

F.2D Class Presentation Script

SETTING

In front of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) building, the air pollutants are picketing the EPD. Some carry picket (抗議) signs with phrases such as "Dirty Air! Let's Keep It That Way," "Down with the Clean Air Act" and so on. TV reporters Connie Chan and Harry Ho are at center stage. In turn, each pollutant comes over to be interviewed, while the other pollutants continue to picket in the background.

SCRIPT

Connie: Hi! I'm Connie Chan.

Harry: And I'm Harry Ho. We're here at the Environmental Protection Department to cover a breaking story. Five of the world's worst air pollutants are picketing the EPD to protest clean-air legislation.

Connie: In today's special report, we'll give you the scoop on where these pollutants come from and the ways they can hurt people and other living things.

Harry: Our first interview is with the Particulates. (Particulates walk over, carrying signs and chanting.)

All pollutants: Pollution is not a crime! The EPD's unjust!

Connie: (*coughs*) So-- you're the Particulates (懸浮粒子).

Soot: Yeah- I'm Soot, this is Grime and this is Dust.

Harry: You guys are those tiny bits of pollution that make the air look really dirty?

Grime: Yeah! Some of us are stirred up during construction, mining and farming. (*Throws some dirt in air*)

Soot: But most of us get into the air when stuff is burned-- like gasoline in cars and trucks or coal in a power plant and even wood in a wood-burning stove!

Dust: And we just love to get into your eyes and make them itch and make your throat hurt and...

Grime: (*interrupts*) Come on, Dust, quit bragging! We got to get back to the picket line. (*Particulates return to picket line. Carbon Monoxide sneaks up behind Harry.*)

Harry: Let's introduce the next pollutant, Carbon Monoxide. Hey, where did he go? Oh, there you are! Very sneaky, Carbon Monoxide!

Carbon Monoxide: Yeah, sneaking up on people is what I do best. I get into the air when cars and trucks burn fuel-- but you can't see or smell me.

Connie: Then how can we tell when you're around?

Carbon Monoxide: You'll find out when you breathe me in! I can give you a bad headache and make you really tired. (*gives an evil laugh*)

Harry: (*yawns*) Oh-- I see what you mean. Thanks for talking with us Monoxide. (*yawns again*)
(Carbon Monoxide returns to picket line and Sulphur Dioxide walks over.)

Connie: Next we'd like you to meet Sulphur Dioxide. (*Turns to face Sulphur Dioxide*) I understand

you just blew in from the Mainland.

Sulphur: Hey, I wouldn't miss this for all the pollution in the city!

Harry: I'm sure many people want to know how you get into our air.

Sulphur: Well, don't they read the newspapers? I've been making the front page at least once a week! Most of the time, I shoot out of smokestacks when power plants burn coal to make electricity.

Connie: And what kinds of nasty things do you do?

Sulphur: Nasty-- that's me! (snickers暗笑) I think it's cool to make it hard for some people to breathe. And I can make trees and other plants grow more slowly. But here's the most rotten thing I do: When I get way up into the air, I mix with water in the sky, and then you get acid rain! (sprays water at audience)

Harry: Acid rain is a big problem. It can hurt or kill fish and other animals that live in lakes and Rivers, and some scientists think it makes trees sick. Acid rain can even eat away at statues and buildings.

Sulphur: (proudly) That's right. Hey, I can even travel a long way to do my dirty work.

Connie: I sure hope we can get rid of you soon, Sulphur Dioxide!

Sulphur: Good luck, guys! Ha, ha, ha! (Sulphur Dioxide returns to picket line. Nitro walks over to the audience.)

Harry: He's really rotten!

Nitro: You think Sulphur Dioxide is rotten? You haven't met me!

Connie: You must be the Nitrogen Oxide.

Nitro: Yeah. I'm Nitrogen Oxide, NO₂. You know what NO₂ means? DIRTY AIR!

Connie: Dirty air! How do you get into the air?

Nitro: We get airborne when cars, planes, trucks and power plants burn fuel.

Harry: And what happens once you're in the air?

Nitro: We can make people's lungs hurt when they breathe-- especially people who already have asthma(哮喘).

Nitro: And, like Sulphur Dioxide, we mix with water in the air and form acid rain.

Harry: (checks notes) There's only one other pollutant on the list: Carbon Dioxide. (Nitro returns to picket line. Carbon Dioxide 1 and 2 walk over.)

Dioxide 1: Did we hear you mention our name? We didn't use to be thought of as a bad gas. About a hundred years ago, there was just the right amount of us in the air.

Dioxide 2: But then people started burning things-- they built power plants that burn coal and cars and trucks that burn gasoline. And they started cutting down and burning forests! Every bit of that burning releases us into the air.

Dioxide 1: As more and more of us got into the air, people started saying that the Earth was warming up-- because of us!

Dioxide 2: Yeah-- like it's our fault! (turns to audience) The reason you're in such a mess is because

you use so much fuel and cut down so many trees!

Connie: You're right, Carbon Dioxide. Maybe we should do a special report on people -- we're the ones who are really causing air pollution.

Harry: But people can change! (turns to audience) How about you? Can you think of some ways that people can help fight air pollution?

Audience 1: Save energy.

Audience 2: Don't drive cars. Take the public transports.

Audience 3: Plant more trees.

Audience 4: Conserve the forests.

Connie: Thanks for your good ideas. A lot of air pollutants are created by people, so we should do our best to reduce the amounts that are in the atmosphere. And that's the end of our special report. Thank you.

The End