

Play: The New Pill

Playwright: S1 Chan Cheuk Him Joachim, S1 Cheung Hok Him, S1 Yang Li Jia

School: Diocesan Boys' School

Scene 1

1. Announcer In today's press conference, we are thrilled to announce a new pill that was invented by some great scientists from Sinopharm Technologies. Let us introduce the two lead scientists of this invention of the pill!
2. Head Good evening, everyone! Today, we are happy to introduce you to the cure to stress:
Scientist THE ANTI-STRESS PILL!
(HS)
3. Reporters (curiously) So... some basic questions. What is the pill about?
4. Deputy Oh, this pill is crucial in eradicating the presence of stress in our daily lives. It is
Head constructed with some cells and a tiny bit of each element. It is a very useful cure!
Scientist
(DHS)
5. Reporters Does the pill cure the stress of the elderly? Like, some of the elderly people need to take care of grandchildren and may worry that they can't live independently. A survey from HKU indicates social and physical characteristics affect mental health by placing stress.
6. HS Er... the pill is not for them as their stress sources differ from what the pill cures, as the loneliness of the elderly cannot be cured by the pill we invented.
7. DHS But that doesn't mean our pill is bad though! The pill is made by specialized artificial intelligence. Although we faced some problems and needed to reboot all the AIs, we made the most effective pill ever!
8. Reporters Okay, fine. Then, does it cure the teens of their stress of tests and exams? In a recent report, students in Hong Kong are attempting to commit suicide due to considerable academic stress.
9. DHS Also quizzes.
10. Reporters (rolls their eyes) That's what we meant.
11. HS (stammers) Uh... the pill does not cure the teens as they have different reasons for stress, like... they have stress because of exams and tests, and the pill isn't designed to relieve that. So...
12. Reporters What about the white collars? They have severe depression often. For example, like us! We work 24/7 and we have depression all the time from overwork. Our bosses are terrible and our wages... (realizes that all this is being caught on camera) never mind.

13. DHS Uh... it doesn't affect them either, as they don't have the stress we experimented on... so that's it. But, it also doesn't also mean that the pill is bad though! It's still effective and... uh, yeah.
14. Reporters So... it's just a pill? And no one can actually use it?
(beat.)
15. HS Yeah... it's just a pill.
16. DHS No- I mean-
17. Reporters What an effective pill.
(HS and DHS silently exit, with Reporters following them and asking more questions.)
(End)