

SAMPLE FROM POWER OF TEN

INT. SCHOOL (HALLWAYS) - DAY

Courtney exits the classroom, leans on the door, and sighs. She sees Zoni and Voxio waving and coming over to her.

ZONI

What was that about?

COURTNEY

Pfft. Nothing important.

The three start walking through the halls.

ZONI

Whew! I thought you got in trouble.

VOXIO

I would break you out of detention.

COURTNEY

C'mon! I never get detention.

They arrive at Courtney's locker. She punches in her combination. Her locker pops open. She grabs one of the five SPARX energy bars and slams the thing close. They walk off.

VOXIO

Tanner got detention by letting off a stink bomb in the bathroom.

ZONI

Lillia got a week of detention by letting off a smorgle bomb in the teacher's lounge!

COURTNEY

Whoa! That's wild! You know I --

QUICK FLASH -- she grabs one of the five bars from earlier

She pauses in her tracks.

COURTNEY (CONT'D)

-- I *swoooooore* I had six bars?

ZONI

Bars?

She literally starts walking backwards, right to her locker. Zoni and Voxio watch her, then *panic-look* at each other.

OH NO. ZONI (CONT'D) VOXIO
 OH NO. OH NO.

They rush over to Courtney as she re-inspects her locker.

ZONI (CONT'D)
 Hey, Girl! What're you doing later?

VOXIO
 Yeah, I got a new, uh --

Voxio looks around, then glances at Zoni. Zoni shrugs, then makes a series of gestures that are incomprehensible.

VOXIO (CONT'D)
 -- hand gesture machine!

ZONI
Hand gesture machine?! Uhhhh...
 yeah! It's for... im... prov!

Courtney re-opens her locker and re-inspects the five bars.

COURTNEY
 The way they're laid out...

ZONI
 Means nothing! How about we do
anything else and not this whole --

COURTNEY
 Just... something's --

ZONI COURTNEY (CONT'D)
 "Nagging at me" schtick. -- nagging at me.

VOXIO
 Love ya, Court, but you once spent
 hours looking for a plastic spoon
 you misplaced.

COURTNEY
 I ain't wasting plastic. Look,
 they're not like, a pile anymore...

ZONI
 The environment is super important,
 but sometimes you get a little...

Courtney forces her head *as deep* into the locker she can fit.

ZONI (CONT'D)
 ...obsessed.

She slams her locker shut. Courtney looks around, the wheels turning in her head... then Cameo walks by. IT CLICKS.

COURTNEY

CAMEO!

The entire hallway freezes. Cameo pauses.

COURTNEY (CONT'D)

You took one of my energy bars, didn't you?

CAMEO

W-what? I... why would... ?

Courtney stomps towards him, the riot act all over her face.

COURTNEY

One, I definitely took six energy bars with me this morning.

QUICK FLASH -- Courtney grabs six energy bars in her kitchen

Cameo nervously glances around.

CAMEO

Yeah, s-sure, but --

COURTNEY

Two, your clumsy butt tripped on the bus, but no bars fell out!

QUICK FLASH -- Cameo falls on the bus, everything spilling out his backpack - indeed, there's no energy bar

Cameo, taller than Courtney, begins to shrink.

CAMEO

I don't --

COURTNEY

Three, I noticed you sniffing around my locker --

QUICK FLASH -- Cameo indeed messes around Courtney's locker

COURTNEY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

-- caught you tossing the wrapper --

QUICK FLASH -- Cameo tosses the wrapper into the trash

COURTNEY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

-- and I saw those nasty green crumbs on your mouth in class!

QUICK FLASH -- Cameo, in the classroom, gazes at his phone - but a CLOSE-UP of his mouth indeed has gross green crumbs

Courtney is practically standing over Cameo, eyes burning.

COURTNEY (CONT'D)

Admit it! You snuck into my locker,
stole one of my energy bars, and
then tried to hide the evidence!
Tell me I'm wrong!

The entire school is raptured by the accusation. Even the teachers are riveted. Cameo looks around, gulps.

CAMEO

Okay, look, I can explain --

COURTNEY

I knew it!

VOXIO

You freak!

ZONI

What is wrong with you!

COURTNEY

How'd you know my combination?

ZONI

Probably stalked you!

VOXIO

I can still stone him!

CAMEO

I'm sorry! I'm sorry!

Cameo tries to run - but Mr. Connolly steps in his way.

MR. CONNOLLY

You all go on ahead. I got him.

The teacher pulls him into his classroom.

VOXIO

That boy is about to get some
de-ten-tion.

ZONI

Two months worth!

Voxio and Zoni perform their "secret handshake" - but Courtney stares at the door to the classroom for a beat. Something... else... is nagging at her.