Reading and video

HOW TO BE FUNNY

Taken from (https://www.scienceofpeople.com/how-to-be-funny/)

Read the tips. Which of them do you find the most useful? Which of them are the easiest to follow? Which you think might be harder?

When people expect you to say yes, trying saying no.

When people ask you a yes/no question **where you think they already know your answer,** try giving the opposite first. Then, of course, laugh and give your real answer.

Special Note: Give the opposite answer for yes/no questions *when there is a strongly expected answer*. Otherwise, neither "Yes" nor "No" is going to be funny for questions such as, "Is the weather good?"

Play with Numbers

When you're about to say a very big number, add "only" before it. When you are about to say a very *small* number, say something along the lines of "it's a huge amount" beforehand.

Use the Rule of 3

the Rule of 3 establishes a pattern, then ends with something unexpected. For example, I say red, white, and blue. But what if I say red, white, and barf. It's kind of funny, and your brain perks up because it was an unexpected turn to the Rule of 3.

This breakaway from the pattern created by the first two items builds tension and creates surprise, usually resulting in laughter. Think of it as 1 normal, 2 normal, 3 funny / odd / different.

Use a Character Switch

When we tell a story, there are usually multiple characters in that story. More often than not, those characters have very distinct personas that people will make assumptions about. For example, Little Red Riding Hood is the *weak* one, and the Big Bad Wolf is the *dangerous* one. But what if you switch personas around and the Big Bad Wolf suddenly is weak? That's when people's assumptions are overturned and things become really interesting and funny.

Use "Whatever" as Your Secret Weapon

When people tease you, mock you, ask you difficult questions, those moments can be your golden opportunities.

If everyone expects you to lose your cool, and you actually turn things around by being funny about it, you immediately become a star. So, don't fear the annoying questions. Be a star, exuding confidence, wit, and charm. Shout out a "*whatever*."

Delay the funny

When you have a funny idea or joke, it's hard not to share it right away. But the best-placed pun is actually at the end. Put the funny part at the end of the sentence. For example, if the fact it's a cat is the surprise or twist in your story, don't say, "There was a cat in the box." Say, "In that box was a cat." That way, you're not still talking when the audience is meant to be laughing. This also makes your timing look awesome.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Watch a couple of examples of these tips used in different situations. Try to identify which tip is used in each case. Do you find the joke funny or amusing?

Video 1

Used technique:

Video 2

Used technique:

Video 3

Used technique:

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Video 4

Used technique:

Video 5

Used technique:

Video 6

Used technique:

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Video 7

Used technique:

Video 8

Used technique:

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