

Module 2: Short Stories
Topic 4 Content: Irony



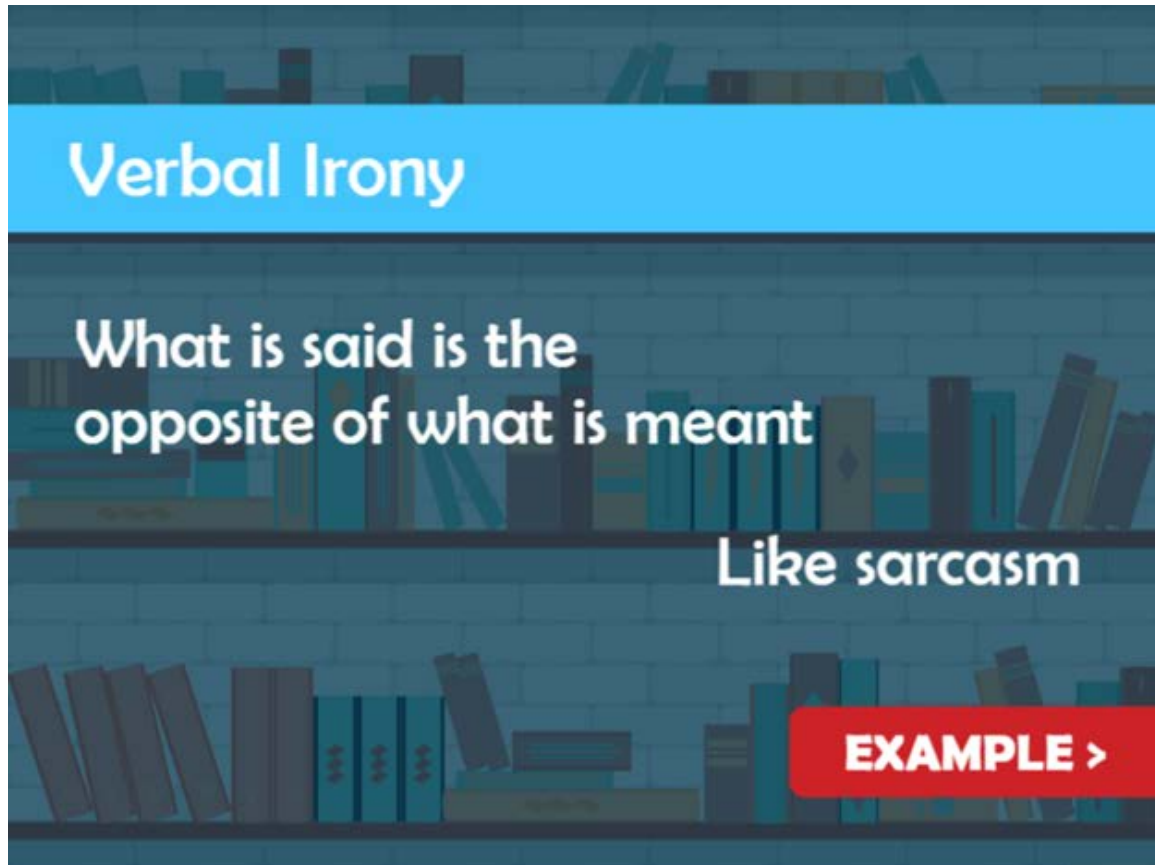
Irony

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Irony involves a contradiction, or opposition, between appearance and reality. Writers often use irony in stories to add an element of humor, fear, or suspense, or to point out the hypocrisy of an event or character's actions. There are three main types of irony: verbal, situational, and dramatic. Click on each type of irony to learn its definition and to hear an example.

Module 2: Short Stories
Topic 4 Content: Irony

An infographic with a dark blue background featuring a bookshelf with various books. At the top, a light blue banner contains the text "Verbal Irony". Below this, the text "What is said is the opposite of what is meant" is displayed in white. To the right, the text "Like sarcasm" is shown in white. In the bottom right corner, there is a red button with the text "EXAMPLE >" in white.

Verbal Irony

What is said is the
opposite of what is meant

Like sarcasm

EXAMPLE >

Verbal irony is when what is said is the opposite of what is meant. Verbal irony is used almost like sarcasm.

