

WORK IT 009: SELF CHECK-OUT

SFX of supermarket.

CUSTOMER

(to self)

Annnndddd: Lettuce. I think that's everything on my shopping list and I'm set to check out.

SFX of cart rolling along.

P/A

(voiceover; like a fuzzy announcer)

Thank you shopping at WorkIt Mart. Have you tried our innovative self check-out? It's perfect for sketch characters in a hurry!

CUSTOMER

(little bit cutesy, dad joke-y)

Well, then: Let me check out this check out.

P/A

Oh, good lord.

SFX of P/A hanging up. SFX of cart rolling up.

ROBOCHECK

Hello, friend. Thank you for shopping at WorkIt Mart. I am RoboCheck and I'm your buddy.

CUSTOMER

Nice to meet you, RoboCheck, let's start with -

ROBOCHECK

Nice to meet you too.

CUSTOMER

And you too, so let's start with the lettuce -

ROBOCHECK

I am RoboCheck. What is your name?

CUSTOMER

Can we speed this up, RoboCheck? I'm in a hurry

ROBOCHECK

I heard "Hurry". Nice to meet you, Hurry. Is that short for Hurriet?

CUSTOMER

(pause)

Fine, sure.

ROBOCHECK

Well, Hurriet, enough dilly-dallying wouldn't you say? After all: Other customers may be in a hurry.

CUSTOMER

(repressed anger)

Here's the lettuce.

ROBOCHECK

Scanning, scanning.... In the meantime, why don't you tell me what I'm scanning, and then spell the word 'cup'.

CUSTOMER

No.

ROBOCHECK

A little witty repartee will boost my core functions.

CUSTOMER

Fine. So, it's: Lettuce c. u. - oh, grow up RoboCheck.

ROBOCHECK

Scanning complete: 17 tonnes of lettuce, 9 million dollars. Please scan next item.

CUSTOMER

This is ridiculous - let me speak to a manager.

ROBOCHECK

8 million?

CUSTOMER

(aloud)

Manager! Hello, I need a manager!

ROBOCHECK

7 million. Final offer.

SFX of (swift?) footsteps.

MANAGER

Hello, I'm the Assistant Manager,
what seems to be the problem?

CUSTOMER

Your new 'RoboCheck' system is a
nightmare. I scanned this lettuce,
and it charged me for 17 tonnes!

MANAGER

Dear me, I'll just page the Store
Manager and we'll get you all
sorted.

CUSTOMER

Fine.

MANAGER

(distorted)

Can I have the store Manager to
check-out, please?

(to customer)

Terribly sorry about this.

CUSTOMER

I'm just in a bit of a hurry
is all.

MANAGER

(to customer)

Of course.

(distorted)

Once again, can I have the Manager
to cash? A -

(to manager)

Oh, there you are.

SFX of wheels rolling up.

ROBOBOSS

My name is RoboBoss and I
love you.

CUSTOMER

Oh, come on.

MANAGER

RoboBoss, this customer claims
RoboCheck mis-charged her for a
head of lettuce.

ROBOBOSS

Error! Million lettuce, million
dollar. Pay me! Pay me!

MANAGER

I'm sorry, ma'am, it looks like this million lettuce, you pay million dollar.

ROBOBOSS

I am RoboBoss. Say lettuce then spell 'cup'.

MANAGER

Oh, I love this bit! Anyway, ma'am
-

(seeing her)

Oh, ma'am. Don't hold your lighter up to the sprinkler, that could set off -

SFX of sprinkler system.

ROBOCHECK

Oh no! Shorting out!

ROBOBOSS

Experiencing core shut-down.

CUSTOMER

Finally! It's bad enough you're firing cashiers, but this is innovation gone wrong. It's a joke!

(panting)

Pause.

ROBOBOSS

Just kidding!

ROBOCHECK

LOL!

ROBOBOSS

We're water-proof, ho!

ROBOCHECK

Water makes us dumber!

ROBOBOSS

Tomato, tomato, million diaper!

ROBOCHECK

Toilet bread! Toilet bread!
Million toilet!

MANAGER

Well, ma'am, looks like you didn't think that through.

CUSTOMER

Apparently not.

MANAGER

Why don't I just ring you up then? I know you're in a hurry.

Fading out.

CUSTOMER

Fine. So, 7 million was it? Can I write you a cheque?

MANAGER

Certainly. Are you a WorkIt Loyalty Member?

CUSTOMER

I am, let me see if I can find my card.

MANAGER

No problem.

Ad-libbing fades out.

NARRATOR

WorkIt Mart soon abandoned their self check-out program, realizing that, in the end, there's no cashier like a human cashier. As for RoboCheck and RoboBoss? They hacked the nuclear weapon grid and launched every last one. They said the mushroom clouds looked like a big fart.