwich with sadness. He tosses it in the trash and proceeds to continue running towards the school.

INT. DAY - SCHOOL BUILDING OUTSIDE CLASSROOM

ABEL's footsteps can be heard in the hallway as he busts into the room, panting out of breath. He looks up into the classroom. There's nobody there.

Panicking, he dials the number for his classmate.

ABEL

Hey! Was the exam supposed to be taking place in a different room?

CLASSMATE

No...why?

(CONTINUED)

ABEL

Well then where is everyone?

CLASSMATE

What are you talking about? Today's a public holiday man. The test is on Tuesday. Don't tell me you're at school right now.

ABEL

Umm...

ABEL stands in stunned silence as his classmate laughs hysterically from the other end of the line.

END