**FRED**; a comedic script

Log Line - Fred, a man on a mission, finds a comical way to combat his speech impediment, and realize his lifelong dream of becoming a successful sales man.

Premise - Fred is not your average character. Fred’s mind works a little differently than most people‘s. His quirky mannerisms and facial expressions can be likened to those of the genius of the character Rowan Atkinson plays in the British comedy, “Mr.Bean“. While Mr. Bean was essentially mute, Fred enthusiastically vocalizes his opinions - well at least he attempts to do so. Fred suffers from a speech impediment; he stutters. He also blocks his words - he over pronounces the first letter as if to force out a word he has difficulty saying. Fred also has a tendency to use absurd physical behavior, which he subconsciously believes helps him to say a word. For instance, if Fred was unable to say the word Cat, and while attempting to say it he slapped his knee and was then able to get it out, he would subconsciously make the connection between slapping his knee and saying this word. He would then continue this behavior until he said what he was trying to say. The more worked up Fred gets, the more he stutters, and the more severe is strange physical behaviors get he even goes so far as to slap himself in the face. When he does get the words out they are in a thick Dublin accent. Fred is also very funny and intelligent. He does not let his communication difficulties get him down. He is determined to become a successful salesman; if he cannot verbally persuade the customer then he will find other ways of convincing people to buy his product. He will stop at nothing to succeed, he will try anything - and we mean anything!

Master Scene Script

FRED

Int. Kitchen - Day

FADE IN

LS of FRED as he sits at the kitchen table, drinking tea and eating his breakfast. He is reading the jobs section of the Irish Independent. He is rapidly scanning the page for job opportunities. He places his finger on one. CU of advertisement in paper with FRED’S finger pointing on it. The ad reads - Tooth Brush Salesman Wanted, Dublin City Center (in large print). The address of the interview location and the phone number can also been seen in the CU shot. CU of FRED, his eyes light up, he smiles widely and he places his tongue on his top lip. FRED circles the add with a red marker and then draws a star beside the address.

CUT TO

Ext. Bus Stop - Day

FRED waits at the bus stop outside his house. He is wearing his best suit and looks visibly excited. He is engaging in some of his peculiar behaviors. He is hands are in his pockets and he sways. He is breathing extremely heavily. As he takes in a breath; he blinks his eyes, scrunches up his nose, licks his top lip and tucks his chin (this is called the FRED - keep cool, deep breath mannerism). He appears odd to other people waiting at the bus and they look at him with perplexed expression. The bus arrives. It reads DUBLIN CITY CENTER. FRED gets on the bus. WIDE ANGLE SHOT of bus driving toward city center.

CUT TO

Ext. Dublin City Office Building - Day

FRED can be seen in background getting off bus and walking toward the office building. FRED arrives at the building and stands in front of the door. He looks up at the sign above the door. TILT UP shot of door sign. Sign reads - TOOTHBRUSH SALES INC. CU of FRED still looking up at sign. He smiles widely and claps his hands and rubs them together.

CUT TO

Int. Toothbrush Boss’s Office - Day

LS of BOSS sitting at a large desk that takes up almost the width of the room. There is a forceful knock on the door. SFX - Knocking.

BOSS

Yes come on in.

FRED opens door and walks into office, his smile wider than ever. He marches over to the BOSS. Reaches out and shakes his hand so hard that, the BOSS has to massage his own hand for comfort when the hand shake is finished. Fred is still beaming.

BOSS

Well, sit down there any way.

FRED sits at the chair in front of the BOSS’S desk. 2 SHOT of BOSS and FRED. BOSS places his elbows on the table and his chin in his hands. FRED sits on the edge of his seat, leans forward and places his toes on the floor and raises his heels up and down rapidly. He grips the arm rests very tightly. He is starring intensely at the BOSS.

BOSS

What can we do for you today?

FRED’s eyes open wide. His face is scrunched. He begins to grimace. He clenches his fists. He is trying to speak but its as if it is all built up inside of him and can’t get out.

FRED

Too… (grimacing)Too… (rocking)

toothbrush salesperson (rushed)

Wanna be a t-t-t (slaping his knee)

tooooooth brush salesperson

Giss a job

Giss a job

Giss a job

(Shouting, and almost jumping from his seat)

CU of shocked look on BOSS’S face.(Pause)

The severity of FRED’S mannerisms are increased. He now slaps his face, on the sounds he can’t say, as if to slap out the words as well as the previous actions.

Too… (grimacing)Too… (rocking)

toothbrush salesperson (rushed)

Wanna be a t-t-t (slaping his knee/face)

tooooooth brush salesperson

Giss a job

Giss a job

Giss a job

(Shouting, rushed, and almost jumping from his seat)

BOSS

Sorry? You want what?

