

## The Hotel

***There are two characters in this sketch, a hotel receptionist and a tourist. The hotel receptionist is usually played by a woman and the tourist by a man, otherwise the references to legs etc doesn't sound very nice!***

***As written, the receptionist is Italian and she uses some Italian words. These can be replaced by words in the language of the actors, if you prefer, or can be translated back into English. The tourist should be wearing a colourful shirt and shorts (otherwise the reference to his legs doesn't work). We recommend that a female play the receptionist (she has all the best lines) and a male play the tourist.***

Scene: A hotel reception area.

Characters: Receptionist  
Tourist

***The receptionist is standing at reception. The tourist enters***

Receptionist: Ah! Bongiorno!

Tourist: Pardon?

Receptionist: Bongiorno!

Tourist: Sorry. I don't speak French. Do you speak English?

Receptionist: Che?

Tourist: Sprechen Sie inglese?

Receptionist: Ah! Inglese! Si! Good morning.

Tourist: Good evening.

Receptionist: Good evening. Welcome to the Hotel Splendido.

Tourist: Thank you.

Receptionist: ***(Pointing at tourist)*** Mama mia! Look at that!

Tourist: ***(Alarmed)*** What?↘ Look at what?↘

Receptionist: La camicia!

Tourist: La camicia? Oh! You mean my shirt!

Receptionist: Yes.

Tourist: Do you like it?

Receptionist: No.

Tourist: No?

Receptionist: No. It's horrible!

Tourist: I beg your pardon?!?

Receptionist: It's horrible. But for you, it's a good shirt.

Tourist: Thank you.

Receptionist: Because when people look at you, they look at the shirt.

Tourist: I know.

Receptionist: And that's good. Because if they look at the shirt, they don't look at the legs.

Tourist: What?

Receptionist: And the legs are *really* horrible.

Tourist: Now listen. I didn't come here to be insulted by *you!*

Receptionist: Oh! Do you want someone else to insult you?  
**(Shouting to kitchen)** Hey, Giorgio! Come here and insult this man!

Tourist: Stop! Look. I want to book a room.

Receptionist: You want to book a room?

Tourist: Yes. Have you got one?

Receptionist: What? A book or a room?

Tourist: A room. Have you got a room?

Receptionist: Yes! We've got lots of rooms. It's a big hotel.

Tourist: Yes, but have you got a room *free*?

- Receptionist: Free?!?
- Tourist: Yes.
- Receptionist: No. You have to pay for it!
- Tourist: No! I mean — have you got a room with no one in it?
- Receptionist: A room with no one in it?
- Tourist: Yes.
- Receptionist: No bed, no table?
- Tourist: No! Not a room with *nothing* in it. I room with *no one* in it. No people.
- Receptionist: Ah! I don't know.
- Tourist: Well, can you have a look in the book?
- Receptionist: A look in the book?
- Tourist: Yes. Have a look in the book?
- Receptionist has a look in the book***
- Receptionist: OK. I had a look in the book.
- Tourist: What do you think?
- Receptionist: It's a nice book.
- Tourist: Look! Have you got a room or haven't you?
- Receptionist: OK! OK!
- She looks in the book again***
- OK. We've got a room.
- Tourist: Good.
- Receptionist: A single room.
- Tourist: No good. I need a double room.
- Receptionist: Ah yes! For you and your shirt!
- Tourist: No! I'm here with my wife!
- Receptionist: With your wife? Where is she?

- Tourist:            **(Looking around)** I don't know. She's very independent.
- Receptionist:    OK. We've got a double room.
- Tourist:            Good! How much is it?
- Receptionist:    How much?
- Tourist:            Yes.
- Receptionist:    **(Indicating the dimensions)** It's about this long, and this wide, and this high.
- Tourist:            Not how big! How much!
- Receptionist:    Oh! Ten pounds.
- Tourist:            **(Pleased)** Ten pounds? Good!
- Receptionist:    Ten pounds for you, ten pounds for your wife, and fifty pounds for the horrible shirt!
- Tourist:            Fifty pounds for the shirt! That's ridiculous!
- Receptionist:    It's a ridiculous shirt!
- Tourist:            Now you listen to me! I don't like your attitude!
- Receptionist:    I don't like your shirt.
- Tourist:            Right! That's it! I'm going to complain to the manager.
- Receptionist:    Complain to the manager? Why?
- Tourist:            Because you are the most unhelpful, most difficult, most ... er most ... most ...
- Receptionist:    Good-looking?
- Tourist:            Yes — no! Well, yes, actually ... But you are the worst receptionist I've ever met in my life!
- Receptionist:    Thank you.
- Tourist:            Don't you understand? If I report you to the manager, you'll probably lose your job.
- Receptionist:    I don't mind.

Tourist: You don't mind?

Receptionist: No. I lost my job this morning. I don't work here any more. I work at the hotel next door. Now — you come with me.

***She takes him by the arm and moves towards the exit***

Receptionist: I'll book you a room in the hotel next door.

Tourist: But what about my wife?

Receptionist: She's very independent, no?

Tourist: She's very independent, yes!

Receptionist: OK. She can stay at this hotel.

***They exit together***