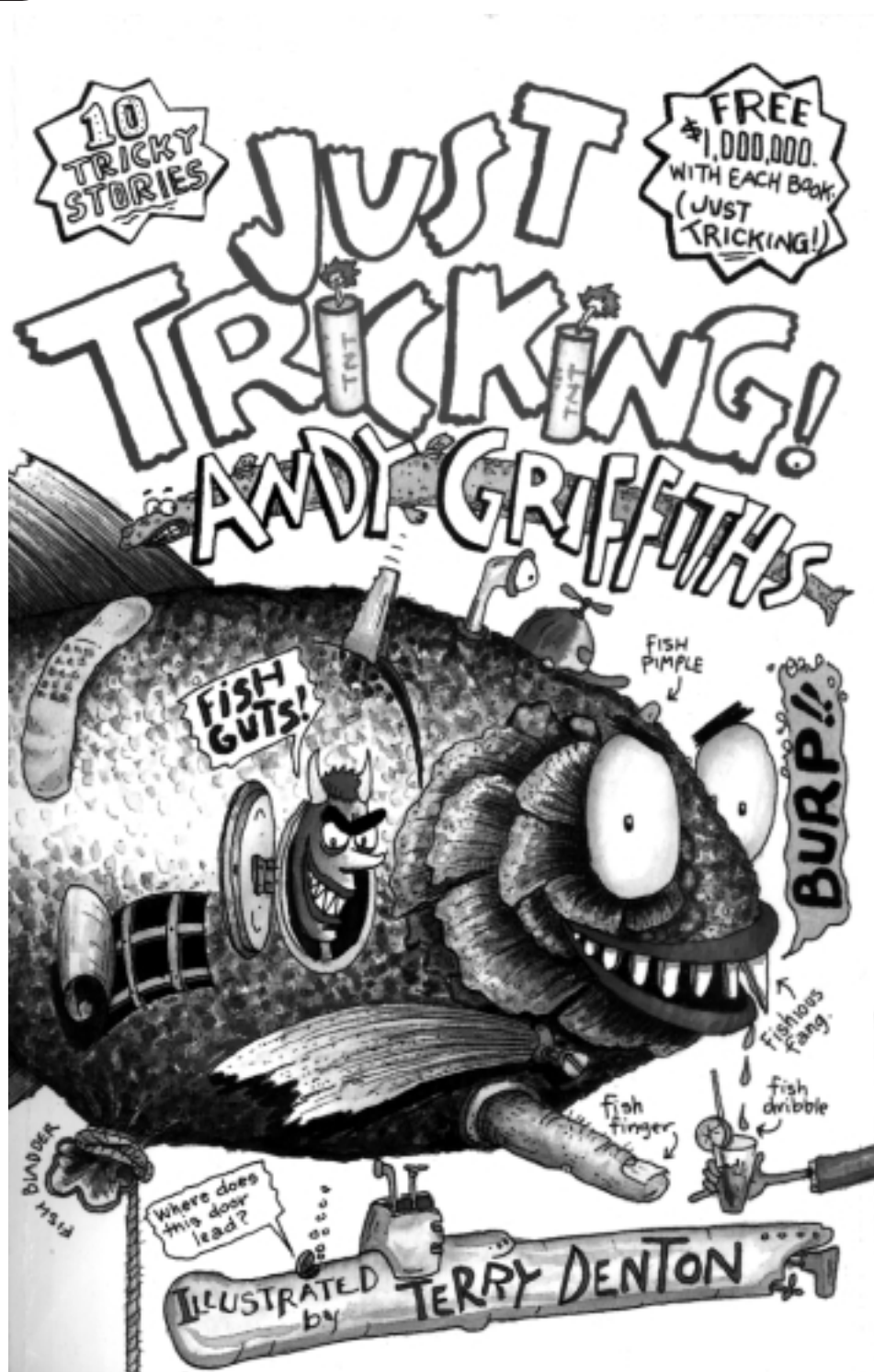
