

Irony Detectives Activity

Directions: Read the following crime related ironic passages. Using the irony detectives answer sheet, determine which type of irony is used each passage based on clues that you find, then make your case.

1. Assault and Battery

Annie Allen loved her fiancé Scott. Annie loved him so much that he was all that she thought about all day. Feeling particularly in love with Scott, Annie thought that she'd surprise him with romance, so she snuck into his house using the spare key under his doormat and waited in his room for him to come home from a business trip. While waiting for him to come home, she thought the surprise might be even better if she hid in his closet. So she did. Twenty minutes later, she heard keys rustling in the lock. The door slammed, and then she heard the sound of feet walking up the stairs and Scott's voice. "You know I can't wait to see you, Baby," she thought she heard Scott say. *He must be leaving me a message*, Annie pleasantly thought to herself. Then she heard Scott continue to talk. "No, she's nothing serious. And besides, you know you're the one I love, Katie." Annie's heart dropped. She grabbed the pepper spray from out of her purse, unlatched the safety, and felt her hand tense on the release button. Scott walked into the room, smiling and laughing as he flirted with Katie on the phone.

Assault and Battery

What type of irony is used in the passage?

Make your case (explain your answer):

2. Reckless Endangerment

Swanson Wisconsin was a famous child star. She had several platinum selling albums, her own TV sitcom, and a series of straight-to-DVD films that received terrible reviews but sold really well. Swanson Wisconsin was extremely wealthy and had the respect and admiration of millions of boys and girls around the world. She was everywhere. She was even the face of the antidrug movement. Swanson Wisconsin appeared on several commercials, billboards, and bus advertisements telling young people not to use drugs. All over the country the message was heard: "Be like Swanson Wisconsin. Think up. Don't get high." One fateful December evening, Swanson Wisconsin crashed her Bentley into hotdog stand. No one was injured, but Swanson Wisconsin was extremely disorientated. At the hospital, blood tests revealed that Swanson Wisconsin had enough crystal meth, cocaine, and tranquilizers in her system to murder an elephant.

Reckless Endangerment of Human Life

What type of irony is used in the passage?

Make your case (explain your answer):

3. Breaking and Entering

Jimmy the Lock was a master safecracker. He could bust open any safe in the world in under an hour using a crow bar, stethoscope, drill, and sledgehammer. No lock could hold Jimmy and that's why they called him the Lock. Jimmy was scheduled to do a six-year stretch in the can for a bank job that got messy. But he checked himself out before they could slam the cell door. Now that he was on the lamb, Jimmy set up the score of his life. He had the blueprints all laid out to do a job on an armored diamond delivery car. Jimmy gathered all his tools and headed out the door to meet his contact, Bobby the Rat. When he got to his car, Jimmy couldn't find his keys. He patted his pockets before he realized

that he must have left them in his other thieving-pants. So Jimmy went back to get his keys, but the door wouldn't open. Jimmy the Lock had locked himself out of his house.

Breaking and Entering

What type of irony is used in the passage?

Make your case (explain your answer):

4. Grand Theft Auto

Jack was on his way home from work when his wife Jill called him. He was in a hurry to get home and watch his favorite show, COPS, but Jill said that he needed to stop at the minimart to get some bread for dinner. Jack replied dutifully to his wife, "Yes, Dear." When he got to the minimart, Jack was in such a hurry that he didn't even pull into a parking spot. He just pulled up right next to the door. It was 6:58, and COPS was starting in two minutes, so Jack just left his car running and ran into the store. He grabbed the bread from the middle aisle and got in the line behind a skinny guy wearing a leather jacket. Jack tapped his foot impatiently as the man purchased lottery tickets. Finally, the clerk rang up Jack right as Jack's watch read 6:59. Jack hurriedly completed the transaction and ran outside. As he went to jump into his car, he noticed that it was gone. He looked around a bit, but it was nowhere in sight. "Great," Jack sighed. His watch read 7:01. "How wonderful," he said to himself, as he reached in his pocket to call his wife.

Grand Theft Auto

What type of irony is used in the passage?

Make your case (explain your answer):

