

Name: _____

Identifying Irony Worksheet 2

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

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. As soon as Bobby heard that the math test was going to be worth 30% of his grade, he began studying. He studied in class. He studied on the bus ride home. He even tried to study while walking home from the bus but stopped after bumping into a lamppost. When he got home, he didn't watch any TV because he was studying so intensely. He completed the study guide that Mr. Morris gave him and then he completed one that he had made himself. Bobby refused to quit. He stayed awake all night finding and completing extra problems on the Internet. By the time the sun rose, Bobby had mastered the content. As he entered the classroom, he felt prepared. He sharpened his pencil, sat at his desk, put his head down, fell asleep, and failed his test.

Which type of irony is used?

Explain your answer:

2. I thought that my mother was going to flip when Perry came over to eat at our house. To my surprise she just ignored him, even though he wore his hat, put his elbows on the table, and rocked back in his chair. I thought that she would go crazy while we ate. Perry pulled bones out of his mouth and put them on his plate instead of spitting them into a napkin. To my astonishment Mom looked past this too. But when Perry slammed a glass of root beer and burped the ABCs, she could no longer restrain herself. "What a wonderful rendition of the alphabet, Perry, and how age appropriate? I'm impressed." Perry wore a confused look, unsure of what her reaction had meant.

Which type of irony is used?

Explain your answer:

3. When the first English settlers arrived at Jamestown, hygiene was not a priority. The settlers faced many challenges. Food was scarce and the land was unsuitable for farming. Worse still, relations with Native Americans were uneasy and violence loomed. Yet even in these conditions, some settlers found time to care for their teeth. They did this by brushing their teeth with rags and abrasive tooth powders. Archaeologists have examined the remains of these colonists. They discovered that many of the settlers were missing the enamel on their teeth. By using these tooth powders, the settlers had striped this protective layer from their teeth. This caused their teeth to decay and fall out prematurely.

Which type of irony is used?

Explain your answer:

4. As Harold carried his lunch tray passed Chuck, the school bully, Chuck stuck his foot into the aisle and attempted to trip Harold. Harold expected such an obstruction. He sidestepped around Chuck's leg saying, "Excuse me, Chuck, my fault entirely." Harold then continued back to his table and began eating his lunch. Chuck felt offended that Harold had not tripped and fallen on his food, so he marched back to Harold's table to put him in his place. Dipping his finger into Harold's school lunch, Chuck said, "What are you eating, puke?" Harold replied nervously, "Yes, well, I think that's what they serve here. Only the best for us students, right? Anyway, you're welcome to it." Chuck sneered and stuck his finger into Harold's chest, "I don't want any of your puke, Puke. Next time you fall when I trip you." He removed his finger from Harold's chest, grabbed Harold's cupcake from off of his lunch tray, and walked back to his table. "Good bye, Chuck. It's always a pleasure seeing you." He then released a sigh and ate around the fingerprint that Chuck had left in his casserole.

Which type of irony is used?

Explain your answer: