

# Humor Devices, Satire, & Parody

Humor

# Humor

- Why it is challenging for students
  - Subtle
  - Not obvious
  - Not slapstick/physical comedy
  - Abstract
  - Heavy use of wit, sarcasm, and irony
  - Requires background knowledge, intelligence

# Humor Devices

- Exaggeration
  - Hyperbole ✓
  - Understatement ✓
- Mock Seriousness ✓
  - Making fun through literature, history, or current event
- Sarcasm ✓
  - Verbal irony: saying the opposite of what you mean
- Absurdity ✓
  - Ridiculous, unreasonable, irrational
  - Could not really happen
- Unusual Diction ✓

Satire

# Definition of Satire

- A work (literature, film, etc.) that mocks or critiques through wit, sarcasm, or humor for the purpose of affecting social or political change.
- Satire is often confused with **parody**
- Satire is **NOT** parody

# Definition of Parody

- Imitation that mocks the original for the purpose of entertainment

# Satire vs. Parody

## Satire

- Mocking
- Funny
- Uses imitation
- **Purpose is social or political change**

## Parody

- Mocking
- Funny
- Uses imitation
- **Purpose is entertainment**