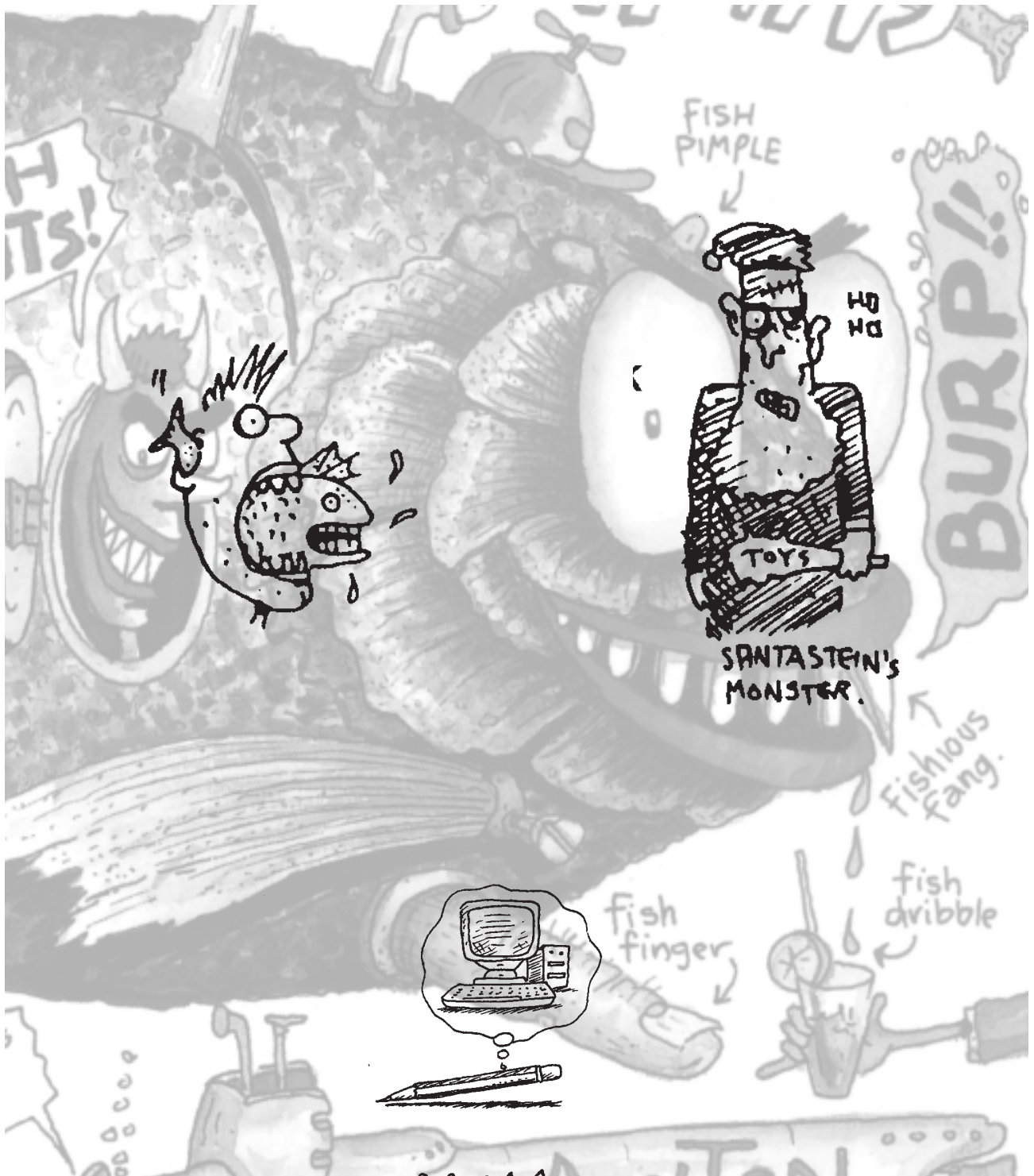




