



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

- Definition 1: A work (literature, film, etc.) that mocks or critiques through wit, sarcasm, or humor for the purpose of affecting social or political change.
- Definition 2: The use of humor to expose or criticize political, social, and cultural issues
- 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 to change, criticize, or expose**

Parody

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

Political Cartoons

- Go to leeeclassroom.com
- Choose one of the twelve political cartoons
- Analyze the cartoon
 - What is the topic?
 - What or who is being criticized?
 - What is the overall message?
 - Is it funny or does it try to be funny? How?