

Screen Test!

There's a new dimension to life now
Back in Spring, how could I foresee
That the world-wide pandemic of Covid 19
Would launch me on a *screen*—like TV!

At least once a week, I now need to prepare
To look wide-awake, 'with it' and smart,
Take a little more time when I'm brushing my hair
So I'm ready to 'play my part'...

Zooming into the homes of people I know
(Or sometimes a few I've *not* met)
To share an interest for an hour or so
And this troubled world help me forget.

But facing a camera does need some thought
What's *behind* you will also be seen—
A blank wall, or maybe rows of neat books?
...(Not ironing or piled magazines!)

Sometimes there are photographs, family shots,
High-tech kitchen, or conservatory,
With some beautiful plants in some elegant pots
Well-placed to *impress*, seems to me!

So.... let's see who's *also* turned up today,
As you switch to the multi-screen view,
Then the close-ups, you realise to your dismay,
Show an unflattering image of *you*!

Those bags under your eyes, are they really that bad?
OMG look at that double chin!
And you can't help but feel just a *teeny* bit sad
At the state of decay that you're in!

What about all the others?...
Wow! *He* looks a scruff!
Don't remember that beard from before....
And the smug woman's looking decidedly rough....
Not so self-satisfied any more!

You're very exposed in this virtual mode—
Any lapse of attention will *show*—
Better not close your eyes, all will soon realise
That you'd really quite like to go!

And the speaker? Well, clearly, they're doing their best,
Though some may perhaps over-act
But *fidget*, 'um' and 'er' and *they've* failed the screen test
And they won't get *another* contract!

ZOOM MEETING

HERE'S WHAT YOU SEE



HERE'S WHAT YOU DON'T SEE



He Who Hesitates, is *Lost!*

There's *erm* going to be a talk
Erm at 2.00 this afternoon
The subject's *erm* quite appealing
Though it's *erm* going to be by Zoom.

The *erm* speaker knows their subject,
But it *erm* doesn't come out quite right.
Perhaps it's *erm* because they're nervous,
Or the timing's a little bit *erm* tight.

Facts do seem *erm* rather muddled
Not prioritised *erm* to a plan .
Delivery's rather *erm* irritating
So I'll ignore it—if *erm* I can!

But, once you've noticed *erm* something
It's quite hard *erm* to then overlook
So, when the tally reaches more than 50 *erms*...
I'd be better off reading a book!