# andy griffiths



PAN MACMILLAN AUSTRALIA GIVES PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY TEXT FROM THESE TEACHERS' NOTES.



VISIT ANDY AT HIS HOMEPAGE!  
<http://www.andygriffiths.com.au>



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## BEAT THE BOMB

True or False (or not enough evidence)?

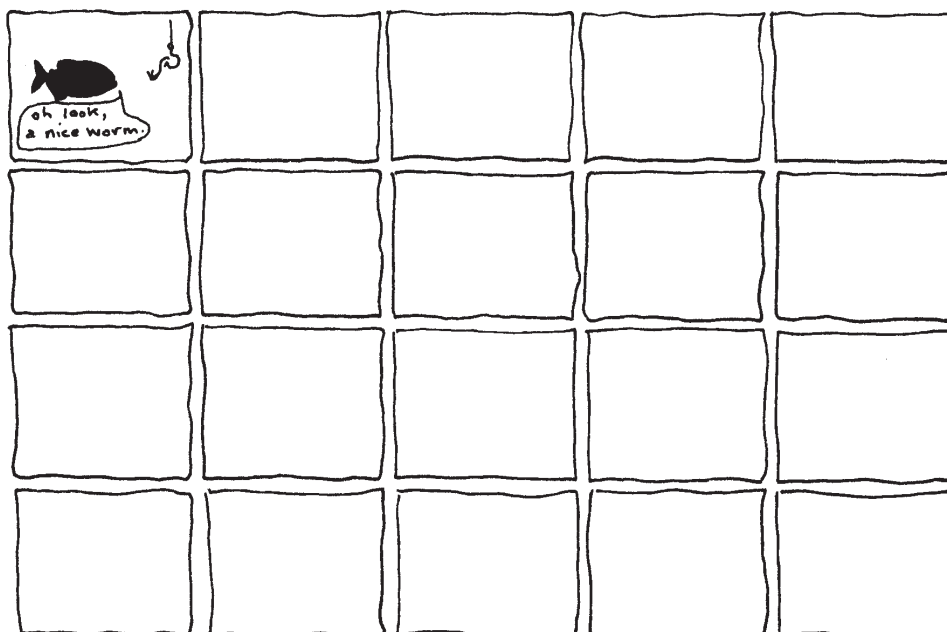
1. Andy and Danny have put a lot of work into preparing this practical joke.
2. Cheapies' carpet cleaning service is the cheapest in town.
3. Martin stops the clock at \$502.
4. Martin's mum cries because she is disappointed they didn't win \$5,000.
5. Danny proposes that they rob a bank to pay Martin the promised \$500.
6. Andy fantasises about a pile of Mars Bars as high as Mount Kosciusko.
7. 'You're the Voice' is Andy's favourite song.
8. It is Danny's idea to give the \$500 to Martin.
9. Martin's dad didn't really die - Martin is just tricking Andy and Danny.
10. Radio competitions like 'Beat the Bomb' are really dumb.



T/F  
T/F  
T/F  
T/F  
T/F  
T/F  
T/F  
T/F  
T/F  
T/F

## Write and Draw

Study the page number piranha at the bottom of each page of *Just Tricking!* Notice how the illustrator gives it a personality and keeps making surprising things happen. Use the grid below, or one of your own, to draw a comic strip featuring the fish. The grid below has been started for you. What is going to happen next? Does the fish take the worm? What then? Or does the worm take the fish? You decide. The possibilities are endless. Have fun.



An old piece of wood



(Ask yourself, "where has it come from?" "where was it when Kurt Cobain was found dead?")

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## BORN TO DIE

True or False (or not enough evidence)?

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Andy gets a tattoo that says I LOVE MY SCHOOL.                                   | T/F |
| 2. Peter Lik and Andy used to be friends.   | T/F |
| 3. Andrew Leech has got a face like a cat.  | T/F |
| 4. Andrew Leech and Peter Lik enjoy inventing new and delicious ways to cook slugs. | T/F |
| 5. Andy enjoys bossing Andrew and Peter Lik.  | T/F |
| 6. Tattoos make you tougher.  | T/F |
| 7. The bullies are terrified of Andy's tattoo.                                      | T/F |
| 8. Andy doesn't want to drink the milkshake because he is not thirsty               | T/F |
| 9. Andy gets what he deserves.  | T/F |
| 10. The real victims in this story are the slugs.                                   | T/F |

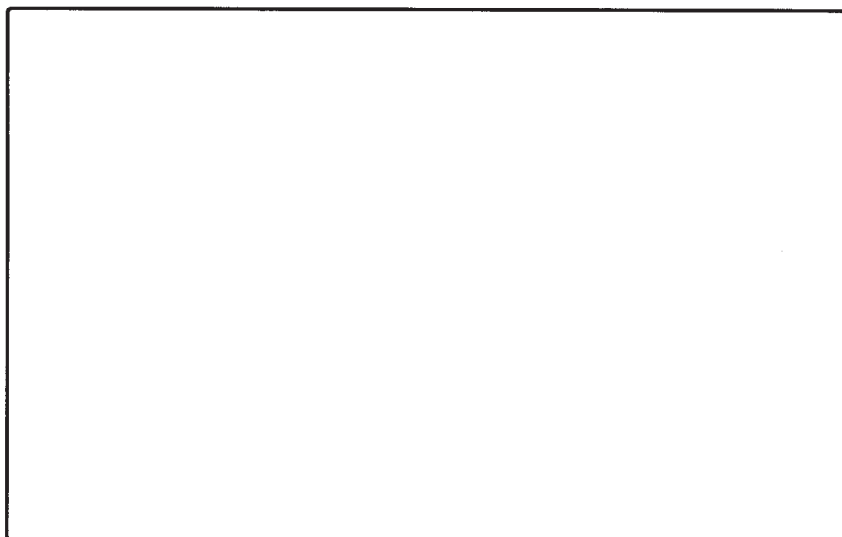
### Talk

The bullies end up with the upper hand. What mistake does Andy make that allows this to happen? Suggest a way in which Andy might have avoided this outcome.

