

# So...You Think You're Funny?

## EXERCISE 1: Where Are You on the Funny Scale?

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This Funny Scale preliminary test identifies your strengths and weaknesses, bringing awareness to the joke writing process.

### 1. List of Three Punchlines (Turns)

Write a punchline to this setup: *Three things will survive a nuclear bomb: venereal disease, cockroaches, and...*

*List Three Different Answers*

### 2. Writing Captions (Visual Humor)

Write two funny captions for this picture.



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### 3. Dialoguing Funny (Act-Outs)

Your mom says, "You're going out in that?!"

*Write Two Witty Responses*

### 4. Stand-up (Mixes)

Finish this setup: *An ink pen is like sex because...*

*List Five Examples*

### 5. Self-Mocking (Contrary Thinking)

*I'm chubby, but there are some advantages to being overweight...*

*List Three Funny Advantages to Being Overweight*

### 6. Acronym Jokes (One-Liners)

*KFC, CPA, and VIP actually stand for...*

*Write Out Funny Definitions for These Acronyms*

### 7. Political Humor (Comparison Jokes)

*My mother and the leader of our country have something in common, they both...*

*Write Two Funny Responses*

### 8. Family Jokes

*The weird thing about my father is...*

*Write Two Funny Things*

### 9. Religious Jokes

*Last night, God gave me advice. S/he said...*

*Act Out God Giving You Advice*

### 10. Sex Jokes

*Is it me or is it really unattractive when someone says...?*

*Write Two Funny Responses*

## Your Funny Test Results

Count up how many jokes/responses you wrote. What is that number? \_\_\_\_\_

### 18 And Above

You might have what it takes to be a pro. Even if some of your jokes aren't killers, the fact that you didn't stop at just one answer shows your commitment level. Trust me when I say your tenacity and your will to succeed will take you a long way. (And not just in comedy.)

### 10 To 17

The willingness exists, but you're giving up too easily. It often takes *ten tries* before anything even remotely funny emerges. Maybe you're being too critical and it's blocking you from "getting to the funny." Go back and give yourself permission to suck! Pretend you're in the Planet Fitness "Judgement-Free Zone" and write, without as many "bad" answers as you can. You'll be amazed at what happens.

### Fewer Than 9

You may still be a very funny person, but practice writing a little longer to move beyond the resistance stopping you from completing the exercise. Writing practice is a necessity on the road to success.

**If you didn't do this test at all, and promised yourself you'll do it later...**

Congratulations! You have the personality of a true comic! All comics procrastinate. As the saying goes, "Dying is easy, comedy is hard." That said, do *not* put this book aside and move on to your second-choice career. Go back and fill in your answers. Even if you write the most *unfunny* answers ever, what's important is you *don't quit*. You could be a rebel, an asymmetrical thinker, a "bad" student...and also a hidden gem. A star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame awaits. But first, do the hard work of completing the exercises to see what you've got.

***“So, I just wrote my first jokes. What do I do with them?”***

Want to post your best answers? Go to [TheComedyBible.com](http://TheComedyBible.com) to learn how. By sharing your jokes and reading what others have posted, you just might see that you are:

- Funnier than you thought you were.
- Better at creating certain types of material.
- Inspired to work harder.

No matter how you did on this funny test, you’re going to improve, and your material will get better with practice. That’s a promise.



### **The Comedy Bible Workbook**

Keep track of the funny stuff you write with ***The Comedy Bible Workbook*** which is available as a download or, for those who like to write free-hand, as a paperback workbook at [TheComedyBible.com](http://TheComedyBible.com).

*Now I need something from you.*

## **EXERCISE 2: Commit to Your Comedy Vision**

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### **1. Visualize this...**

I’m going to ask you to close your eyes and visualize having the comedy career you want. Imagine yourself becoming successful.

- What does success look like?
- How do you feel?
- Who is around you?
- What are your most private thoughts at your moment of success?

Some will picture doing their set in front of an audience that’s