Module 2: Short Stories
Topic 4 Content: Irony

Verbal Irony - Example

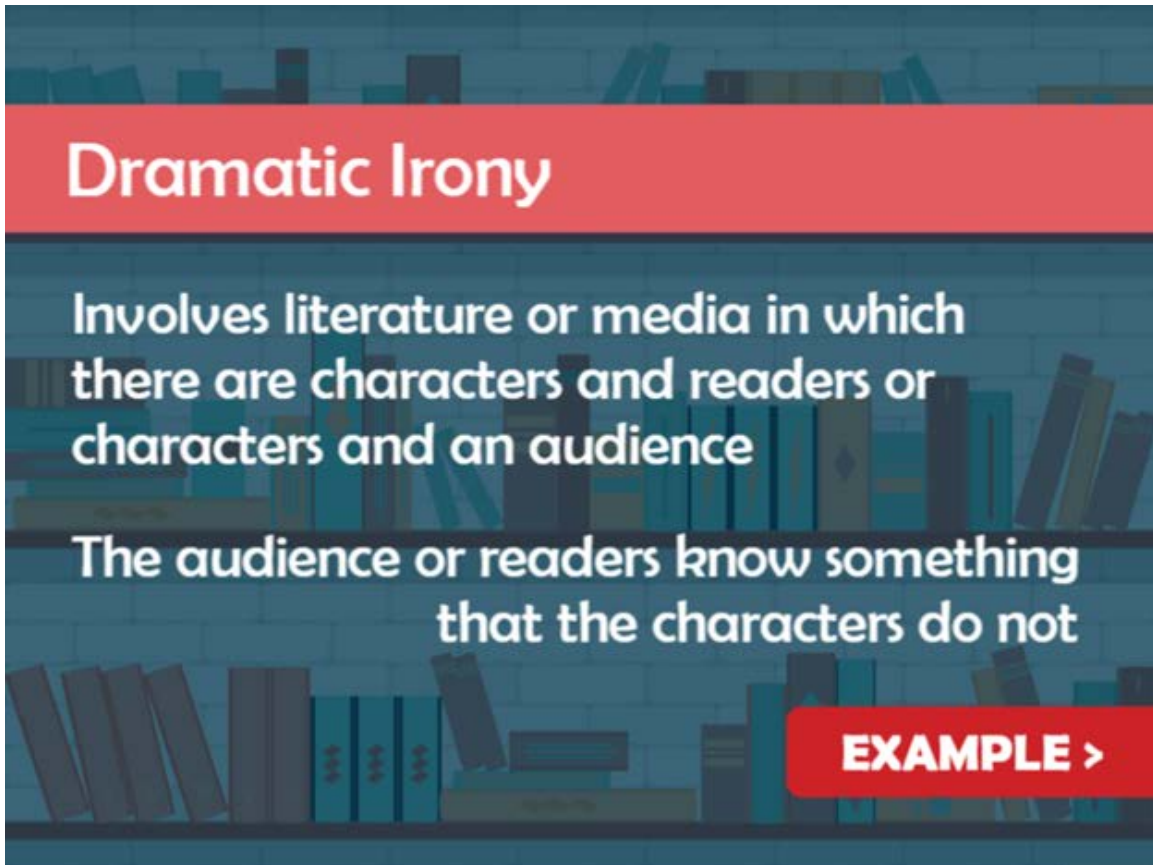


“Homework! That’s my favorite thing in the world!”

MENU >

An example of verbal irony occurs when your teacher assigns homework, and someone says, "Homework! That's my favorite thing in the world!" Everyone knows that what is really meant is that homework is the person's least favorite thing.

Module 2: Short Stories
Topic 4 Content: Irony

An infographic with a dark blue background featuring a bookshelf with various books. At the top, a red banner contains the title 'Dramatic Irony' in white. Below this, white text defines the concept: 'Involves literature or media in which there are characters and readers or characters and an audience' and 'The audience or readers know something that the characters do not'. A red button with the text 'EXAMPLE >' is located in the bottom right corner.

Dramatic Irony

Involves literature or media in which there are characters and readers or characters and an audience


The audience or readers know something that the characters do not

EXAMPLE >

Dramatic irony involves literature or media in which there are characters and readers or characters and an audience. With dramatic irony, the audience or readers know something that the characters in the story, show, or play do not know.

Module 2: Short Stories
Topic 4 Content: Irony

Dramatic Irony -Example



Contestants compete for a prize which is not real in nature

The audience knows but the participants do not

MENU >

An example of dramatic irony occurs in reality shows in which contestants compete for some sort of prize which is not real in nature. The audience of the show knows that the prize will be switched out at the last minute, but the participants do not.

Situational Irony

When the outcome of a situation is
the opposite of what is expected

The difference between what someone
thinks is going to happen and
what really happens

EXAMPLE >

Situational irony is when the outcome of a situation is the opposite of what is expected. It is the difference between what someone thinks is going to happen and what really happens.

Module 2: Short Stories
Topic 4 Content: Irony

Situational Irony -Example



You plan for snow,
only to find **NO SNOW!**

You hard study for a
test, only to have a
snow day

MENU >

Pretend that the forecast calls for a big storm, so you do not study for a test that is scheduled for the next day. Then you wake up to no snow! An opposite to that would be those nights when there is no snow forecast, and you study hard for a test only to wake up to several inches of snow and school canceled for a few days.