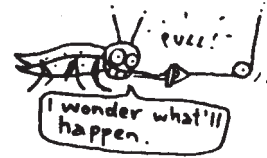


### Draw and Write

Imagine that you have decided to get a tattoo. What tattoo design would you choose and where would you put it? Draw the tattoo and write a few words of explanation about why you have chosen this design.



## COCKROACH



True or False (or not enough evidence)?

1. Andy is trying to be on his best behaviour because he loves visiting the Bainbridges and wants to be sure of a return invitation. T/F
2. The cockroach ends up in the salad because the Bainbridges have a dirty kitchen. T/F
3. Mr Bainbridge is a self-opinionated bore. T/F
4. Maths and science are Andy's favourite subjects. T/F
5. Andy doesn't tell anybody there's a cockroach in the salad because he wants it all for himself. T/F
6. Andy removes his clothing because he is hot. T/F
7. The cockroach lays eggs inside Andy's belly. T/F
8. The Bainbridges' neighbours call the police when they see a naked Andy climbing down the outside of the house to retrieve his jeans. T/F
9. Mrs Bainbridge breaks the bathroom door down. T/F
10. The adults do not believe Andy's explanation of how he became stuck in the window. T/F

Talk

Consider the following list of animals:

• cockroach • silverfish • earwig • spider • elephant • snake

- a) If you were forced to eat one animal, which one would you choose?
- b) If you had to have one animal trapped in your clothing, which would you choose?
- c) If you had to sleep with one animal all night, which one would you choose?

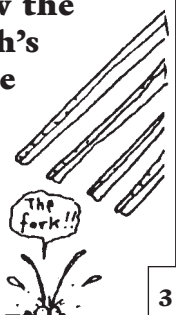


Did you say grace before you started spreading filth, Sydney?



Write

We know how Andy feels about the cockroach, but what about how the cockroach feels about Andy? In 50 to 100 words, tell the cockroach's version of the story. How did it come to be in the salad bowl in the first place? What is it like to be trapped in Andy's clothing? Does the cockroach get flushed down the toilet or does it escape?



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## GORILLAGRAM



True or False (or not enough evidence)?

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Andy's gorilla suit has long shiny blond hair and big brown feet with red toenails.          | T/F |
| 2. Jen loves surprises, especially gorillagrams.  | T/F |
| 3. Jen pushes a bowl of spaghetti into Andy's face.   | T/F |
| 4. Gorillas don't eat spaghetti because they can't use forks.                                   | T/F |
| 5. Andy moons two old ladies.   | T/F |
| 6. The longer Andy spends in the suit the more he feels like a real gorilla.                    | T/F |
| 7. Andy is not scared of the police shooting at him because he knows the suit will protect him. | T/F |
| 8. Andy can't undo the suit because the heat has melted it onto him.                            | T/F |
| 9. Andy starts singing 'I'm too sexy for my gorilla suit' because he's so happy.                | T/F |
| 10. Jen wants Andy to be taken to the zoo to teach him a lesson.                                | T/F |

### Write

Imagine that, as seems likely at the end of the story, Andy is captured and taken to the zoo. Write an outline of between 50 to 100 words describing what happens and how he solves – or doesn't solve – his dilemma.

### Draw

If you had to spend the rest of your life in the zoo, what sort of enclosure would you choose? What things would you need? What sort of company would you keep? Draw and label a picture of your ideal zoo enclosure so that the zoo-keepers can have everything prepared just the way you like it.

Include:

- a list of possessions/toys
- exercise equipment
- favourite foods

Present your finished drawing to the class and explain the advantages of your design.

How to DRAW A GORILLA



## INVISIPILLS

True or False (or not enough evidence)?

