

Name: _____

Identifying Irony

Directions: Read the following examples of irony. Determine which of the three types of irony are being used and then explain your answer.

Dramatic irony – This occurs when the reader or audience understands more about the events of a story than a character.

Situational irony – This occurs when what actually happens is the opposite of what is expected or appropriate.

Verbal irony – A character says one thing but really means the opposite.

1. A mean old man ate a large meal at a restaurant. The waitress tried to provide him with excellent service, but every time she brought him a dish, he complained. First he thought that the soup was too cold when it was hot. Then he said that his steak was dry and chewy, when it was moist and succulent. Then he complained that one of her blonde hairs was in his mashed potatoes, but the hair was actually grey like his own. She remained patient and continued to try to help him until the end of the meal, when he left her a quarter for a tip. She replied on his way out, "Thank you for the generous tip, Mister."

Which type of irony is used? _____

Explain your answer:

2. Tom has always liked Lucy, but Lucy has always thought Tom was annoying and unattractive. One day, Lucy comes home to find an eviction notice on her door. Apparently, her roommate had been spending the rent money that Lucy was giving her on other things. Lucy only has 24 hours to get all her stuff over to her mom's house, and Lucy doesn't even have a car. But Tom has a truck. So Lucy calls up Tom and asks him how he's doing. She tells him that she's always thought he was funny, and that they should hang out sometime. Tom thinks that Lucy has finally come around is beginning to like her. He also thinks that his jokes are funny because she is laughing after everything that he says.

Which type of irony is used? _____

Explain your answer:

3. The rapper Eminem is well-known for his song writing ability, but he is equally known for his shockingly profane and obscene lyrical content. Eminem has made a fortune selling his curse filled songs to millions of children around the world. But, on a 60 Minutes interview, Eminem claimed that there was no swearing in his own home and that his children were not allowed to play music with curse words, including his own tracks.

Which type of irony is used? _____

Explain your answer:

4. When Lawrence saw the posters for the circus hanging on the bulletin board, as he swept up the trimmings at Slim's Barbershop, he knew he would be taking his little cousins. They loved animals, and he was looking forward to seeing the smiles on their faces as the circus performers amazed them with their stunts. But sweeping up hair clippings didn't pay a whole lot. Lawrence spent 45 dollars just getting tickets. But it was worth it to see his cousins' faces. The day finally came and everyone was excited as they walked into that big circus tent. But Lawrence soon realized that he and his cousins would be thirsty and hungry. As they sat in their seats, the drink vendor walked by selling beverages. Desperately thirsty, Lawrence asked him how much a lemonade would cost, and the drink vendor said, "Eleven dollars each." Lawrence replied, "Oh, that's it? Just eleven dollars? What a great deal for one cup of lemonade. That's totally worth it." The drink vendor walked away.

Which type of irony is used? _____

Explain your answer:

5. Mr. Reinhart is the building inspector for the entire county. Anytime a person wants to add a permanent structure to their home or property, such as a deck or balcony, the building plans need to be approved by Mr. Reinhart before construction can begin. Mr. Reinhart checks to see that each plan is safe before construction begins. Once building begins, he checks to see that construction is going according to the plan. In a way, he is responsible for ensuring that every structure in the county is built properly. One day Mr. Reinhart was having a party at his house. He and his three guests were barbecuing on the porch attached to his house, when the structure suddenly collapsed. Apparently, termites got into the wood and had been chewing away the support beams for several months.

Which type of irony is used? _____

Explain your answer:

6. Mr. Bath is the president of Make-A-Bath Industries, a small company that employs fifteen workers, including Tom Miller, father of six. Ever since the economy went down the tubes, Make-A-Bath hasn't been selling bath tubs like they once did, and now Mr. Bath has to fire three workers, one of whom will be Tom Miller. But Mr. Bath has never fired anyone before, so he has been delaying giving Tom and the other employees the bad news. But Christmas is approaching. Tom wants to buy nice gifts for his six children, but he doesn't have any money. So Tom charges a whole bunch of nice gifts on his credit card, figuring that he can pay it back with money from his checks that he will be getting from his job all year. Tom and his family don't have a lot of extra money to spend, so he likes to get his kids nice Christmas presents. Tom is looking forward to one of the best Christmases ever.

