**Logline**

A group of sly middle schoolers attempt to steal five million tickets from a local mascot arcade restaurant run by a eurobeat obsessed perfectionist in order to win a rigged all expenses paid trip to Hawaii.

**Summary**

*The Absolute Greatest Heist of All Time* is a short comedy film that follows a group of middle schoolers who attempt to perform a heist on Drift’s Pizza Speedway, a restaurant similar to Chuck E. Cheese, to win an all-expense paid trip to Hawaii. The group intends to just play enough arcade games to win the prize, however they soon learn that the prize doesn’t exist, and that the games are all rigged. This causes them to shift their plan to trying to steal enough tickets from the restaurant's storage room instead in an attempt to expose the owner and potentially force him to give them a trip. They think their plan is absolutely perfect, however they ignore its flaws and end up getting caught. But they don’t give up, instead accepting that they aren’t perfect and quickly replan the heist, this time taking into account their flaws. Their new plan works, landing them the trip to Hawaii. This helps to develop a main idea of both acceptance of flaws and that nothing is perfect so you shouldn’t let imperfection discourage you.

**Synopsis**

The story starts with Nick Roberts and Richard Ryder playing a puzzle game similar to Tetris at Drift’s Pizza Speedway. Nick believes his strategy is perfect, but he fails the game. The birthday party they are a part of gets called to the main stage area for their food, and as they eat Ricky Drift announces that he is offering a trip to Hawaii for five million tickets for a limited time. The next day, Nick and Rich decide to go for the prize, but realize they can’t do it alone and need some help. First, they go and recruit Keith “the Brick” Mason, a large quick witted and athletic kid at one of his debate team practices. Next, they recruit Elliot Hussie, a gamer with quick reaction time who was playing a rhythm game at the school library. Finally, they ask Nick’s technology minded slacker brother Stewart, who is rotting in Nick’s basement. Everyone, except for Rich, then meet up in Nick’s garage the next day to discuss their plan. Rich then shows up with an extra person, Danica Drift, who reveals that the prize is rigged and there is no trip to Hawaii. The group is shocked, but decide that they are going to cheat their way to the prize to expose Ricky and potentially force him to give them a trip. Realizing they need more information, they head out to Drift’s Pizza Speedway for some recon. First, Keith and Elliot head to the arcade games to see which ones they could easily win. However, Elliot gets distracted by a Taiko no Tatsujin (a drum themed rhythm game with drumsticks for controllers) machine and starts playing, but realizes the notes are all off beat, resulting in him losing the song. In a fit of rage, Elliot beats the machine with the game’s drumstick controllers, causing a side panel to pop open, revealing a USB labeled “rigging code” stuck inside its motherboard. Next, Danica heads to the backrooms of the restaurant to find the key to the storage room. While sneaking around, she overhears Ricky in his office talking about the prize and how perfect his idea to rig it is. Once Danica enters the breakroom, Ricky comes out of his office and enters behind her, noticing Danica dashing into the main stage. Ricky confronts Danica on the stage, scolding her and banning her from entering the employee area of the arcade but also revealing that the animatronics are controlled by floppy discs. Later, the group meets back at Nick’s garage and discuss their plan, deciding that Stewart would make a mod for the arcade games so that they are easier and that he would also write code to set off the animatronics to cause a distraction. Nick goes with his dads to their attic to find a floppy disk reader, and after finding it he brings it to his friends. On the day of the heist, Keith and Elliot stick the mod into an arcade machine while Nick distracts Ricky. Once everything is set up, Elliot starts playing the game and draining the machine of tickets as Keith takes Nick’s place while Nick moves to Danica, who is waiting by the backrooms. Rich then moves into place, hiding on the stage. He then activates the animatronics after Ricky notices Elliot winning too many tickets, causing Ricky to move to the stage and the staff to move towards Keith and Elliot. Danica then heads to the backrooms, where she realizes that the key to the storage room is missing. Nick warns Danica that the key is on a staff member, but the two get caught along with the rest of the group. Ricky brings them to his office, where he scolds them and leaves to call their parents while locking the door behind him. Nick laments about how his plan is perfect, but after a discussion he realizes that his plan was flawed. The group doesn’t give up however as they quickly make a new plan, this time taking into account any flaws they can think of. Once Danica gets the door unlocked, they all leave to start their new plan. First, Keith and Rich get into a mascot costume and go up to the employee holding the key and successfully trick him into giving them the key by telling him that it’s time to change shifts. They then hand the key off to Elliot, who then throws it to Nick and Danica who are waiting on the stage. The two then sneak back into the break room, locking in the employee who swapped with Keith and Rich along the way. They finally make it to the storage room where they grab all the tickets they can carry and head over to the prize counter and purchase the trip. While the tickets are being counted, Ricky walks over and starts trying to get the kids to return to his office, saying they couldn’t have won the prize. However, Keith and Rich yell out to the arcade that someone won the trip, causing everyone to crowd around Nick and Ricky. Nick pushes Ricky into blowing up, resulting in him grabbing Nick and admitting that he was the reason that his family’s restaurant closed. However, Nick’s parents were standing nearby the entire time, pushing Ricky even further. Realizing that he has been defeated, Ricky caves in and gives them the prize. The gang then heads to Hawaii, enjoying the trip as they play on the beach.