1. The library has a **NO BREATHING** rule. T/F
2. The school librarian used to be the governor of a high security prison. T/F
3. You cannot make yourself invisible in a pink room unless you paint yourself pink. T/F
4. Andy gets the recipe for invisipills from the Internet. T/F
5. According to Andy, one invisipill will make a person invisible for at least half an hour. T/F
6. Mrs Woolmer, the librarian, does an enormous burp. T/F
7. Danny throws a book called *The Wonderful World of Silverfish*. T/F
8. The pills don't make Danny invisible: they make him crazy. T/F
9. Mrs Woolmer is amused by Danny and Andy's prank. T/F
10. At the end of the story, Danny really does become invisible. T/F

Write

Many people dream of having the power to be able to make themselves invisible. If you had the chance to be invisible for just one hour what would you do? Why? Describe a time in your life when you wished you could have been invisible.



Write and Draw

You have invented an invisibility formula. It comes in a spraycan and can be used by anyone at any time. Design a full-page newspaper advertisement for your product. Outline your product's fantastic uses and benefits and explain why nobody should be without it.

Great Places to Hide.



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**TELL YA MUM I SAVED YA!**

True or False (or not enough evidence)?

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Roseanne saves Andy's life when she pulls him back from the cliff edge.                                | T/F |
| 2. Roseanne punched Danny in the nose because he said she smelt like cheese.                              | T/F |
| 3. You will get more out of this story by placing a plastic bucket over your head while reading.          | T/F |
| 4. Andy's pack weighs one million tonnes.   | T/F |
| 5. Danny gets confused and puts rocks in Andy's pack by mistake.  | T/F |
| 6. Andy falls down the bank deliberately so that he has an excuse to put his arms around Roseanne's neck. | T/F |
| 7. Andy loves funnelweb spiders.  | T/F |
| 8. Roseanne has been expelled by five schools.  | T/F |
| 9. Roseanne is a better practical joker than Andy.  | T/F |
| 10. When Andy gets home he tells his mother that Roseanne saved him.                                      | T/F |

**Talk**

Read each of the following jokes and rate them out of four stars:

\* *not funny* \*\* *mildly funny* \*\*\* *very funny* \*\*\*\* *hilarious*

Arrange the jokes in order from funniest to least funny. Compare your ratings with a friend's. Do you agree? What makes one joke funnier than another?

- A guy walks into work with both ears bandaged up. The boss says, 'What happened to your ears?' He says, 'I was ironing a shirt when the phone rang, and I accidentally answered the iron.' The boss says, 'Well that explains one ear, but what happened to the other one?' He says, 'Well, I had to call the doctor!'
- A woman goes to see a psychiatrist. She says, 'Doc, I can't seem to make any friends. Can you help me, you fat slob?'
- Why don't lobsters share? Because they are shellfish.
- A skeleton walks into a bar. 'What'll it be?' says the barman. The skeleton says, 'Gimmee a beer and a mop.'
- Two goats are eating garbage. One finds a roll of old film and chews it up. The other goat asks, 'Did you enjoy the film?' The first goat replies, 'Actually, I preferred the book.'
- A man walks into a bar wearing a flowerpot on his head. When the barmaid asks why, the customer replies, 'I always wear a flowerpot on my head on Wednesdays.' The barmaid says, 'But today is Tuesday.' 'Oh my,' says the customer, 'how embarrassing.'





## NICK-KNOCKERS ANONYMOUS

True or False (or not enough evidence)?

1. Andy loves being alone in the house because it gives him a chance to catch up on the housework. T/F
2. Andy is hoping that his parents will be so pleased with his housecleaning that they will pay him \$50. T/F
3. Andy talks and laughs in class because he can't contain his excitement about schoolwork. T/F
4. Nobody listens to Andy's explanations because they are all against him. T/F
5. The nick-knocker is Danny. T/F
6. Andy finds it impossible to ignore the door knocking. T/F
7. Andy is smarter than Danny. T/F
8. The ingredients in the stink sauce include one dozen eggs and a bottle of vinegar. T/F
9. Andy throws the contents of the bucket all over his father. T/F
10. Andy's parents do not get mad about the mess in the house because they notice how well the lightglobes have been polished. T/F

Write

Write a recipe for one of the following brews:

- a no-fail cure for baldness
- a love potion
- a potion to make you grow muscles
- a potion to make you super-intelligent

Tell the cook what ingredients he or she will need, and write step-by-step instructions explaining how to make the mixture. Before writing your recipe, think about what sort of ingredients would be useful for achieving the effect you are trying to create.



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## PLAYING DEAD



True or False (or not enough evidence)?

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Andy gets the idea of pretending to be dead from watching television.                             | T/F |
| 2. The only good thing about being dead, according to Andy, is you don't have to clean up your room. | T/F |
| 3. Andy's parents are glad he's dead because his practical jokes always go too far.                  | T/F |
| 4. Andy's father whistles while he digs Andy's grave because he is completely mad.                   | T/F |
| 5. Andy's parents pretend to think that he is dead to teach him a lesson.                            | T/F |
| 6. Andy doesn't admit he's just tricking because he's having too much fun.                           | T/F |
| 7. Pretending you are dead is a health hazard.   | T/F |
| 8. Sooty rescues Andy.   | T/F |
| 9. The joke is on Andy because he ends up wet and cold.  | T/F |
| 10. The joke is on Andy's parents because he gets the day off school.                                | T/F |

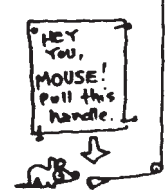
### Talk

How good a practical joker are you? Take the test on the back cover of *Just Tricking!* and compare your score with a partner's. See if you can come up with another five questions to determine somebody's skill as a practical joker.



### Write

Pretending you are dead is only one way of getting out of school. Write down a list of foolproof instructions for your favourite method - either real or imaginary - of getting a day off school. Include details about how to act, what to say and any props or special effects that you think might be important to share with your reader.



## EMERGENCY SPEW RELISH



True or False (or not enough evidence)?

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Andy puts a piece of dog poo on his head to put people off sitting next to him.  | T/F |
| 2. Andy doesn't get up and go to the empty seat because he doesn't want to hurt the old lady's feelings.                    | T/F |
| 3. The old lady has a can of cat food.  | T/F |
| 4. The air hostess tries to frighten the passengers by talking about what to do if the plane crashes.                       | T/F |
| 5. The pilot expects the flight to take just under one hour.  | T/F |
| 6. Andy calls corn relish spew relish because it makes him vomit.   | T/F |
| 7. The plane plummets into the sea and everybody drowns, except for Andy. He uses his rubber dog poo as a flotation device. | T/F |
| 8. The old lady takes her clothes off and runs up and down the aisle.   | T/F |
| 9. Andy doesn't realise that the old lady is blind.   | T/F |
| 10. Corn relish is an appetising condiment suitable for all occasions.  | T/F |

### Talk

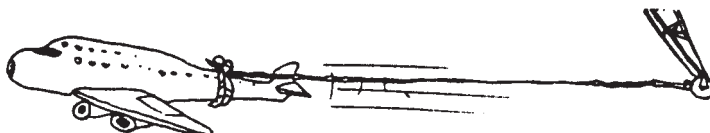
What foods do you hate the most? Why? Write down a memory of the most horrible food you have eaten or have seen somebody else eat.

### Write and Draw

Pick one of the following products and think up a completely new use for it.

- tomato sauce
- milk
- vegemite
- hundreds and thousands

Design a front label and a back label for the product. Include directions for use, warnings, guarantees, a list of related products and a slogan.



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## A TERRIBLE CHRISTMAS AND A CRAPPY NEW YEAR

True or False (or not enough evidence)?

1. Jen wants Andy to have a look at her cards before she sends them. T/F
2. Andy changes Jen's cards to brighten them up and make them more interesting. T/F
3. Andy tries to blow up the letterbox to make sure that the cards are not delivered. T/F
4. Andy feels bad about his prank, not because Jen is upset, but because he is worried that Santa will not bring him any presents. T/F
5. Andy is a vegetarian. T/F
6. Jen breaks up with her boyfriend, Rob, because she blames him for wrecking her cards. T/F
7. Andy starts a craze of crazy Christmas cards. T/F
8. Jen does not want her friends to know that Andy drew on her cards because she does not want them to be angry at him. T/F
9. The punk Santa makes Andy eat a rotten potato. T/F
10. Jen's lips are sealed because Andy swapped her lipstick for a gluestick. T/F



### Draw and Write

Design your own anti-greeting card. Draw a picture for the front cover and write the reverse of what you would normally expect to find on this kind of card. For example, it could be an Unhappy Birthday card, a Get Sick Soon card, a Don't Be My Valentine card or a I Hope You Fail Your Driver's Licence card. Don't forget to write a rhyme for the inside of the card. Why not put your finished card in an envelope and send it to someone?\*

\* Don't forget to tell them afterwards that you were Just Tricking!



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