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1. When Mr. Goodenwell saw his baby boy Vince for the first time, he swore that he'd do anything to protect the little guy. This was easy at first, when all Vince did was lie in a pillow and drink milk. But as little Vince grew bigger, he started walking. And once he started walking, he got into everything. He was becoming a serious threat to himself when Mr. Goodenwell, making good on his vow to protect his son, went to the store and bought \$150 worth of equipment to childproof his home. He put covers on the outlets, bumpers on the table corners, and a sliding lock on the toilet lid. But right as Mr. Goodenwell was adjusting the covers on the door knobs, Vince pulled the cap off an outlet and choked on it. Mr. Goodenwell found him just in time.

Which type of irony is used? _____

Explain your answer:

2. One bright and warm Easter morning, Timmy Holloway woke up to the smell of eggs, but not breakfast eggs, Easter eggs. That's right Timmy had a craving for Easter eggs, and today was the day to get them boy howdy. There was only one thing standing in his way, well two really: the Solomon brothers. The Solomon brothers got more eggs than Timmy every year because there were two of them and they counted their eggs as one. Timmy suspected that this was cheating but he couldn't articulate the notion. When Timmy got to the fair grounds, he clutched his Easter egg sack behind his back and approached the Solomon brothers. The taller one distracted Timmy while the shorter one snuck behind him, clipping the corner of Timmy's egg sack and making quite a big hole. Unfortunately, Timmy failed to notice this. When the whistle blew, Timmy was off. He was surprised to see the Solomon brothers behind him, since he was much faster than they, but he didn't mind. Timmy beat them to every egg, and raced on to the next, never noticing that his sack wasn't getting heavier. As he approached the end of the course, Timmy was elated that he was the first to finish. The Solomon brothers were right behind him. "Maybe next year, loser twins," Timmy chuckled, right before he noticed that his sack was empty.

Which type of irony is used? _____

Explain your answer:

3. Making friends isn't easy. Ask Juan Guerrero, who moved to New High School High three months ago but still eats lunch by himself. Nobody picks on him really, but they pretty much ignore him completely, at least since the incident. You see, Juan had his chance. We almost adopted him into our crew, the skaters, after Juan said he could skate. "Oh yeah?" asked my boy Romeo, "well, where's your

board?" Juan replied shakily. "Uh, my mom ran over it with her car, but I do flips and grinds and all that stuff." Romeo didn't believe him. "Why don't you use my board? Show me one of those flips," Romeo challenged. Juan gulped and grabbed the board. "Uh... Ok," he replied. When you see a good skater on TV or in a video game, skateboarding may look easy, but just moving properly, let alone doing any tricks, takes a lot of practice. Because of this, I was not the least bit surprised when Juan landed flat on his can before he even made it across a single sidewalk square. "Wow! What an awesome flip, Tony Hawk. You'll have to teach me that," Romeo sneered. Now Juan eats lunch alone.

Which type of irony is used? _____

Explain your answer:

4. "Wow, a sweater! Thanks Bobby," said Janet after opening the present. Janet thought the sweater was hideous, but she appreciated her boyfriend's effort. But since Janet had seen the sweater before at a store in the mall, she exchanged it for some boots at the first chance she got. A week later, however, Bobby made reservations for two at the fanciest restaurant in town. "Janet, I want to take you somewhere special. I have good news to tell you. Wear that sweater that I got you," Bobby told her. Janet didn't know how to react, "Um... that sweater doesn't quite match these boots I want to wear. Is it cool if I just wear it another time?" Bobby huffed, "You know, Janet, this meal is going to be expensive. The least you could do is act like you appreciate my gift." Janet paused to think.

Which type of irony is used? _____

Explain your answer:

5. As the holiday season ended, Bertha Berger struggled to put on her blue jeans. They seemed much tighter than usual, so she stepped on the bathroom scale and received the bad news. She had never seen such a high number on the little scale, so she resolved to change. That day she threw out all of the junk food in her fridge and went grocery shopping. She was determined to lose weight, so she bought low-fat and reduced calorie versions of all of her favorite foods. When she got home she had a low-sodium bacon sandwich and a diet soda. For dinner she had two turkey burgers with reduced fat cheese and half-fat mayonnaise, along with two low-calorie ice-cream sandwiches for dessert. Before she went to bed, she ate a bag of baked potato chips, which are healthier than normal chips, and dipped them into low-fat cream cheese. When Bertha woke up the next morning, she was pleased with how well her diet was going, but when she stepped on to the scale, she saw that she had gained a pound.