FRED

(with wide smile and eyes)

Oohhhh (shouting) please sir, please sir

(rushed almost unintelligible)

(clasping his hands as if to beg)

Ev -(grimace)ev -(grimace,eyes closed, fists clenched)

-eyyyver since I was dis high

(placing hand out to indicate height of little boy)

eyyyver since I was dis… dis high (pause)

I wanted to be a t… too..

(shouting, slapping face)

Toooooothbrush Salesperson

Giss a job

Giss a job

Giss a job

(faster, and louder)

(actually jumping from seat)

Pleeeeeaaase

Giss a job!

BOSS

Ok (pause,sighs)

I don’t want to be rude here or anything.

But, it’s a SALES job we’ve got here.

We’re looking for a SALESPERSON

And you’ve kinda got a little bit of a speech impediment.

FRED

(Shouting, jumping from chair, louder,

Mannerisms more ridiculous than ever)

(sad, worried face)

OOOOOHHHHH.. (pause)

PLEAAASE…

PLEAAASE SIR

(clasping his hands as if to beg)

Ev -(grimace)ev -(grimace,eyes closed, fists clenched)

-eyyyver since I was dis high

(placing hand out to indicate height of little boy)

eyyyver since I was dis… dis high (pause)

I wanted to be a t… too..

(shouting, slapping face)

I wanted to be a t… t… too

Toooooo - bu

(jumping on seat, even more, grimacing, slapping and rocking)

Toooo - bu

Toothbrush Salesperson

(Sighing, relaxing, sitting back in chair,

Lower volume)

(Pause)

(looking down, then up at BOSS slowly)

(slower, almost crying)

Giss a job

Giss a job

(pause, slower, more sad)

Giss aaaa job

BOSS

Alright FRED, calm down there now.

I’ll tell ya what…

We’ll start ya off on a trial basis.

FRED

(interrupting, jumping to stand up)

Oooohhhh!

T-t-tank you. THANKYOU!!

BOSS pulls out huge box of tooth brushes from under desk and slams them on the table.

BOSS

Here’s the first batch and we’ll see

how ya get on with them. Ok?

FRED (standing at desk) shakes bosses hand vigorously, smiling widely, picks up huge box barely able to carry it.

Walks, in a bounce toward the door with the box.

I’m gonna be a

Too… Too…

TOOTHBRUSH SALESPERSON!!!

Fred happily struggles to get the box out the door and leaves the office.

CUT TO

INT. Toothbrush Boss’s office - Day

CU of BOSS still sitting at his desk. The clock on his desk reads 5.00pm. LS shot of BOSS getting up and walking towards coat rack. BOSS begins to put on his coat to leave for the day. Suddenly FRED, mannerisms and all, bursts through the door, minus the giant box.

FRED

(animated as ever)

I… I.. I…

I sold, fi- fi

(clinching, grimacing, slapping, jumping)

Fifty thousand TOOTHBRUSHES!!!

BOSS puts back his coat and walks back toward desk.

BOSS

Jayyyysus Fred, that’s great!

How in the name of god did ya manage that?

FRED

Well…

Dissolve to

Int. Mall - Day

WIDE ANGLE shot of FRED arriving at the bottom floor, giant box in one hand, fold out table in the other, in a clear glass door elevator. As the elevator comes down we see a CU FRED’S hilarious smiling face, chin tucked, tongue licking top lip, eyes rapidly scanning the mall for the best place to set up his toothbrush stall.

CUT TO

LS shot of FRED setting up his stall at the mall. He drops the box on the floor making a loud crash. Passersby are startled. He unfolds the fold out table, almost knocking it over. He then takes out a large bowl from the box and places it on the table. He reaches in the box appears as though it has an endless amount of room and is bottomless because FRED has to reach so far inside to get things out. Next, he takes out a huge bag of chips and empties them into the bowl. Then, he opens a bowl of brown colored dip and places it beside the chips on the table. Next, places a stand of toothbrushes on the table. Finally, FRED takes out a large, homemade, sign that reads FREE SAMPLES and places it on the FRED steps back and looks at his stand proudly. CU of FRED clapping his hands, then rubbing them together. He is ready to get to work.

CUT TO

FRED is standing behind his stand. Shoppers are coming up to sample his chips and dip. They look disgusted after tasting it. Many of them spit it out. Two shot of LADY and FRED at table. LADY tries, takes a chip, dips and tastes. Her face scrunches up, she makes a gagging motion, and spits its out.

LADY

UUUUGGGHHH!

(hand covering mouth)

That tastes like shit!

FRED

It is shit!

(holding up a toothbrush)

You wanna buy a t… t…

TOOOOTHBRUSH!?

CUT TO

Int. Toothbrush Boss’s Office - Day

BOSS is sitting at desk shocked. CU of boss stunned with jaw dropped.

FADE OUT