

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO BUY A COMPUTER

COSTELLO CALLS TO BUY A COMPUTER FROM ABBOTT:

ABBOTT: Super Duper computer store. Can I help you?

COSTELLO: Thanks. I'm setting up an office in my den and I'm thinking about buying a computer.

A: Mac?

C: No, the name's Lou.

A: Your computer?

C: I don't own a computer. I want to buy one.

A: Mac?

C: I told you, my name's Lou.

A: What about Windows?

C: Why? Will it get stuffy?

A: Do you want a computer with Windows?

C: I don't know. What will I see when I look at the windows?

A: Wallpaper.

C: Never mind the windows. I need a computer and software.

A: Software for Windows?

C: No. On the computer! I need something I can use to write proposals and track expenses and run my business. What do you have?

A: Office.

C: Yeah, for my office. Can you recommend anything?

A: I just did.

C: You just did what?

A: Recommend something.

C: You recommended something?

A: Yes.

C: For my office?

A: Yes.

C: OK, what did you recommend for my office?

A: Office.

C: Yes, for my office!

A: I recommend Office with Windows.

C: I already have an office with windows! OK, let's just say I'm sitting at my computer and I want to type a proposal. What do I need?

A: Word.

C: What word?

A: Word in Office.

C: The only word in office is office.

A: The Word in Office for Windows.

C: Which word in office for windows?

A: The Word you get when you click the blue "W".

C: I'm going to click your blue "w" if you don't start with some straight answers. What about financial bookkeeping? You have anything I can track my money with?

A: Money.

C: That's right. What do you have?

A: Money.

C: I need money to track my money?

A: It comes bundled with your computer.

C: What's bundled with my computer?

A: Money.

C: Money comes with my computer?

A: Yes. No extra charge.

C: I get a bundle of money with my computer? How much?

A: One copy.

C: Isn't it illegal to copy money?

A: Microsoft gave us a license to copy Money.

C: They can give you a license to copy money?

A: Why not? THEY OWN IT!

(A few days later)

A: Super Duper computer store. Can I help you?

C: How do I turn my computer off?

A: Click on "START".....

Abbott & Costello were one of the greatest comedy teams in the history of show business. Their career took them from the burlesque stage to radio, to Broadway, to film ... and finally, to television. Born William Alexander Abbott in 1897, Bud Abbott teamed up in 1936 with Louis Francis Cristillo, born in 1906, who became Lou Costello. They were the "Kings of Comedy" before and after World War II, and they died in 1959 (Lou) and 1974 (Bud). If Abbott and Costello were alive today, they might perform a sketch the one above.

Vocabulary: to set up = 'establish, create'; stuffy = 'not having much fresh air'; proposal = 'suggestion'; to track = 'follow'; expenses = 'money spent for something'; to recommend = 'praise as suitable for something'.