Which type of irony is used? _____

Explain your answer:

Name: _____

Point of View Worksheet 12

Directions: determine from which perspective the passage is narrated. **If it is third-person, circle each time characters' thoughts or feelings are narrated.** Explain your answers in the box.

Viewpoints: first-person, second-person, third-person objective, third-person limited, and third-person omniscient.

1. "You must get the golden key from the Sugar Toast Forest," said the Peanut Butter Wizard. He knew that their quest would be hard, so he gave them a bit of advice, "All you have is one another, so stick together." Jelly Girl and Banana Boy nodded eagerly. They were both afraid of the Sugar Toast Forest. Neither of them had ever left home before, but they had heard tales, frightful tales.

Narrator's Perspective: _____

Explain how you know:

2. You shouldn't argue with people on the Internet. It is a waste of time and energy. Do you want to spend your precious life energy trying to type sense into some delusional fool who will only hate you for your efforts? No, you don't. The next time someone makes some outlandish claim that infuriates you, you should either ignore them, unfriend them, or block them. You will find these actions to be more satisfying than casting your pearls of wisdom before the likes of swine.

Narrator's Perspective: _____

Explain how you know:

3. The Green Fox's legs were sore. He had been sitting on a tree branch for several hours waiting for the Sheriff. He believed that the Sheriff would be coming this way to transport some prisoners, one of whom might be the Green Fox's best friend, Lavender Luke. The Green Fox heard the sound of hooves approaching. He swung down from the branch by his knees and observed an armored carriage with the royal symbol on the door. "That's our mark. Get ready boys!" the Green Fox shouted to his men.

Narrator's Perspective: _____

Explain how you know:

4. The dishes flew and the engine of turmoil raged. That was sound of my parents fighting. I wish they got along, but wishes don't amount to much in the real world. Goals do, however. And I have several goals. For one, I want to go to college. For two, I want to get scholarships for college. And for three, I want to excel at something for which scholarships are offered. But, I don't. I mean, I really don't. I'm just an average Joe.

Narrator's Perspective: _____

Explain how you know:

5. Bruce Hand felt hunger pangs as he sat in the bush. The birds twittered around him. He was waiting for his contact, Jet Hawkins. Bruce Hand checked his watch. He realized that Jet was late. Then he heard the sound of an engine. He looked through his binoculars and saw Jet's familiar orange and brown striped Humvee driving through the jungle. Bruce ran from the bush into the beaten path. "Jet, I'm here!" Bruce Hand shouted. The Humvee stopped.

Narrator's Perspective: _____

Explain how you know:

6. Igor looked suspiciously at his partners. Suddenly, the Red Robber and Johnny the Kid did not seem like such trustworthy companions to Igor, and Igor was not the only suspicious one. Suspicions ran rife in the camp. The Red Robber and Johnny the Kid had grown increasingly doubtful of Igor's loyalty. They felt that Igor was using them as stepping-stones in Igor's saga. The whole camp was a tinderbox on a powder keg, and Johnny the Kid would be the one to spark it off.

Narrator's Perspective: _____

Explain how you know:

7. Milton may have kept an accurate count of the expenses when he was handling the account, but I did nothing of the sort. That's the strange thing about me, the thing that makes it difficult for me to find employment. I don't believe in record keeping of any sort. I think that a man's word is his bond or whatever. I guess that I'm allergic to paper. Well, not actually allergic, but I don't really like using it or reading things from it. The truth of the matter is that I'm a pious man. I decided to handle the account using faith-based methods.

Narrator's Perspective: _____

Explain how you know:

8. The pirate ship sways against the dock. The sides of the boat have been damaged by cannon fire and repaired on numerous occasions. You can tell because of the different types of wood used to patch the holes. The pirate captain puts his hand on your shoulder. He leans on you heavily and says, "Well, Matey, care to go for sail with us? No pirating. Just sailing. I promise," he says as he holds up his fingers to you. You note that they are crossed.

Narrator's Perspective: _____

Explain how you know:

9. Mary looked at the menu with a puzzled expression. The letters were blurring together. She couldn't make out the words. Her server approached the table and introduced himself, "I'm Marvin and I'll be your server," he said before announcing the specials and soups of the day. Mary could not understand a word that Marvin had said. She nodded her head politely as he blathered, but she had already made up her mind to point at pictures on the menu to communicate her order.

Narrator's Perspective: _____

Explain how you know: