**MARY AND MARTHA – A SKETCH by Terry Barker**

GIRL 1. (Angry) Come on stop fiddling with your IPad. We are going to be late.

GIRL 2: (Calm) Just chill, will you? We have plenty of time.

GIRL 1: (Shouting) Stop telling me to chill. You are so annoying!

MAGNIFYING GLASS: Hey! Hey! What’s going on?

GIRL 1: (Still Angry) None of your business

GIRL 2: Don’t be so rude. He was just being nice.

GIRL1: You know Mum always says we shouldn’t talk to strangers.

MG: Are you talking about Stranger Danger, don’t take sweets or get into cars?

GIRL 2: Yes, that’s it exactly.

MG: Well I don’t have a car and definitely no sweets. I mean, where do you think I would put them.

*Girls look at him quizzically*

MG: I heard you fighting and I thought to myself, ‘How might I be able to help?’

GIRL 1 (Rudely) Short answer: you can’t.

GIRL 2: Sorry, it was a kind thought but I’m not sure you can.

MG: Why don’t you try me?

GIRL 2: Well, it’s Mum’s birthday tomorrow….

MG: And you can’t decide to what to get her? Does she like chocolates?

GIRL 1: Not that it’s any of your business, but we know precisely what we want to get her, thank you very much.

MG: So, what is the problem?

GIRL 1: We have to go to the shops today and I am in a hurry and my sister is fiddling with her IPad

MG: What’s the hurry?

GIRL 2: She is always in a hurry, never stops to think things through.

MG: Okay, do you have somewhere you have to be then?

GIRL 1: We have a gymnastics class at the Leisure Centre in an hour and a half.

MG: Are your shops a long way away?

GIRL2: No, they’re just down the road.

MG: Well, don’t you have plenty of time then?

GIRL 1: We need a card too and some wrapping paper and then we have to wrap it up and get changed for gymnastics.

MG: I do see why you need to hurry a bit. Which shop are you going to?

GIRL 1: That’s another thing. We haven’t decided which one is the best for it. There are two which sell the nail varnish Mum likes and they’re at opposite ends of the town.

GIRL 2: Well, if you hadn’t been so impatient, I could have told you which one we should go to. I was looking up which shop had the best deal on my IPad.

GIRL 1: (Contrite) Oh, sorry.

MG: So, you (Looking at Girl 2) were trying to save time and you (Looking at Girl 1) were worried about the time? But by arguing, were’nt you both just wasting time?

GIRLS 1 & 2: I suppose so.

MG: So why are you both standing here talking to me? Haven’t you got somewhere you need to be?